

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Psalm 8

Your glory is chanted above the heavens. (v2)

Romans 5:1-5

John 16:12-15

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of heaven & earth, before the foundation of the universe & the beginning of time you are the triune God: Author of creation, eternal Word of salvation, life-giving Spirit of wisdom. Guide us to all truth by your Spirit, that we may proclaim all that Christ has revealed & rejoice in the glory he shares with us. Glory & praise to you, Father, Son, & Holy Spirit, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

¹ Does not wisdom call, & does not understanding raise her voice? ² On the heights, beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; ³ beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries out: ⁴ “To you, O people, I call, & my cry is to all that live. ²² The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. ²³ Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. ²⁴ When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. ²⁵ Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth—²⁶ when he had not yet made earth & fields, or the world’s first bits of soil. ²⁷ When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, ²⁸ when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, ²⁹ when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, ³⁰ then I was beside him, like a master worker; & I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, ³¹ rejoicing in his inhabited world & delighting in the human race.”

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. Proverbs personifies “wisdom” as a woman, perhaps even an “angelic woman.” How does treating wisdom as something (someone) who predates the creation (vv27-29) of the physical universe (cf. Nicene creed “seen & unseen”) show that God & his creation are both logical, reasonable, consistent, coherent, & good? *See also vv30-31*
2. What is the significance of vv2-4? That is, what does that tells us about where to find (or apply) wisdom? Or, what/where is wisdom for?

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. Substitute for “wisdom” some synonyms such as knowability, rationality, logic, sensibility, intelligibility, understandability (in place of wisdom & “I”). How does that change & improve your insight into this passage?
4. *Proverbs 8* is traditionally interpreted as an allegory for Jesus (cf. *John 1:1-14*). Do your best to draw parallels between Wisdom & Jesus (& his incarnation). Then use your study Bible’s notes to see how you did. *Need one?* www.cph.org/the-lutheran-study-bible-hardback

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. The Holy Spirit shows us the way (*John 16:12* “guides”) to apply Jesus’ death and resurrection in everyday life. How do you explain the meaning and purpose of Jesus’ death and resurrection to others? *See Romans 3:10, 23, 5:1-8, chs. 6, 8, 10; SC: Creed, Baptism, Holy Communion, Table of Duties*
6. How do you explain God’s grace vs. our good behavior (works) to a neighbor who’s convinced they’re “good enough already, or at least better than some others” to merit eternal life, salvation, & forgiveness? *See Romans 3:27-28, 5:1-5; Galatians 2:16, 3:24-28; Ephesians 2:8-22; Philippians 3:9; Titus 3:7; 1 Peter 3:8-18a*

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Festival of the Holy Trinity

06.15.25

Series: Unorthodox Wisdom

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

*We have chased wisdom ever since the Garden of Eden when God
will just give it to us*

Get Smart

God's wisdom is trinitarian

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: When he established the heavens, I [Wisdom] was there (v27a)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
God's glory fills the whole earth. (*Isaiah 6:3*)

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