

The Apostles' Creed.

ARRANGED IN INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SUNDAYS FROM ADVENT TO TRINITY.

By REV. D. ELSDALE, Rector of Moulsoe.

Second Sunday in Advent (DECEMBER 6).

'— in God.'—*The Godhead.*—Isaiah vi. 1-9; Psalm xiv. 1.

A. The Nature of God.

First. *Unity.*—God is One Substance (or Essence).—Deut. vi. 4.

Second. *Trinity.*—God is Three Persons.—S. Matthew xxviii. 19.

Third. *Trinity in Unity.*—God is Three Persons in One Substance.—1 S. John v. 7; S. John xvii. 11.

B. God is Good (S. Luke xviii. 19).

First. We should trust His Goodness.—Job xiii. 15. Third. We should imitate His Goodness.—S. Luke x. 37.

Second. " tell of " S. Matt. v. 19. Fourth. " praise " Psalm ciii.

C. 1. What do we mean by God?—The Uncreated Spirit.

2. Is there more than One God?—No; there is None Other.

3. Is there only One Person Who is God?—There are Three Persons in the One God.

4. How does the Church in Heaven acknowledge the Trinity?—By singing 'HOLY, HOLY, HOLY.'

5. How does the Church on earth acknowledge the Trinity?—By Baptism 'in the Name of THE FATHER, and of THE SON, and of THE HOLY GHOST.'

6. How do you know there is a God?—Because I am told so by {
The Church above me,
Creation around me,
Conscience within me.

7. What is your duty towards God?

Third Sunday in Advent (DECEMBER 13).

'— THE FATHER, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.'—GOD THE FATHER.—Genesis i.; S. John v. 17.

A. The Fatherhood of God.

First—of His only-begotten Son—
by Eternal Generation.—Heb. i. 5.

Second—of us—
by (1) Creation.—Malachi ii. 10. (3) Adoption.—Romans viii. 15.
(2) Preservation.—Acts xvii. 28.

B. God is 'Our Father'—

Therefore—as children—we must—

I. Honour HIM.—Malachi i. 6.

III. Obey HIM.—S. John iv. 34.

II. Submit to HIM.—Hebrews xii. 9, 10. IV. Be like HIM.—S. Matt. v. 48.

C. 1. Why do we call GOD—'THE FATHER'?—Because HE is THE FATHER of our Lord JESUS CHRIST.

2. Is God a Father to others than His only Son?—Yes; HE is the Father of me and all the World by Creation.

3. Why do we call GOD—'Almighty'?—Because HE can do what HE will.

4. What does HE never will to do?—Things bad, foolish, cruel.

5. Why cannot HE do such things?—Because HE is All-good, All-wise, All-loving; as well as Almighty.

6. Why do we call GOD—'Maker of heaven and earth'?—Because HE created all things out of nothing.

7. What other Creation is HE preparing for us?—A new Heaven and a new Earth.

Fourth Sunday in Advent (DECEMBER 20).

'—And in JESUS.'—GOD THE SON.—S. John x. 30-40; S. Matthew xxi. 37.

A. Why should GOD THE SON become 'The Son of Man'?—Because man could not be saved by—

I. No one.—Isaiah lxiii. 3, 5.

IV. Either of The Other Divine Persons: for they have
right and *power*, but not *fitness*: since it seems
fitting that—

II. His fellow-man.—Psalm xlix. 7, 8.

III. Any creature.—S. Jude 9.

1. THE FATHER should 'give' THE SON (S. John iii. 16), not THE SON give THE FATHER.

2. THE SON of GOD should also become 'The Son of Man.'

3. HE 'by WHOM the worlds were made' (Hebrews i. 2) should also remake all things.

B. Christmas lessons from THE SON of GOD for the Children of God.

1st. HE came down in Love (2 Corinthians viii. 9). ∴ beware of selfishness.

2nd. HE was born to be a Servant (Philippians ii. 7). ∴ beware of idleness.

3rd. HE was a gentle Sufferer (S. Luke ii. 21). ∴ beware of rudeness.

4th. HE feeds us from His manger at Bethlehem (S. John vi. 48). ∴ beware of gluttony.