

**October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

The Trinitarian Depth of Creation, Dr. Adonis Vidu

**Read Genesis 1:1-2, 2:7, Romans 8:19-23:**

Genesis 1:1-2 - In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

Genesis 2:7 - Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

Romans 8:19-23 - For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.

- 1) Dr. Vidu began on Sunday by talking about how sometimes the realities of God and the trinity can seem veiled or hidden. Have you experienced this? Is there a way in which this could be a good thing?
- 2) We talked about creation as something that veils – and unveils – God. How have you seen this to be true?
- 3) The Spirit of God hovering over the waters gives us a glimpse into the trinity. What is unique about this image of hovering (or brooding) that Genesis portrays?
- 4) Genesis portrays God as deeply present, close, and intentional in creation. How does this change the way you think about your own created life?
- 5) Dr. Vidu shared this quote from the poem ‘God’s Grandeur’ by Gerard Manley Hopkins: And for all this, nature is never spent.  
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things  
[...] Because the Holy Ghost over the bent  
World broods with warm breast and  
With aah! Bright wings.

What do you think it means that ‘nature is never spent... because the Holy Ghost...broods’?

- 6) Read Romans 8:19-23. How does this reality of 'creation groaning' help us grapple with the reality that we do not often recognize God's presence hovering and brooding over the state of the world? Does this give you hope?
- 7) Dr. Vidu shared about a commercial promoting biking awareness – the point being that we often don't see bicycles on the road because we aren't looking for them. Are there places in your life that you might not be seeing God's presence, precisely because you haven't been looking for him?
- 8) Where do you want to look for the presence of God hovering over your life this week?
- 9) What did you sense God saying to you through this passage and this message?