



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Trinitarian Congregational Parish of Castine

March 20, 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

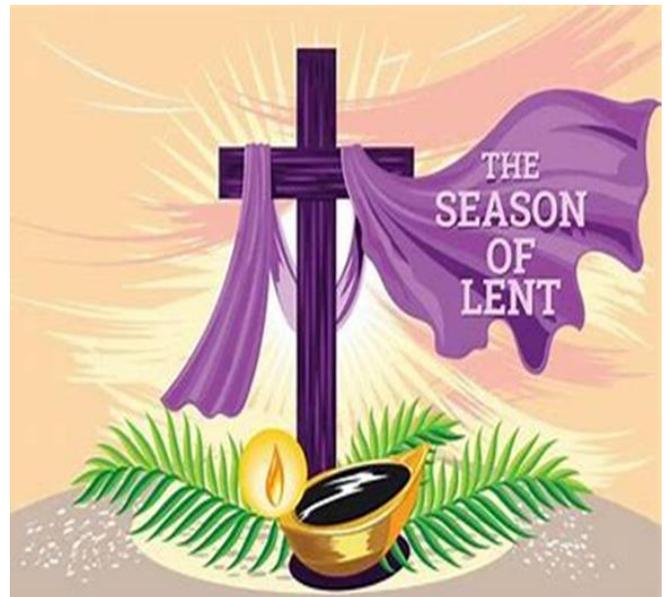
Our website: www.tcpoc.org

The Sermon Blog:
www.tcpoc.wordpress.com

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

March 20, 2022

9:30 am

Pastor:

Rev. Robert Vagt

Guest Musician:

Dana Polojarvi

Deacon:

Roberta Boczkiewicz & Cora Hutchinson

Lector:

John Cunningham

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)**

Everyone who thirsts:

Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.

All who are hungry for righteousness:

Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.

All who need the help of God:

Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.

***OPENING HYMN**

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

NC 23

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;

There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

There's no place where earthly sorrows are more felt than in God's heaven;

There's no place where earthly failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of our minds;

And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's word;

And our lives would show thanksgiving for the goodness of our God.

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)**

We seek you in your word, O God, as though we are searching for water in a dry and weary land. By the power of your Holy Spirit, may this word be to us a rich feast, satisfying the soul. Then with our mouth, we will praise you; and with our lives, we will bless you, our Host and our Hope. Amen.

A TIME WITH ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Holy God, we confess that we have grown complacent in our response to you. You set before us a rich feast of blessing, but we are drawn to lesser things that cannot satisfy. You call us to attend to urgent needs in the world, but we indulge in our own desires. Our ways are not your ways; our thoughts do not ascend to your thoughts. Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives. Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire for a more fruitful life.

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

Isaiah 55:1 - 9

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. ⁶Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Psalms 63:1 - 8

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.
My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,
and my mouth praised you with joyful lips
when I think of you on my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;
for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand upholds me.

1 Corinthians 10:1 - 13

¹I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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 13:1 - 9

¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

*HYMN

Amazing Grace

NC 547

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,

That saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,

Was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to hear,

And grace my fears relieved;

How precious did that grace appear

The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,

I have already come;

'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,

And grace will lead me home.

My God has promised good to me,

Whose word my hope secures;

God will my shield and portion be

As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,

Bright shining as the sun,

We've no less days to sing God's praise

Than when we'd first begun.

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)

God of wilderness and Promised Land, in days of want and in days of plenty you have been with us. By these gifts we now share, may others know of your providence and care. Send us – not only our offerings, but our very selves – to console and comfort, to lift up and reach out, to listen and sit beside your children everywhere at the one table you have set: through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

I Greet You Sure Redeemer (Verses 1-3)

NC 251

*I greet you, sure Redeemer, with my heart,
Glad for the saving love that you impart,
Who pain did undergo for my poor sake;
I pray you from our hearts all cares to take.*

*You are the source of mercy and of grace,
Reigning omnipotent in every place;
So rule in us and our whole being sway.
Shine on us with the light of your pure day.*

*You are the life, by which alone we live,
And all our substance and our strength receive.
Sustain us by your faith and by your power,
And give us strength in every trying hour.*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Notes:

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

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