

A Meditation Poem Inspired by the
Quicumque Volt
(Athanasian Creed)
& the Theology of Teilhard de Chardin S.O.J.

Whoever desires to be spiritual
Should above all embrace
The Universal Faith.

Whoever does not Cherish it
Complete yet Everunfolding
Will no doubt yearn for it eternally.

Now this is the Universal Faith:
We love and adore One **Good** in Trinity
And this Trinity in Unity,
Neither confusing It's Aspects
Nor dividing it's Essential Substance.

From the Beginning the Father-Mother is One Life,
The Son and Daughter - One Truth,
And the Spiritual Comforter is One Love.

But the Divinity of this Life, Truth,
And Comforting Love
Is One **Good**, Glorious in Equanimity,
Coeternal and Magnificent.

What the Creator Life Is,
The Redeeming Truth Is,
And so It Is with the Comforter Love.

Unmatched is Eternal Life;
Unmatched is Eternal Truth;
Unmatched is Eternal Love.

Life is Infinite;
Truth is Infinite;
Love is Forever and Infinite.

Eternal is our Parental Life;
Eternal is our Sibling Truth;
Eternal is our Comforting Love:

And yet there are not
Three Eternal Essences,
But One Eternal Substance that is Infinite;

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As there are not
Three Uncreated and Unlimited Substances,
But One that is Uncreated
And Unlimited.

Almighty and yet Fragile is Life;
Almighty and yet Fragile is Truth;
Almighty and yet Fragile is Love;

And yet there are not
Three Almighty yet Fragile Substances,
But One that is Almighty and at the same time Fragile.

Thus the Father-Mother "Life" is **Good**;
The Son-Daughter "Truth" is **Good**;
The All-Comforting "Love" is **Good**;

And yet there are not three " **Goods**",
But One **Good**.

Thus Life is Our Master;
Truth is Our Master;
Love is Our Master

And yet there are not three Masters,
But One Master.

As Anointed Wisdom urges us
To acknowledge each distinct Aspect
As **Good** and Masterful,
So Universal Spirituality entreats us
Not to say that there are
Three **Goods** or Masters.

Life was neither Made
Nor Created nor Fashioned;
Truth was neither Made nor Created
But was Fashioned from Life;
Love was neither Made nor Created nor Fashioned
But is Proceeding from Life and Truth.

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Thus there is One "Life Force,"
Not three Life Forces;
One "Spiritual Truth,"
Not three Spiritual Truths
One "All-Embracing Love" not three All-Embracing Loves.

And in this Trinity,
Not one is before or after,
Greater or less than the other;
But all Three Essential Aspects are in themselves,
Coeternal and Coequal;

And so we must adore
This Trinity in Unity
And the One **Good** in Three Aspects.

Whoever desires to be Spiritual should
Meditate thus about this Great Trinity.

It is necessary for Infinite Understanding
That one also earnestly acknowledge
That our Redemption through Truth
Emerges from the Flesh.

For this is True Spirituality
That we acknowledge and understand:
That our Anointed Truth,
Goodness' Offspring,
Is both Infinite and Finite.

The Beginning is **Good**, begotten before the Origin,
From the Source of Life,
And It is Finite, begun in the Finitude
From the source of It's Outpouring.

Existing as Full **Goodness**,
And Fully as Finite Life
With Sentience and Corporality;
Equal to Life in **Goodness**,
Subordinate to Life in Frailty.

Although it is **Good** and Frail,
It is Not Divided
But is One Truth.

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Truth is United because **Goodness** has taken
Finiteness into Itself;
It does not transform **Goodness**
Into Finitude.

It is Completely One,
In the Unity of Essence,
Without confusing the Aspects.

So the One Truth is **Good** and yet Finite.
Truth endured near annihilation for Our Evolution
Descending into Oblivion
Only to Manifest again from Oblivion.

Truth Ascends into Equanimity
And resides in the Strength of Life.
It will always return again
To validate the Finite and the Infinite.

At its Coming
All Sentient Beings shall Understand Completely
And Make an Assessment of their own **Good**.

Those who have Lived the **Good**
Will already have Eternal **Good**,
Those who have Not Lived the **Good**
Will already desire Eternal **Good**.

This is the Universal Spiritual Faith.

One might be lacking Fulfillment
Without Understanding This
Earnestly and Profoundly.

Amen.