

Trinity and Chime Sunday
May 30, 2021
WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

FOR YOUR MEDITATION

“God loves in freedom, lives in communion, and wills creatures to live in a new community of mutual love and service.” ~ Daniel Migliore

We enter, never as strangers, but always as guests of God. If you come as a stranger, please know it is our intention you leave as a friend. No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, we welcome you this morning! May you experience God’s presence, and receive the blessing God has prepared for you.

THE PRELUDE

**A WELCOME IN CHRISTIAN LOVE
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

THE INTROIT

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST & PEACE CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us praise God, our Creator,

People: who is filled with glory and power— with holiness and splendor;

Leader: Let us worship God, our Redeemer,

People: who is filled with love and compassion—with justice and peace;

Leader: Let us engage God, Holy Spirit and Sustainer,

People: Who fills us with faith and joy—with love and eternal life.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** (NCH - black) # 277 “*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty*”

Holy, holy, holy!

1. Holy, holy, holy, God the Almighty! Early in the morning we praise your majesty. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons blessed Trinity!

2. Holy, holy, holy! Saints adore you truly, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; Cherubim and seraphim bow before you only, From the beginning, God eternally.

3. Holy, holy, holy! Though we know but dimly, through eyes of human kind your glory may not see, You alone are holy; you alone are worthy, Perfect in power, in love and purity.

4. Holy, holy, holy! God the Almighty! All your works shall praise your name in earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, Merciful and mighty! God in three persons blessed Trinity!

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND INVOCATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

(unison)(we use "sins")

Creator God, the Word You spoke and keep speaking, is the life, the sustenance, of all that is seen and unseen. Redeeming Christ, the Life You gave, and keep giving, is the recreation, the renewed birth of every broken, wounded and sinful creature. Holiest Spirit, the breath You breathed, and keep breathing, is the inspiration for creativity, compassion and community that connects and unites all that God has made. Life-giving, life-restoring, life-fulfilling God, our worship seeks to honor You. Continue to build this community of faith into what You want us to be. Strengthen us for the work of worship and service which is ours today as well as tomorrow and listen as we pray together as Jesus taught us to pray, saying...

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S LIVING WORD

OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 6: 1-8 – Lay Reader – Kate Mott

6:1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple.

6:2 Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.

6:3 And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

6:4 The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke.

6:5 And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

6:6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs.

6:7 The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out."

6:8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (Children are invited to come forward)

SERMON *"When God Calls"*

HYMN-(NCH black) # 278 *"Creator God, Creating Still"*

1. Creator God, creating still, by will and word and deed,
Create a new humanity to meet the present need.
2. Redeemer God, redeeming still, with over flowing grace,
Pour out your love on us, through us, make this a holy place.
3. Sustainer God, sustaining still, with strength for every day,
Empower us now to do your will. Correct us when we stray.
4. Great Triune God, for this new day we need your presence still.
Create, redeem, sustain us now to do your work and will.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

WE BRING GOD OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PASTORAL PRAYER AND SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERTORY

" We covenant with God through our tithes and offerings "

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (IN UNISON)

Holy One, receive what we offer and transform it by the power of your Spirit into: enough money, sufficient praise, worthy words for proclaiming and enacting Your peace, justice, and love in the world. Amen.

HYMN – (NCH- black) # 591 ”This Is My Song”

1. This is my song, O god of all nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine. This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine; But other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true as mine.

1. My country’s skies are bluer than the ocean, and sunlight beams on the clover leaf and pine; But other lands have sunlight too, and clover, and skies are every where as blue as mine. O hear my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

SENDING OUT

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - NCH # 76** “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” vs 1

Sent forth by God’s blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling leave. The service is ended, O now be extended the fruits of our worship in all who believe. The seed of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. God’s grace did invite us, and love shall unite us to work for God’s realm and to answer the call.

THE POSTLUDE

The end of worship, the beginning of service. Go forth and serve God gladly.

* “We extend our spirits to God”

We Welcome all who worship with us this morning. If you are a visitor and have no church home, we hope you find a home here. If you are “passing through,” we offer you God’s blessings as you continue on your journey, and thank you for sharing with us.

WEEKLY PRAYER

God of delight,
your Wisdom sings your Word
at the crossroads where humanity and divinity meet.
Invite us into your joyful being
where you know and are known
in each beginning,
in all sustenance,
in every redemption,
that we may manifest your unity
in the diverse ministries you entrust to us,
truly reflecting your triune majesty
in the faith that acts,
in the hope that does not disappoint,
and in the love that endures. Amen.

LAY READER – Anyone wishing to share in the leadership of worship by reading the Scripture or bringing a children’s sermon, please sign-up on the appropriate list in the Parish Hall and speak with Dixie Silvestri.

TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH

June – Jack Sabine

NOTES ON THE TEXT

This famous passage emphasizes the greatness, power and holiness of God through a vision the Lord gave to the prophet Isaiah.

“In the year that King Uzziah died” (v. 1a). Uzziah (known as Azariah in 2 Kings 15) was one of the better kings of Judah—the best after Solomon. He began his reign at age 16, reigned 52 years, and “did what was right in the eyes of Yahweh” (2 Chronicles 26:3-4), commanding a mighty army, defeating the Philistines, and collecting tribute from the Ammonites. He built towers and encouraged agriculture. But toward the end of his life, he let his pride get the best of him. He took over the high priest’s duties by burning incense in the temple (II Chronicles 26:16-18). God was not happy with this and God struck Uzziah with leprosy and he was a leper until his death.

“I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up:” (v. 1b) Isaiah was privileged to experience a theophany, an appearance of God in a form that is visible to the human eye. Now, according to Exodus 19:21 and 33:20, no one can see God and live. The New Testament states that no one has seen God at any time (John 1:18; I Timothy 6:13-16). Isaiah is not contradicting these statements. Isaiah saw what others before him and after him had seen, a visible *manifestation* of God (John 12:36-41). God told Moses, “You cannot see my face; for man may not see me and live” (Exodus 33:20; see also Exodus 19:21). However, there were occasions where people were allowed to see God and live (Genesis 16:13; Exodus 24:10). Isaiah saw only what God wanted him to see, in a way that he could understand and live to tell of it.

“sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up.” This refers to God’s position of authority over God’s people.

“and his train filled the temple” (v. 1c). This detail conveys the sense of awe that Isaiah feels in the presence of God. Isaiah comes to realize how great God is and how small he is... too small to see beyond the hem of God’s robe.

“Above him stood the seraphim” (v. 2a) “Each one had six wings. With two he covered his face. With two they covered his feet. With two he flew” (v. 2b).

The word “Seraph” is a transliterated Hebrew word (a word brought into the English language as it sounds in the original language)—seraphs or seraphim are plurals of seraph. Most scholars believe that the word, seraphim, means “fiery serpents.”

Since no one was allowed to see God and live, the seraphim cover their faces.

“Covered their feet” is probably a euphemism for covering their nakedness.

Covering these parts reveal their respect and humility as they worshiped God on God’s throne.

“With two he flew” Having “wings” indicated that the seraphims were ready to go without delay wherever the One sitting on the throne commanded.

“One called to another,” (v. 3a) would suggest antiphonal choirs, where one choir sings a phrase from one part of the sanctuary and another choir sings a response from another part. Just imagine several choirs of perfect voices, positioned throughout an acoustically perfect temple, singing antiphonally. Each response would come from a new direction and would complement the earlier song rather than copying it. The effect would be rich and beautiful—almost beyond a person’s ability to absorb.

“and said, ‘Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts! The whole earth is full of his glory!’” (v. 3b).

The Hebrew language depends on repetition for emphasis, and this threefold repetition depicts the highest degree of holiness.

These are the words of a hymn of praise—a tribute to God’s holiness and glory.

The fullness of all creation is God’s “glory.” God’s “glory” includes creation and the way everything God has made fits together. However, God’s holiness is something that remains hidden, while glory is something that is designed to be made known.

Now, as for Isaiah himself.

“Woe is me! For I am undone, because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for my eyes have seen the King, Yahweh of Armies!” Isaiah finally speaks, and the first thing he does is confess his sin, and so acknowledge the sinfulness of his people. Isaiah was not an ungodly man, but the more he understood of God’s holiness, the more he understood of his own sinfulness.

“Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar” (v. 6). The hot coal taken from the altar of incense symbolizes God’s purifying work and involves repentance which is painful. Experience tells there is emotional pain in facing the truth.

“He touched my mouth with it, and said, ‘Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away, and your sin forgiven’” (v. 7). The seraph touches Isaiah’s mouth with the live coal, burning away the uncleanness of his lips

and heart. He who was unholy is made holy. He who was unfit to stand in God's presence is, by the grace of God, made fit.

"I heard the Lord's voice, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Isaiah has spoken, confessing his guilt. Now God speaks, addressing the heavenly council (the seraphim and whatever other angelic host might be present).

Then I said, "Here I am. Send me!"

Isaiah is grateful. He is grateful to be cleansed, grateful to be in God's presence and very grateful to still be alive. So, he readily volunteers to be God's envoy. Even though he knows not what God will ask of him or do with him or how any of this will make sense in the real world, he basically writes God a blank check, offering to go wherever and to do whatever. This is unusual in the call stories of the Old Testament, where people often object to their call (Exodus 3:11; 4:10; Judges 6:15; Jeremiah 1:6).

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

- *Sunday (30th) **TRINITY SUNDAY**
10:00AM Morning Worship with Pastor MaryAnn Purtill
11:15AM Virtual Zoom Coffee Hour
1:00 PM Walking Group
- *Monday (31ST) **Memorial Day**
9:00AM- Town of Columbia Memorial Day Observance
Veterans Memorial on Town Green
- *Tuesday (1st)
- * Wednesday (2nd)
10:00 AM Fair Workshop
7:00 PM Handbell Choir
7:00 PM AA Meeting (In Lounge)
- *Thursday (3rd)
- *Friday (4th)
- *Saturday (5th)
- *Sunday (6th) **SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**
10:00AM Morning Worship with Pastor MaryAnn Purtill
11:15AM Deacon Meeting
11:15AM Virtual Zoom Coffee Hour 1:00 PM Walking Group

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