

## FFWPU Europe and Middle East: Heavenly Parent - A Genius Of Artistic Beauty

Knut Holdhus  
June 8, 2024



**Prayer on Holy Day with nature in focus inspired by tremendous artistic beauty in our surroundings**



*Matthew Huish delivering a speech in Oslo, Norway 17th March 2024*

Excerpt from a prayer offered by Matthew Huish, assistant head of the North Europe subregion of the [Family Federation](#), at an early morning Europe-wide online meeting 6th June 2024 to celebrate the Day of All True Things, one of the major Holy Days of the [Family Federation](#).

Good morning, our loving Heavenly Parent. It is our privilege to be able to join together as "brothers and sisters" across our Europe and Middle East region in order to offer this Holy Day celebration service to you.

We want to unite our hearts in celebration of this special Holy Day that our [True Parents](#) have declared and invited us to share with them.

They have invited the entire world to share this Holy Day, to celebrate this Holy Day together with them.

And we want to be connected in heart with our [True Father](#) in the spirit world and our [True Mother](#) here on earth as we

make this offering together.

Heavenly Parent, you are a genius of artistic beauty. When we look at this world that you have created, there is so much fascinating wonder in everything in creation.

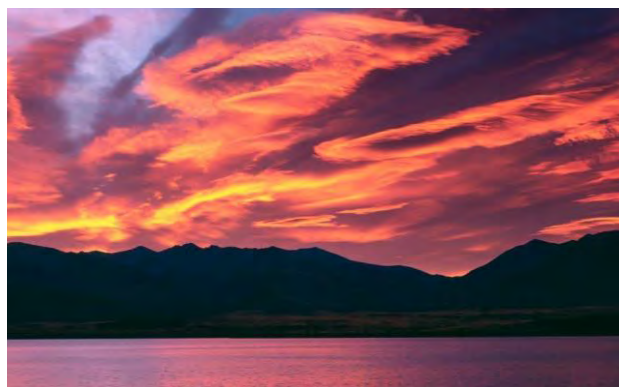
Heavenly Parent, you painstakingly prepared this universe as an environment in which you could express your creativity and your love. And we see your image everywhere, in every part of the universe, in every corner of life, in the laws of mathematics and physics, in the beauty of a morning sunrise or a mountain.

Heavenly Parent, we can see how much love you have for everything that you have created. There is nothing that you have created that does not possess your divine wonder about it.

And we want to celebrate the beauty of the creation. Heavenly Parent, of course we are a part of that creation. As your special children, we not only reflect your identity in symbol, but we reflect your identity in image.

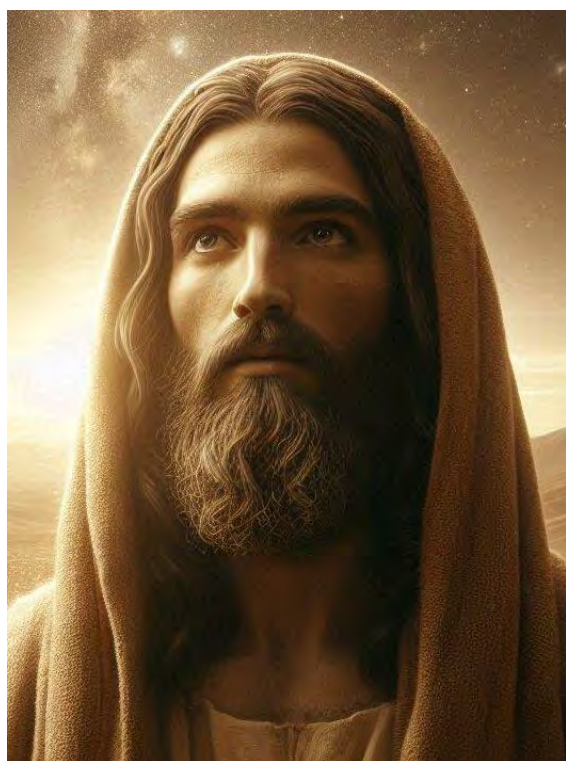
And it was your desire, after spending billions of years preparing the environment, that your children

would emerge, who would know who you are, would know deeply your meaning in creating this universe, and would inherit your love for it, your creativity and would inherit your stewardship over this universe.



*Sunset at Lake Tekapo, South Island, New Zealand*

But because of the Fall, Heavenly Parent, our hearts became so corrupted, unable to be sensitive to your desire, unable to recognise the original purpose for which you created this universe.



*Jesus Christ*

And so, it has taken such a long time for humanity to purify themselves to the point where you could send Jesus 2,000 years ago who was to be the [True Parent](#), and even that experienced a setback.



*[True Parents](#) smiling under cherry blossoms*

You had to wait another 2,000 years before the emergence of our [True Parents](#), who can finally complete this mission of discovering your heart and sharing it in its depth and profundity with humanity.

We are all invited to walk the path that our [True Parents](#) have prepared for us to inherit your heart.

Heavenly Parent, and it is our destiny to realise the three great blessings, the third of which is to become "owners" of the creation.

Heavenly Parent, we want to be "owners" of ourselves. We want to be "owners" of our families and our communities. But also, we want to "own" the creation that you have blessed us with.

We want to use the beautiful creation that you have given to us to create an environment that can return joy to you, and we want to serve the creation.

All things of creation are yearning to create an environment in which your heart, Heavenly Parent, can sing and dance with joy.

So I pray that on this day we can not only offer our own hearts, Heavenly Parent, but also the heart of all of creation.

Each of us attending this celebration service is responsible for some corner of this universe, however big or small it may be.

And we want to make an offering together with our home, with our office, with our school, with our place of work. Wherever we are we want to offer all things to you today to bring joy to your heart. Heavenly Parent, with gratitude in our hearts to the [True Parents](#) for inviting us to celebrate this Holy Day, we are proud to attend this celebration service. [...]

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# In-Depth Look At The Fatherly And Motherly God

March 31, 2024 • Knut Holdhus

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*Understanding the Creator as fatherly and motherly God gives more comprehensive view of essence of God*

Part 3 of a lecture given by Dr. David Hanna, head of the North European sub-region of the Family Federation, at an international prayer meeting by Zoom on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

See [part 1](#), [part 2](#)

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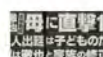
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To conclude my presentation, here are some additional thoughts from me – indicated by the change of slide background – on the term “Heavenly Parent”.

My own view is that in English it remains a bit problematic, although I'm getting used to it just through constant use. I suppose the term “Heavenly Parent” in English begs the question, “Well, which Parent do you mean, Mother or Father?”

Also, it's not a term of address that we use in everyday language. We don't say, “Good morning, parent.”

However, the Korean word “bumo” is ambiguously either singular or plural. And even if singular, the word is anyway made up of the two phonemes, “bu” and “mo”, meaning “father” and “mother”.

父母

The Chinese character for parent(s). The left part means father, the right mother. In Korean, it's pronounced bumo.

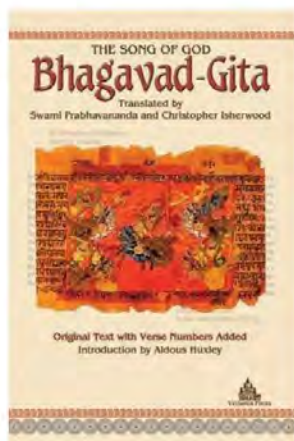
So, my personal solution, at least for private prayer, is to use the Korean “Haneul bumonim”. I can easily imagine that for Korean ears, this is a beautiful step up from “Hananim”, which is an old word for God in native Korean religion and which translates, as – you might know – “the honourable number one”.

This change involves a comfortable expansion of the existing word in line with the developed concept.

It has to be said, **the idea of God as having both a feminine as well as a masculine nature, is not unique to us as Unificationists.**

The root of our faith is, of course, in the Jewish Torah.

“So God created man in his own image. In the image of God, he created him. Male and female, he created them.” (Genesis 1,28)



A new edition of the classic translation of the Bhagavad Gita – The Song of God – Translation by Swami Prabhavananda and Christopher Isherwood. Photo: Vedanta Press / Wikimedia Commons. License: [CC ASA 4.0 Int](#)

It's really a revealed truth, very much ahead of its time. But also in the Hindu scripture the Bhagavad Gita, which is written around 200 to 400 BCE, it reads,

“I am the Father and Mother of this universe.”

And for a more



Franciscan Fr. Richard Rohr. Photo (2001): Center for Action and Contemplation, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA / Wikimedia Commons. [Public domain image](#)

contemporary take, showing this is a topic about which there's a lot of talk actually, as well as a changing practice today. I was interested to read this. It's from the popular author and the Franciscan, so catholic monk Richard Rohr. He says,

“Do you think if we'd had a more feminine image of God, that we would have understood creation as labour and giving birth? If we had had an image of God as the great mother who is giving birth, I think history as process, pain, patience-guided destiny would have come more naturally. As it is, we have seen history as a linear obstacle course, something

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to be conquered, exploited and won." (Richard Rohr, "Jesus' Plan for a New World", p35)

And you'll surely find many more examples yourself.

I don't see myself resorting to dualism as being the main danger. I think a more real but hidden danger lies in inductive reasoning itself. If we start with what we know as masculine and feminine and simply say **God** is like that, then we don't know **God**. That is my worry.

I think the lecture could benefit also from a reference to the Holy Spirit and how that has been viewed historically. After all, we call **Mother Moon** "the substantial Holy Spirit".



Extract from a slide used by Dr. Jin-su Hwang. Photo: FFWPU

Jesus was and is the only begotten son of **God** and the first to fulfill the first blessing and become a complete embodiment of **God** or incarnation.

Now, the traditional trinitarian view of **God** is all male, with **God** the Father as male, in mystical oneness with **God**



Extract from a slide used by Dr. Jin-su Hwang. Photo: FFWPU

the Son, who is, of course, male, and **God** the Holy Spirit, who is also regarded as male. So, three persons in one, but all male.

You also find much discussion in theological circles about the feminine nature of the Holy Spirit and how the masculine definition has been arrived at, which is largely by a quirk of language, actually, as well as being subjected to a male dominated church hierarchy.



Extract from a slide used by Dr. Jin-su Hwang. Photo: FFWPU

So, the **Divine Principle** reveals an elegant and very beautiful solution where the **Holy Spirit is revealed and given as a feminine counterpart to the risen Jesus to give comfort and spiritual rebirth to those who turn to Christ**. This is an important view to propagate, in my opinion.

Finally, let me remind you of just how advanced **Father Moon's** Christology, or "True Parentology", as I like to call it, how advanced it is.

Here he is speaking to dignitaries at the World Culture and Sports Festival banquet that's back in 2005. He said,

**"Once Adam and Eve had reached perfection, however, God planned to dwell within them,** to have complete oneness with them. He planned that He would enter a relationship of eternal **true love** with them, wherein **He would be Adam and at the same time God.** Likewise, **He would be Eve and at the same time God.**

If Adam and Eve had not fallen, if they had abided by the commandment of **God**, achieved perfection as individuals, and come together in a holy matrimonial union with the Blessing of **God**, their children and their descendants would have lived forever as His substantial embodiments, inheriting His nature generation after generation." (From a speech **Father Moon** gave 1<sup>st</sup> August 2005)

So really, my final conclusion is just as St. Paul said in 1. Corinthians 15:13,

"But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised." (Amplified Bible)

So, we can say, if there is no "**Only Begotten Daughter**", what hope have we to become the substantial embodiments of **God**?

Thank you very much for your attention, everybody.

See [part 1](#), [part 2](#)

**Featured image** above: Dr. David Hanna lecturing in Oslo, Norway on 16th March 2024. Photo: Knut Holdhus

"In-depth Look at the Fatherly and Motherly God" – text: Dr. David Hanna

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