

## The 24-7 Diner

*“Taste and see that the Lord is good.”*

—Psalm 34:8

By Ken Woodley

Come and get it.

Dig in.

Breakfast’s ready. Lunch and dinner, too.

This kitchen serves it up 24-7.

Open all day. Open all night.

Never a second when the door is closed and none of the doors have locks.

And there’s a place around the table for everyone.

Yes, come and taste and see that the Lord is good.

In fact, the Lord is something quite special.

Delicious and sustaining.

A meal unto itself.

“Taste the Lord.”

What an extraordinary invitation the psalmist extends to us.

We aren’t invited to read something and think about it.

We aren’t asked to lock ourselves away in deep meditation in hopes a revelation will come to us.

“Taste and see that the Lord is good.”

*Merriam-Webster’s* definitions of “taste” are telling:

“To ascertain the flavor.”

“To perceive or recognize.”

“To become acquainted with through experience.”

“Appreciate, enjoy.”

And all of these definitions directly apply to the invitation to “taste and see that the Lord is good.”

Ascertain the flavor of Love.

Perceive Love.

Recognize Love.

Become acquainted with Love by experiencing it.

Appreciate Love.

Enjoy Love.

I mean, really, what more could we possibly want?

After all, this love is all we need.

And for that we can thank Jesus and the door he opened to the Trinity of Love and our relationship with it.

The concept of the Trinity can be difficult to wrap our heads around. Let’s leave our heads out of it and use the taste buds of our soul, instead.

Think of the Trinity as the most incredible meal in the history of the world. The Holy Spirit is the wondrous scent that whets our appetites. We can’t see it or taste it, but we know it’s there, invisible but palpable. Jesus is this Love made manifest among us. The sight of this Love. The voice of it. The touch and feel of it. And it is Jesus who leads our souls to a direct place at the table with this Love:

*“I in them and you and me, may they be perfectly one,”* he prays to Love in the 17th chapter of the Gospel of John.

A prayer that was answered.

God’s Love is already deep inside our soul. Taste this miraculous truth.

Swallow it. And inwardly digest the feast.

It’s all-you-can-eat and...

“...All that you can share.”

And these aren’t crumbs off the table.

None of us are dogs.

We are all children of God.

Each of us loved just as we are.

Unconditionally.