

Eastminster Presbyterian Church
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Trinity Sunday

June 7, 2020-11:00 a.m.

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

You are invited to silently pray as you prepare to offer thanksgiving to God.

Awesome and majestic God, your creative power, your glory, and holiness are beyond our imagining. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, you equip us for our journey through life and beyond by breathing new and everlasting life into our very beings. God: Creator, Redeemer, and Life-giving Spirit, we worship and adore you. Amen

GREETING

We meet in the presence of God, who knows our needs, hears our cries, feels our pain, and heals our wounds. We are called to worship in the name of Christ, to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to pray for the needs of the world and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God for all of God's people. Welcome to worship at Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Dallas on this Holy day we know as Trinity Sunday, a day in which we celebrate the unity of God of Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

Much has happened in our world and city since last week, and my heart is in that place of heaviness that can only be relieved by handing it over to God, trusting in the promise that out of evil, God works good, but we are responsible for opening ourselves up to be God's partner in goodness. I am responsible. I could speak all kinds of words, but ultimately words have to be changed into action, and so I am daily asking God, what do you want me to do? And what I continually hear is: seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with me. I know what that used to look like for me, but in a changing world, I suspect God is going to put before me and all of us new opportunities and challenges that make those age-old requirements come to life again. May my heavy heart in the hands of our Lord be lightened because I am willing to do more justly, willing to expand my kindness and daily seek the guidance of our Triune God from a humble heart.

PSALM OF PRAISE (from Psalm 8)

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger. When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor. Let us worship God!

VOLUNTARY

All Glory, Laud and Honor
Melody Davis

David Paxton

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 1 *Holy, Holy, Holy*

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Lord says: "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear their cries and heal their land." May the Lord hear the cries of our hearts and forgive us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, creator of all the wonders which make up this world, when we treat our part of the world as a commodity to be used rather than a gift to be cherished, forgive us.

God, bearer of our humanity in Jesus Christ, when we fail to live out the commandment to love one another as Jesus loves us, forgive us.

God, giver of the Holy Spirit who leads and guides us into all truth, when we betray the truth of the gospel through our lack of integrity or our abuse of ethical and moral principles, forgive us.

When we fear changes, we may have to make if we allow your power to flow into the places of our greatest weakness, forgive us.

God: Creator, Redeemer, Life-giving Spirit, fill us anew with your creative power that we may be reborn in your image, glorifying you in and through who we are, and what we say and do and pray in Jesus' name. Amen

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us and God's love for us is demonstrated in this: ...while we still were sinners Christ died for us. The good news therefore is this: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE 581 *Glory Be to the Father*

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Through your Holy Word, let us hear truth. Through your Holy Word, instruct us in justice and kindness and compassion. Through your Holy Word, help us to understand your direction in our lives and in the life of this community. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: (*Pew Bible*, page 1)

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

In the beginning, God created everything: the heavens above and the earth below. Here is how it happened.

At first the earth was empty, a formless mass cloaked in darkness. And the Spirit of God was hovering over its surface.

Then God spoke.

Let there be light.

And light flashed into being.

God saw that the light was beautiful and good. God separated the light from the darkness.

And God called the light “day” and the darkness “night.”

Evening gave way to morning.

That was day one.

Let there be space between the waters to separate the waters above from the waters below.

And it happened just as God said.

The waters above were parted from the waters below. And God called the space between the waters, “sky.”

Evening gave way to morning.

That was day two.

Let the waters below the sky be gathered into one place so that dry land may appear.

And it happened just as God said.

God named the dry land “earth” and the water “seas.”

And God saw that it was beautiful and good.

Let the earth burst forth with every sort of grass and seed-bearing plants and trees.

And it happened just as God said.

The earth produced vegetation-seed-bearing plants of all kinds.
Two: and fruit-bearing trees of many varieties.

And God saw that it was beautiful and good.

Evening gave way to morning.

That was day three.

Let bright lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night, and to mark the seasons, days, and years. Let their light shine down upon the earth.

And it happened just as God said.

God made two great lights-the sun and the moon-to shine down upon the earth:

the sun to mark the course of day,

and the moon to mark the course of night.

And then God painted the sky above with stars.

And God saw that it was beautiful and good.

Evening gave way to morning.

That was day four.

Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind.

So, God created great sea creatures, and every sort of fish and every kind of bird.

And God saw that it was beautiful and good.

God blessed them, saying:

Be fruitful and multiply. Let creatures fill the seas. Let birds reproduce and cover the earth.

Evening gave way to morning.

That was day five.

Let the earth bring forth every kind of animal-livestock, small animals, and wildlife.

And it happened just as God said.

God made animals in a vast variety of species:

wildlife,

domesticated animals,

and small creeping creatures, each able to reproduce its own kind.

And God saw that it was beautiful and good.

And then God paused.

Now let us conceive a new creation—humanity—made in our image, fashioned according to our likeness. And let us grant them authority over all the earth—the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, and all the livestock, wildlife, and small animals on earth.

So, God did just that. God made humanity in his own image, creating them male and female.

Then God blessed them and told them:

Be fruitful and multiply. Populate the earth. I make you stewards of my estate, so care for my creation and rule over the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that roams across the earth. Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant that grows on the earth and every fruit-bearing tree. They will be your food and nourishment. And I have given all the grasses and other green plants to the animals and birds for their food.

And so, it was.

Then God looked over all that had been made and saw that it was beautiful and good in every way.

Evening gave way to morning.

That was day six.

So, the creation of the heavens and the earth and everything in them was completed.

On the seventh day, God rested from all the work.

And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy because it was the day God rested.

And that is how heaven and earth came into being!

ANTHEM

For the Beauty of the Earth
Sanctuary Choir

Arr. Mary McDonald

NEW TESTAMENT READING (*Pew Bible*, page 34)

Matthew 28: 16-20

⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.

¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to

them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

*HYMN 2 *Come, Thou Mighty King*

SERMON

Where Are You?

Sherry Holloman

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from 1 John

We believe in God the Father, who reveals his love to us in Christ. We believe in God the Son, who pours out God's Holy Spirit on us. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who teaches us God's truth. We believe in one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

We offer ourselves and our gifts, confident that God has a purpose for them and for us. May we receive God’s tithes and our offerings.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Be My Hands and Feet
Sanctuary Choir

Tony Alonso

*RESPONSE 606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Because you have blessed us, we have much to give. May these offerings express our gratitude and desire to be more fully your own faithful community. Amen.

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*THE INVITATION

As supper guests, Jesus has called us –strangers and friends, locals and visitors, believers and doubters, the certain and the curious. It was at table that he met people, heard their stories and shared his. It was at table that he deepened his friendship with poor folk and prostitutes, the business class and puzzled bystanders. It was at table that he shared profound insights into who God is and what God wants. It is always a mixed company that Jesus gathers and invites to his table where, in bread and wine, he meets us and through him we, who are different, are joined to each other. This table does not belong to any denomination, church or community. It belongs to Jesus. So come to this table. Leave behind any baggage of arrogance or unworthiness. Do not think, ‘This is not for me.’ Think rather of Jesus saying, ‘I am for you,’ and accept his invitation to be the friend he cherishes and longs to feed. Come, not because you understand, but because you are understood. Come, not because of how you feel, but because God has food for you. Come, not because you deserve a place, but because Jesus invites you, just as you are.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts to the Lord.

We lift our hearts to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

You poured your imagination into chaos, stirring all your dreams and hopes and, placing them on that palette called your heart, began to paint on the blank canvas of creation, azure for clear morning skies, bright yellows for marigolds, deep green for grass in the meadows, red and orange tickling lazy sunsets. Simply, faithfully, graciously, all was offered to those created in your image, but we preferred the absence of color in sin, and would paint our lives in death's greyness. You sent prophets and artists, singers and poets, to point up back to your beauty and art, but we preferred the bleak mirages offered by temptation and foolishness. Finally, you appealed to your Word to bring us the good news of your salvific heart. With those who see and worship, as well as those who doubt and despair, we offer our songs of praise to you:

***RESPONSE 552 Holy, Holy**

Jesus, Word of justice and love, you pointed to the Holy One in every word and deed, even as God blessed your every step and breath. A baby, you showed us God's vulnerability; a young child, you taught us to draw closer to God; a storyteller, you reminded us of the One who would run to scoop us up in arms of love and welcome; a lover, you enter into sin's embrace, taking the kiss death intends for us, so that, as resurrection's hope, you offer us life with you forever. As we struggle to understand such a gift, as we seek to live such faithfulness, we live in that mystery called faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

RESPONSE 555 O Lamb of God

Like a storm, you blew over creation's oceans; with a gust, you blow open our shuttered souls; with a light breath, you give us life, so now, Breath of God, Spirit of all that exists, touch the simple gifts of the bread and the cup with the sacredness of your peace, and stir us all from our fear and apathy. The bread which is broken is filled with your strength, so that we can go and offer freedom to the prisoner, so that we can breathe hope into our dying neighborhoods, so that we can be peace for an angry world. The cup is never drained of your grace, so that we may silence all hatred, so that we might put evil in the past, so that we might renew your fragile creation. And when we are gathered in that place to which you will direct us at the end of time, we will join with our sisters and brothers in forever praising your glory.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God, you hold our lives in your hands. You have promised to give us a new heart and to put a new spirit in us. We pray: renew us everyday. Forgive us where we have failed to be good stewards and to be good neighbors. Give us the courage to think beyond our own lives; to live and consume responsibly so that our near and far neighbors, as diverse as the countless number of stars, can experience their full dignity, and that we can help restore and admire the beauty of our communities and of this earth. You hold our world in your hands. You hear your creation groaning but you have promised to liberate it from its pain. We pray: renew our world. Forgive those of us who have not used their power wisely. Give us and our leaders the courage to think beyond our own economies; to seek genuine partnerships so that all people can experience the fullness of life, and that our planet is known to be the common home for all creation and future generations. You are holy and wondrous God, ready to satisfy the yearnings of our hearts if only we would be silent and listen for your voice. So, in these moments of silence, as we lift our prayers to you, prayers for those within our own families, our friends, our little part of your big world and we open our ears to hear your voice in this moment of silence. To your praise and glory: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God to be ever loved, adored, and served, we offer the prayer of our Lord, ...**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND BREAKING OF THE BREAD

RECEPTION OF THE SACRAMENT

This sacrament is not the possession of this congregation nor of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Lord welcomes you. We welcome you. All persons are invited to receive the sacrament.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Good and merciful God, we pray that our theology would be more than words as it is made real in our lives. May this meal nourish our bodies and souls so that we might live in service to the world around us, to your glory. Amen.

GOING INTO THE WORLD WITH GOD'S WORD

* INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND BENEDICTION

May God, our Creator, prepare our journey;
May Jesus, our Redeemer guide our footsteps
May the Holy Spirit, our Sustainer, strengthen the goodness of our hearts.
May the Three-in-One watch over us on every path of life,
this and every day! Amen

*RECESSIONAL HYMN 295 *Go to the World*