



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Trinitarian Congregational Parish of Castine

May 9, 2021

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
Easter VI

May 9, 2021

9:30 am

Pastor:

Rev. Tim Hall

Church Musician:

Suzanne Eaton

Deacon:

Rick Hightower

Lector:

Ginger Snapp Cunningham

Zoom/YouTube Host

Amy Stewart

Ministers: All Members

GATHERING AS A COMMUNITY OF FAITH

We welcome you to worship in this special place. Please be aware that we are still under State of Maine restrictions for COVID Prevention, which include requirements for face coverings and social distancing at all times in the church building. 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/ACOLYTE

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)**

Sing to our God a new song,

God has done marvelous things!

Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Let the sea roar and all that fills it.

Let the world and its people sing together for joy!

***OPENING HYMN**

O God, Whose Steadfast Love

*O God, whose steadfast love true motherhood has blessed;
who shields the infant small upon its mother's breast;*

*Embrace us, too, O God, our God,
and hold us in your loving arms,
and hold us in your loving arms.*

*Your promises, O God, so sure throughout the years,
have lived in mothers' hearts, have bloomed from mothers' tears.*

*So Sarah laughed, and Hannah wept,
and singing Mary secrets kept,
and singing Mary secrets kept.*

*In your great love, O God, full parenthood is known;
a father mourns his child, a mother's strength is shown.
Let parents' faithful lives unbind
your love that through them we might find
Christ's deeper love for humankind.*

*May your household of faith one family become,
that love may be increased and none may be alone;
That mother's love and father's care
and children's joy we all may share,
and children's joy we all may share.*

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)**

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, in the reading and study of your Word, that we would hear what you have to say to us today. May your Holy Spirit be poured out upon us; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

A TIME WITH ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Loving God, we have not loved you or each other with our whole hearts. Forgive us, we pray, and lead us toward wholeness, that we may be filled with your joy.

A moment for silent prayer

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA PATRI (Unison)**

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

Acts

Acts 10:44 - 48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Psalm

Psalm 98

¹O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.

²The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.

⁸Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy

⁹at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

Epistle

1 John 5:1 - 6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Congregational Response

Thine Is the Glory

*Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where the body lay.
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.*

Gospel

John 15:9 - 17

⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but

I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

HYMN

What A Friend We Have in Jesus

*What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!*

*What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer.*

*Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
Take it to the Lord in prayer!*

*Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer!*

*Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge,
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.*

SERMON

Rev. Tim Hall

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

A MOMENT OF OFFERING

*Doxology (Unison)

**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)

Holy God, in Christ you have chosen us to be your friends and to know your will in the world. Therefore, we pray in Jesus' name that our tithes and offerings spread your love near and far. Amen.

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Celebrations & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Silent 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 Sing A Song of the Saints of God
I sing a song of the saints of God
Patient and brave and true,
Who toiled and fought and lived and died
For the Lord they loved and knew.
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,
And one was a shepherdess on the green:
They were all of them saints of God, and I mean,
God helping, to be one too.*

*They loved their Lord so dear, so dear,
And his love made them strong;
And they followed the right, for Jesus' sake,
The whole of their good lives long.
And one was a soldier, and one was a priest,
And one was slain by a fierce wild beast:
And there's not any reason, no, not the least,
Why I shouldn't be one too.*

*They lived not only in ages past,
There are hundreds of thousands still;
The world is bright with the joyous saints
Who love to do Jesus' will.
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea,
In church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea;
For the saints of God are just folk like me,
And I mean to be one too.*

*BENEDICTION

Following our tradition, we will end our service today with a tribute hymn consisting of the first verse of *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* (the Navy Hymn). We offer this hymn as a prayer for the students, crew, and staff aboard the Training Ship *State of Maine* during her summer training cruise.

*TRIBUTE

*Eternal Father, Strong to Save
Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep,
O hear us when we cry to thee,
For those in peril on the sea.*

POSTLUDE

Please remain seated to enjoy the Postlude.

Notes: *All who are able, **please stand.**

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.