

May 10, 2020

Trinity Presbyterian Church
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Fifth Sunday of Easter

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude

Fugue No. 3 in D major, from *Eight Fugues without Pedal*, F. 31
by Wilhelm Friedemann Bach

Welcome & Announcements

Leader: This is a day that God has made!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Time for sharing news of the church.

Call to Worship

Leader: The Creative One who shaped the universe, crafts us into a community of faith:

People: a people to shelter the homeless, a family to feed the hungry.

Leader: The Creative One who made kittens and elephants,
shapes us in the Divine image:

People: so we can grow with grace as we welcome the hopeless and helpless.

Leader: The Creative One who blesses us with flowers and waterfalls,
gifts us with love, grace, and hope:

People: so we can go to tell the story, to bring healing to a broken world.

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Gathering Song

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above
Glory to God #645, v. 1-4

Invitation to Confession

Leader: The Stone tossed aside by the architects of sin and death,
is the Creative One who becomes the foundation for redemption,
the cornerstone for grace and hope.
We can confess freely and openly to God,
who like a Mother Hen will not shame us,
but forgives us, welcomes us home, sheltering us under her loving wings.
In that faith, let us pray together:

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

All: In humility, we must confess how we have not matured as your children, Gentle Mothering Parent. The hurting and helpless of our world cry out, and we cover our ears with hands which could be serving them. The forsaken and ridiculed of our neighborhoods and schools are looking for a community of acceptance, and we cover our eyes with hands which could welcome them. The lonely and grieving are listening for hope, and we cover our mouths with hands which could embrace them and sing gentle songs of grace to them.

Forgive us, Refuge of the broken. Our times are in your hands, so help us to believe we can be healed in this moment. Our hearts are in your heart, so transform ours that we can serve your children. Our lives are redeemed by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior, so call us to give them away in his name. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Leader: The Good News is that in Christ our sins are forgiven,
our lives are made whole, we become God's own people.

People: Thanks be to God!
We will live as those chosen, not only to tell a Story,
but to live it out each and every day.
Alleluia!

Passing of the Peace

Leader: Since God in Christ Jesus has forgiven us,
let us forgive one another.
The peace of Jesus Christ be with you all.
Please share the peace of Jesus Christ
with those with whom you are joining us for worship.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: Open your heavens to us, God of all worlds. We long for the pure spiritual milk you provide so we may grow into salvation. We are your people, siblings of your Chosen One. Let us this day be built into a spiritual house, a community of faithful people. Keep us from judging those whose views differ from our own, or from throwing stones at those with whom we disagree. Incline your ear to us and rescue us from ourselves. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;
do not let me ever be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.

Incline your ear to me;
rescue me speedily.

Be a rock of refuge for me,
a strong fortress to save me.

You are indeed my rock and my fortress;
for your name's sake lead me and guide me,
take me out of the net that is hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.

Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

My times are in your hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.
Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.

Second Scripture Reading

1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”
and
“A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message: "Being Built into a Spiritual House"

Rev. Marilyn Gamm

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Song of Response

The Church's One Foundation

Glory to God #321, v 1-5

Affirmation of Faith

Based on the Writings of Martin Luther King, Jr.

**I refuse to believe
that we are unable to influence the events which surround us.**

**I refuse to believe
that we are so bound to racism and war that peace,
brotherhood and sisterhood are not possible.**

**I believe there is an urgent need
for people to overcome oppression and violence,
without resorting to violence and oppression.
I believe that we need to discover a way to live together in peace,
a way which rejects revenge, aggression, and retaliation.**

The foundation of this way is love.

**I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love
will have the final word in reality.**

I believe that right temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant.

**I believe that peoples everywhere
can have three meals a day for their bodies,
education and culture for their minds,
and dignity, equality, and freedom for their spirits.
I believe that what self-centered people have torn down,
other-centered people can build up.**

**By the goodness of God at work within people,
I believe that brokenness can be healed.**

**"And the lion and the lamb shall lie down together,
and everyone will sit under their own vine and fig tree,
and none shall be afraid."**

Amen.

Mother's Day Litany Prayers of the People

A time for silent prayers will be offered during the Prayers of the People.

Leader: On this day, we honor those who have mothered us and cared for us.
For some, this will be a birth mother,
and we may wish to express our grateful thanks.

People: **We pray that our lives may reflect the love they have shown us.**

Leader: For others, it will be the women who raised us,
who were our mothers in childhood –
an adopted mother, older sister, aunt, grandmother,
stepmother or someone else.
We may wish to express our thanks for those women
who held us and fed us, who cared for us and kissed away our pain.

People: We pray that our lives may reflect the love they have shown us.

Leader: We pray for older mothers whose children are grown.

People: Grant them joy and satisfaction in how their children's lives unfold.

Leader: We pray for those with adult children,
but whose lives are still shaped by their children's needs and cares.

People: Grant them strength, patience and wisdom.

Leader: We pray for new mothers experiencing changes they could not predict.

People: Grant them rest and peace and confidence as the days unfold.

Leader: We pray for pregnant women who will soon be mothers.

People: Grant them patience and good counsel in the coming months.

Leader: We pray for mothers who face the demands of single parenthood.

People: Grant them strength and wisdom.

Leader: We pray for mothers who enjoy financial abundance.

People: Grant them time to share with their families.

Leader: We pray for mothers who are raising their children in poverty.

People: Grant them relief and justice.

Leader: We pray for the challenge of blended families,
and those who take on care of others' children.

People: Grant them patience and understanding and love.

Leader: We pray for mothers who are separated from their children.

People: Grant them faith and hope.

Leader: We pray for mothers in marriages that are in crisis.

People: Grant them support and insight.

Leader: We pray for mothers who have lost children through illness,
or death come too soon.

People: Grant them comfort that their children are held in Divine embrace.

Leader: We pray for mothers in developing countries
who die in childbirth due to inadequate maternal health care,
or whose children die too young.

**People: Grant that generosity may abound,
that money will be released for resources,
and to attract skilled personnel who can support the women and children.**

Leader: We pray for mothers who have terminated pregnancies.

People: Grant them healing and peace.

Leader: We pray for mothers who gave up their children for adoption.

**People: Grant them peace and confidence
that the children will be held in good care.**

Leader: We pray for adoptive mothers.

People: Grant them joy and gratitude for the gift of life entrusted to them.

Leader: We pray for girls and women who think about being mothers.

People: Grant them wisdom and discernment.

Leader: We pray for women who desperately want, or wanted, to be mothers.

**People: Grant them grace in their particular
and often private sense of loss and grief.**

Leader: We pray for all women who have assumed the mother's role in a child's life.

People: Grant them joy and the appreciation of others.

Leader: We pray for those people present
who are grieving the loss of their mother in the past year.

**People: Grant them comfort, and confidence
that loving continues in how we live our lives.**

Leader: And now, God of healing and hope, hear us as we offer our individual prayers from
wherever we are gathered to worship this day,
for ourselves, for our neighbors, friends and loved ones:

Silent Prayer

Leader: Thank you, Loving God, for hearing all these our prayers.
And now let us pray together the prayer Jesus taught his disciples to say:

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

Song of Service

O Jesus, I Have Promised
Glory to God #724, v. 1-4

Commission and Blessing

Postlude

“May (Starlit Nights)” from The Seasons
by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Participants in Today's Worship

Pastor – Marilyn Gamm

Minister of Music & Pianist/Organist – Christian Hendricks

Children & Youth Minister – Hannah Peters

Communications Coordinator – Katie Gibbons

The Trinity Choir:

Soprano – Aleta Klein, Cricket Gordon, Jenn Clodi, Madeline Black (Section Leader)

Alto – Connie Torretta, Margy Brown, Nancy Wagoner, Rachel Presti, Janelle Pierce (Section Leader)

Tenor – Brian Schroer, Pat Courtney, Evan Babel (Section Leader)

Bass – George Van Hare, Nigel Holloway, John Galczynski, Aleksandar Dragojevic (Section Leader)

Contact Trinity's staff and leadership by emailing admin@trinityucity.org or contacting the church office.

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWS AND NOTES FOR MAY 10TH, 2020

We open our doors to all persons to join in worship, fellowship, educational programs, and service.

We welcome into membership all who profess faith in Jesus Christ without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, worldly conditions, sexual orientation, disability, or any other human condition.

We elect and ordain persons who are called by God and committed to serving the Lord Jesus Christ in the Church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trinity is “broadcasting” our Sunday morning 10 a.m. worship service via our Facebook page or you can watch the recording on YouTube later on Sundays. Those who participate in this way on home computers or mobile devices can even type messages to one another during the live service, such as doing a virtual passing of the peace.

The Facebook group **Trinity Shares** also offers members who are on Facebook a place to post inspiring, meaningful, hopeful pictures, prayers, Scriptures, poems, stories and so forth.

Kids and parents probably already know about this, but if you are not a parent of a young person and have **wondered what goes on in “Children’s Church,” now you can experience it!** Hannah Peters has taped a YouTube video, and updated links will be posted regularly on the “Sundays at Trinity” section of our website homepage.

Next time you’re in the area, **check out the "Spring Snow" white crab apple tree that was planted last week** on Trinity's east lawn in honor of Reverend Johanna Wagner's service to Trinity.

Thanks to the active leadership and grant-writing efforts of Winger Food Pantry coordinator Joanne Roman, **Trinity has received a \$550 grant to purchase food for the pantry from the St. Louis Area Foodbank!** The grant is intended to help alleviate costs directly related to food distribution in response to the increased need during the COVID-19 outbreak.

As we live in this challenging time, Trinity continues to be available to all those who need us.

Members desiring pastoral care are encouraged to call the church office at 314-725-3840 or to reach out to Deacons Margy Brown, 314-452-7241, or Cathy Smith, 314-725-0586. Your need will be shared confidentially with our Transitional Pastor the Reverend Marilyn Gamm. You also can email her directly at Marilyn.Gamm@TrinityUCity.org

Supporting the church through your financial gifts continues to be encouraged! Please mail your contributions to Trinity Presbyterian Church, Att’n: Linde, 6800 Washington Ave., University City, MO 63130, or check out the online giving instructions below.

Session

Gordon Brown, Dayna Early, Nigel Holloway, Kris Kerr, Mary Klingensmith, Mike Krivonak, Mary McKown, Brian Muegge (Clerk), Rachel Presti, John Roman, Jan Schulte-Glad, George Van Hare

Deacons

Margy Brown, Bill Cahoon, Kathie Cahoon, Anna Gardner-Andrews, Jennifer Higginbotham, Corie Merker, Jim Person, Art Platt, Diana Regan, Joanne Roman, Cathy Smith, Spirit Sorensen