

Proverbs 8:22-31

Palms 8

Romans 5:1-5

John 16:12-15

As I begin my homily I would like to introduce you to a children's book titled, **THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX, AND THE HORSE** by Charlie Mackesy. It appears to be a child's book but I have found it to be a delight as it is filled with a great deal of wisdom. The author suggests it is a book of friendship where these four, the boy, the mole, the fox, and the horse, come together and what surfaces is the wisdom of life. I have been pondering how I might use this book in my work with the veterans. And so, I share with you a few morsels of the wisdom I have found here.

The boy and the mole are simply out wandering about in nature talking and sharing thoughts and ideas. The mole asks the boy, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" "Kind," said the boy. "What do you think success is?" asked the boy. "To love," said the mole. The art work from page to page helps the reader to perceive that a genuine friendship is happening. The boy and the mole come upon a fox. The mole says, "I am not afraid." "If I wasn't caught in this snare I'd kill you," said the fox. "If you stay in that snare you will die," said the mole. So the mole chewed through the wire with his tiny teeth. The mole then suggests, "One of our greatest freedoms is how we react to things." As the book continues, there is now the three of them wandering about, sharing their thoughts. Finally, they come upon a horse who enters the sharing. After quite a number of exchanges between the boy and the horse, the boy ask, "So you know all about me?" "Yes," said the horse. "And you still love me?" said the boy. "We love you all the more," said the horse "Sometimes I think you believe in me more than I do," said the boy. "You'll catch up," said the horse.

This last line is what I would like to say is my focus as we celebrate Trinity Sunday. God believes in you and me more than we believe in ourselves. And this is what our life journey is all about, to catch up to the idea, God believes in us more than we believe in our very selves.

In the story of creation in the opening chapters of Genesis, we read that God looked at what he created each day and God was pleased with what came into being. This is true for you and for me, God does not create anything God does not like, God believes in us more than we believe in ourselves.

The opening lesson from Proverbs is the story of creation as told from the perspective of Lady Wisdom. She says I was there from the very beginning. God created wisdom and wisdom was his companion and helper as he created. With wisdom at God's side, God created the heavens, the earth, the great oceans,

setting limits, and so forth. Only at the end of this passage is there a reference to the children of Adam. The message seems to be that wisdom is closely associated with we human folks, for wisdom takes “delight in the children of Adam.” Here in this passage we are not stewards of creation as we see in Genesis, rather with wisdom at our side we are to act wisely and care for all that is. To live with reverence for all that God has created, includes more than anything else our very selves. Once I begin to ponder that God believes in me, then I will have confidence in myself and will have something to offer another. The closing line of that lesson from Paul to the Romans is significant, “God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.” The boy said to the horse, “You know all about me and you still love me,” the boy said to the horse. “We love you all the more,” replied the horse. God knows all about you and me and God loves us all the more.

In that gospel lesson Jesus is about to leave his disciples. He is trying to reassure them that they would have the presence of the Spirit to guide them through through his passion, death, and resurrection. Much more is to be revealed to these disciples but Jesus said, you are not yet ready to hear the full truth. Perhaps Jesus was saying to the disciples, I believe in you more than you believe in yourself. Your mission is to consider the love poured into your hearts, and then ponder what good things God might have in mind for you.

This feast is all about a friendship with God, a friendship with one another, and a friendship with one self. We move to the altar and celebrate Eucharist. We are out the door into another new week, knowing God believes in us more than we believe in ourselves.