



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Trinitarian Congregational Parish of Castine

March 27, 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 IV

March 27, 2022
Pastor:
Guest Musician:
Deacon:
Lector:
Zoom/YouTube Host:

9:30 am
Rev. Gary Hatter
Dana Polojarvi
Cora Hutchinson
Elise Adams
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)**

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,

we were like those who dream.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter,

and our tongue with shouts of joy;

then it was said among the nations,

“The LORD has done great things for them.”

The Lord has done great things for us,

and we rejoice.

Psalm 126:1 - 3

***OPENING HYMN**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

P 228

*Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown;
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.*

*Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit,
Let us find thy promised rest;
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.*

*Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.*

*Finish, then, thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.*

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)**

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit open our minds and bodies to the re-creating power of your Word, that we may see the world through the mind of Christ and live in the world as a foretaste of your new creation. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

A TIME WITH ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have strayed from your ways. Like the Prodigal Son, we have wasted our inheritance. You gave us the earth for our home, but we squander earth's resources and hoard its bounty. You gave us neighbors to love, but we pursue selfish ambitions. You gave us the commandments that lead to human flourishing, but we break your law and forsake your love.

Forgive us our sin and bring us to repentance. Draw our wandering hearts back to you that we may find freedom in obedience to your love.

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

Joshua 5:9 - 12

⁹The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Psalm 32

¹Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

²Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

³While I kept silence, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

⁴For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

⁶Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you;
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

⁷You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

⁸I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;

I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

⁹Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,

whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

¹⁰Many are the torments of the wicked,

but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

¹¹Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous,

and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

2 Corinthians 5:16 - 21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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 15:1 - 3, 11b - 32

¹⁵Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³So he told them this parable:

¹¹"There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard

music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

*HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

P 348

*My faith looks up to thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray;
Take all my guilt away;
Oh, let me from this day
Be wholly thine.*

*While life's dark maze I tread,
And griefs around me spread,
Be thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day;
Wipe sorrow's tears away;
Nor let me ever stray
From thee aside.*

*May thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire;
As thou has died for me,
Oh, may my love to thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire.*

*When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then, in love,
Fear and distrust remove;
Oh, bear me safe above,
A ransomed soul.*

SERMON

New Creation!

Rev. Gary Hatter

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, all that we have comes from you. Receive this offering and with it the offering of our lives, for we return to you only what you have so graciously given. 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

(verses 1-3)

My Life Flows on In Endless Song

NC 476

*My life flows on in endless song;
Above earth's lamentation,
I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear the music ringing;
It finds an echo in my soul –
How can I keep from singing?*

*What though my joys and comforts die?
My Savior still is living,
What though the shadows gather 'round?
A new song Christ is giving.
No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that Rock I'm clinging;
Since Love commands both heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?*

*When tyrants tremble, sick with fear,
And hear their death knells ringing;
When friends rejoice both far and near,
How can I keep from singing?
In prison cell and dungeon vile
our thought to them are winging;
When friends by shame are undefiled,
How can I keep from singing?*

*BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE

Notes:

(NC) *New Century Hymnal (black);*

(P) *Pilgrim Hymnal (blue)*

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