

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Trinitarian Congregational Parish of Castine

March 13, 2022

We welcome you to this special Zoom worship service of the Main Street Church, developed as an alternative to in-person worship. As you join this special Zoom meeting, we invite you to greet and check in with others present. The playing of the prelude signals a settling time of quiet and meditation as we prepare ourselves for the Word of God. Please mute your device microphone when you hear this signal, and leave your device muted for the entire worship service. Feel free to participate in responses and hymns while your device is muted.

Following worship we invite you to join in fellowship with other Zoom worshippers.

Join our Zoom worship service by clicking on the link below (Sunday beginning at 9:15 am):

[Click here to Zoom](#)

You may also choose to watch this worship service on our YouTube site:

[Click here for our YouTube channel.](#)

Other Links

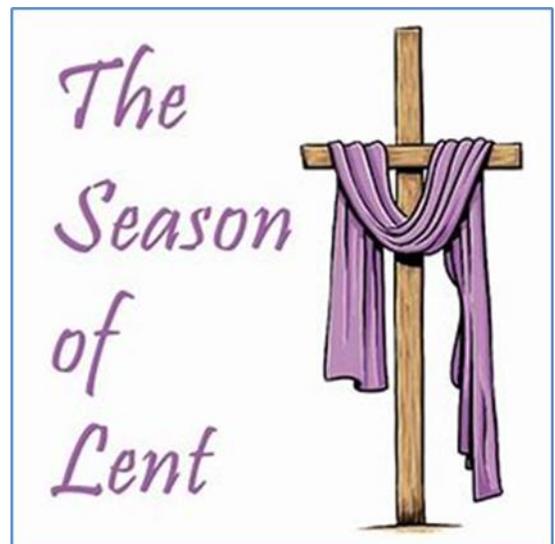
Our website: www.tcpoc.org

The Sermon Blog: www.tcpoc.wordpress.com

Our audio Podcast: [Click here for our audio Podcast](#)

Our Facebook Page: [Click here to visit our Facebook Page](#)

The Church Calendar: [Click here to see the Church Calendar](#)



Order of Worship
TRINITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL PARISH OF CASTINE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Castine, Maine
Lent II

March 13, 2022

9:30 am

Pastor:

Rev. Robert Vagt

Guest Musician:

Dana Polojarvi

Deacon:

Roberta Boczkiewicz & Cora Hutchinson

Lector:

Jimmy Goodson

Zoom/YouTube Host:

Amy Stewart

Ministers: All Members

GATHERING AS A COMMUNITY OF FAITH

We welcome you to worship in this special place, and hope that you feel free to greet your friends and neighbors as you arrive. Please let the playing of the organ prelude signal a settling time of quiet and meditation as we prepare ourselves for the Word of God.

PRELUDE

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERLUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)**

O God, you are my God, I seek you,

my soul thirsts for you:

my flesh faints for you,

as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,

beholding your power and glory.

Because your steadfast love is better than life,

my lips will praise you.

So I will bless you as long as I live;

I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

Psalm 63:1 – 4

***OPENING HYMN**

Great Is Your Faithfulness

NC 423

Great is your faithfulness, O God, Creator,"

With you no shadow of turning we see.

You do not change, your compassions they fail not;

All of your goodness forever will be.

CHORUS

Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring,

Your own dear presence to cheer and to guide,

Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,

Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside.

CHORUS

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,

Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,

Join with all nature in manifold witness

To your great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

CHORUS

CHORUS:

Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

All I have needed your hand has provided,

Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)**

Lord, open your Word by your Holy Spirit, so that we, like Abraham, may believe your promises to us. Amen.

A TIME WITH ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God, you have made us citizens of heaven, but we confess that we have set our minds on earthly things. We have let our desire for security restrain our commitment to serve the poor. We have let our fear of danger curb our obligation to love our enemies. We have let our love of things dull our generosity to the needy. Yet you know the desires of our heart, and nothing is hidden from you. By the power of your Holy Spirit, conform our sin-weakened bodies to the glory of Christ, that we may be the body of Christ for the world.

A moment for silent prayer

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI (Unison)

P 513

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.

HEARING THE WORD

Genesis 15:1 - 12, 17 - 18

¹After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."

²But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.

Psalm 27

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh— my adversaries and foes— they shall stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me,

and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

“Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!” Your face, LORD, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me.

Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.

Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

If my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will take me up.

Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,

for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

Philippians 3:17 - 4:1

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

⁴Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Congregational Response

Spirit of the Living God

NC 283

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Luke 13:31 - 35

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³²He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

*HYMN

When Peace, Like A River

NC 438

*When peace, like a river, upholds me each day,
When sorrows like sea billows roll,
Whatever my lot, you have taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."
It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*My sin -oh, the bliss of this glorious thought-
My sin -not in part, but the whole-
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*Tho' evil should tempt me, tho' trials should come,
Let this blessed assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has paid life and blood for my soul:
It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

*O god, speed the day that is filled with your light,
When clouds are rolled back as a scroll;
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall appear,
"even so" it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

SERMON

Rev. Robert Vagt

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Offertory

*Doxology (**Unison**)

P 515

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

*Prayer of Dedication (**Unison**)

O God, we have beheld your goodness to us. Accept the offering of the work of our hands, and use us for the sake of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Celebrations & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (**Unison**)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

GOING FORTH INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN

What a Covenant

NC 471

*What a covenant, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

*Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms.
Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

*What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Savior near,
leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

*BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE

Notes:

(NC) New Century Hymnal (black); (P) Pilgrim Hymnal (blue)

Certain prayers and responses in this bulletin have been adapted and reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word* © *Worship Companion*. Copyright 2014.

Hymn Text from: The Pilgrim Hymnal, The Pilgrim Press, Cleveland, Ohio © 1986. Used by permission.

Hymn Text from: The New Century Hymnal, The Pilgrim Press, Cleveland, Ohio © 1995 Used by permission