

**IGRC Annual conference is available live at [www.igrc.org/ac2026live](http://www.igrc.org/ac2026live)**



While Pastor Robb McCoy, Charlotte Peterson, and Elizabeth McCoy are attending as members of Annual Conference, others can participate online. The 2026 Annual Conference will be aired live from the Peoria Civic Center June 4-6. The Annual Conference will begin at 10 a.m. June 4 with Opening Worship with Bishop David Bard preaching. The broadcast will continue until noon when the Conference breaks for lunch.

The broadcast will resume at 2 p.m. with the Memorial Service with the Rev. Rachel Gilmore preaching. The legislative plenary session will follow until 5 p.m.

On Friday, June 5, the Annual Conference will begin at 9 a.m. with a Celebration of Ministry. This is the session where Pastor Robb McCoy will be given the first #BeUMC Award.

From 10 a.m. to noon, the second legislative plenary session will be held. Following a lunch break, the Annual Conference reconvenes at 2 p.m. the Recognition of Retirees Service with Rev. Mike Potts preaching. The Annual Conference returns to legislation for the remainder of the afternoon until 5 p.m.

On Saturday, June 6, the Service of Ordination and Commissioning starts at 9:30 a.m. and adjournment is slated for noon.

## Little Free Pantry needs love

The cupboard is bare. The Little Free Pantry, which sits in the south parking lot, is low on supplies. People can drop off food at any time, but volunteers from Two Rivers try to keep some items in reserve to be able to distribute at various times during the week.



Right now the reserves are bare. Items that are in demand are soft bars like cereal bars and pop-tarts, cans with pop-top lids, sweet treats (that don't melt), and even bug spray, sunscreen, and sunglasses.

## BIBLE IN 52 WEEKS - WEEK EIGHTEEN

*In this daily reading plan, there are four readings, one each from the Torah, Prophets, Writings, and New Testament. Every day will take about 10 minutes in total. If you follow this plan you will read the entire Bible in 52 weeks and the Gospels twice.*

### PASTOR'S NOTES

**Sun (June 7): Num. 31; Isaiah 1; Psalm 143; Eph 1**

**Mon (Jun 8): Num. 32; Isaiah 2; Psalm 144; Eph 2**

**Tue (Jun 9): Num. 33; Isaiah 3; Psalm 145; Eph 3**

**Wed (Jun 10): Num. 34; Isaiah 4; Psalm 146; Eph 4**

**Thu (Jun 11): Num. 35; Isaiah 5; Psalm 147; Eph 5**

**Fri (Jun 12): Num. 36; Isaiah 6; Psalm 148; Eph 6**

**Sat (Jun 13): Deut. 1; Isaiah 7; Psalm 149; Php 1**

*TORAH: Israel wraps up its wilderness years with battles, boundaries, and final instructions. As the tribes settle their claims and Moses begins retelling the story, God keeps shaping a people ready to enter the land with clarity and purpose.*  
*PROPHETS: Isaiah opens with a searing call to repentance as Judah's worship and justice fall apart. Judgment looms, yet glimmers of hope appear — a purified remnant, a coming sign, and the promise that God is not finished with this people.*  
*NEW TESTAMENT: Paul celebrates the grace that has brought believers from death to life and bound them into one new humanity. He urges a Spirit-shaped way of living — in unity, holiness, and mutual love — and begins his joyful partnership with the Philippians.*



# SERMON RECAP

## MAY 31, 2026

### Trinity Sunday

### The Wisdom of Awe and Wonder

### Prov. 2:1-10, Ecc. 3:9-15

One of the pages of “What is God Like” describes God has three dancers, moving to create beautiful art, coordinated in movement but not in total synchronization.

To me, this feels like a wonderful way to describe the Trinity. “God is like three dancers, graceful and precise. They move to the same music in very different ways, showcasing all of God’s elegance and rhythm in your life.”

Trinity Sunday has roots in the church that go back over 1000 years, and it has been fixed as the Sunday after Pentecost in the Western Church since 1333. It has a long tradition, but it is not a significant day in most Methodist churches. I have to admit I seldom pay it little heed, but the significance of reflecting on the Trinity on the same Sunday we are honoring the Wisdom of Awe and Wonder seems like a perfect fit.

The Trinity should not be a solution or the answer to a question like “What is God like?” Instead, it is a helpful tool to wrap our minds around something that is unknowable. The mystery of God’s essence cannot be satisfied with a triangle diagram, Celtic knot, or shamrock. These tools to help us understand who God is, but they cannot be our final answer.

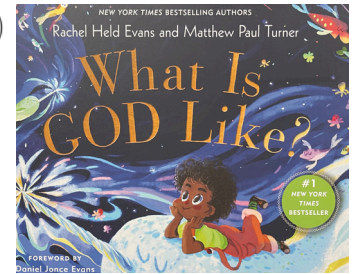
The mystery of the Trinity is that God IS relationship. God’s name in the Hebrew Bible is sometimes known as YAHWEH. Whenever you read in the Old Testament the word THE LORD in all caps like this, it is translating the Hebrew word YHWH, where are no vowels in Hebrew. The word “Jehovah” was an attempt to pronounce this Hebrew word, but is mistaken. There is no “j” sound in Hebrew, so Yahweh is our best way to say it English.

What does Yahweh mean? YHWH has connection to the Hebrew verb “to be” and is sometimes translated “I am that I am” There is a redundancy, a unity, and a self-contained mystery in this word. It is the name of God and describes a transcendent essence that cannot be fully grasped with human language.

Genesis 2 describes how YHWH created humanity to be in relationship. The human was incomplete and unhappy until there was a partner. Genesis 1 tells us that humanity was created in God’s image, “in the divine image, God created them.”



What’s God Like, by Rachel Held Evans and Matthew Paul Turner. Three depictions of The Trinity that might be helpful



Proverbs tells us about Creation as well. Wisdom is with God since Creation. Wisdom is how God created, and she is deeply embedded in the fabric of all things. Proverbs 3:17 describes the relationship between God and Wisdom:

**Her ways are pleasant; all her paths are peaceful. She is a tree of life to those who embrace her; those who hold her tight are happy. The Lord laid the foundations of the earth with wisdom, establishing the heavens with understanding. With his knowledge, the watery depths burst open, and the skies drop dew.”**

Wisdom is not about finding answers. It is about exploring mystery. The nature of God is not something that we can neatly wrap up in a bow. The best we can do is explore the truth that we find in our explanations.

God is YHWH, eternal and transcendent. There is an otherness to God that we will never fully comprehend. Still, the Wisdom literature tells us that doesn’t mean we should stop trying. There is virtue in searching for God. There is value in exploring ideas.

God is Three in One, like three dancers moving with passion to the same music. The music is justice and compassion. The movement allows us to see the redeeming Son, being willing even to die; the creating Father, making things new even in this moment; the sustaining Spirit, giving us vision and filling our dreams.

And Lady Wisdom calls out. She cries out so we will continue to search. She sings so that the dancers may dance. Or maybe she counts out the numbers so they can keep rhythm. Or maybe she is actually one of the dancers, or maybe...

**NEXT WEEK:**

**The Wisdom of the Fear of the Lord, “Where The Wild Things Are”**