



Liturgy for Home Worship

The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

— January 31, 2021 —

Words for Reflection

Baptism signals that all of us—married or single, parent or child—are part of a larger household which is the church of God, and together, that household has pledged to be one big community of godparents.

— James K. A. Smith

The church exists in space and time. We are joined by baptism to all past and all future Christians.

— Justin Welby

I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: "I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God." That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronising nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.

— C. S. Lewis

If you are part of Christ's own body, your sins evoke his deepest heart, his compassion and pity. He "takes part with you"—that is, he's on your side. He sides with you against your sin, not against you because of your sin. He hates sin. But he loves you.

— Dane Ortlund

The Call to Worship

God invites and calls us into His presence to worship Him. He enters into our busy lives to speak to us.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,
 who was and is and is to come!
Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
 to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
 and by your will they existed and were created.
—Revelation 4:8, 11 ESV

Hymn of Praise | Holy, Holy, Holy

We sing praises to God and proclaim through song the good news of what He has done in Jesus' death and resurrection. Some songs might be initially unfamiliar, but we believe the rich, true, beautiful words of these hymns will make their way into your heart.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to
Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around
the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before
Thee,
Who wert and art and ever more shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide
Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may
not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside
Thee,
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth,
and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Words: Reginald Heber; Music: John Dykes

Opening Prayer & Lord's Prayer

We ask for God to be present among us and conclude with the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray.

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Doxology

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

Confession of Sin

We fight the temptation to bide our sin and instead acknowledge it openly to God, but we do so in light of the grace offered in Jesus.

Most Merciful Father,
We thank You that through his work on the Cross, Your Son Jesus has made us a part of his family. We praise You that we are fully accepted and loved in him. And yet, Lord we confess the ways we attempt to control Jesus rather than submit to him. We acknowledge our tendency to reject his authority over our lives when he doesn't do what we want him to do. Father, forgive us. Enable us by Your Spirit to find our life and our joy in Jesus our King. We pray in his name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

God reminds our forgetful hearts of the grace that is ours in Jesus.

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

—John 1:12-13 ESV

Hymn of Response | His Mercy is More

We respond in thanks and praise for God's redemptive work in Christ.

What love could remember, no wrongs we have done

Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum

Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam

What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor

Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

*Praise the Lord
His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness
New every morn'*

Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment His life was the cost

We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford

Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Words & Music: Matt Papa, Matt Boswel

Confession of Faith | The Heidelberg Catechism #1

We join the church in history by confessing this basic statement of what Christians believe.

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

The Sacrament of Baptism

William Jacob Sawilowsky
Hope Noel Sawilowsky

1. Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy? **I do.**
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel? **I do.**
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ? **I do.**
4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability? **I do.**
5. Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace? **I do.**

Hattie Grace Sawilowsky

To the Parents (Marci & Michael Sawilowsky):

1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit? **We do.**
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises in her behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for her salvation, as you do for your own? **We do.**
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before her a godly example, that you will pray with and for her, that you will teach her the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring her up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord? **We do.**

To the Congregation:

Pastor: Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting these parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

People: **We do.**

"For you Jesus came into the world; for you he lived his life; for you he was crucified; for you he was raised from the dead; and for you he is coming again. You may not know this story now, but we, your church, promise to tell you this story until you make it your own."

(based on French Reformed Baptismal Liturgy)

The Offering

In gratitude, we offer our gifts to God. You may give online at www.trinitypresw.org/give or through the Church Center App.

The Prayers of the People

We lift up our requests to God knowing that He hears us when we pray and conclude with an Advent prayer that focuses on Jesus' coming.

The Reading of the Word

Mark 3:20-35

God speaks to us through His Word.

3:20 Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. **21** And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, "He is out of his mind."

22 And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "by the prince of demons he casts out the demons." **23** And he called them to him and said to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? **24** If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. **25** And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. **26** And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. **27** But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

28 "Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, **29** but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"— **30** for they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit."

31 And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him. **32** And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you." **33** And he answered them, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" **34** And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! **35** For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Preaching of the Word

Pastor Brian Davis

Following the Servant King: The Gospel According to Mark
"The True Family of Jesus"

Sermon Notes

The Celebration of Holy Communion

Communion (also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist) is the family meal of baptized Christians. It's not a meal for good people. It's a meal for desperate people who trust in Jesus alone for salvation, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength and grace to live more faithfully with Jesus. You will be invited to come forward. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal today, we encourage you to spend this time in reflection or prayer.

Children who have not received their first communion are welcome to come forward with their families. We invite children who are ready to make a public profession of faith in Christ to arrange a meeting with the elders, and thus become "communicants" at the Lord's Table.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts!
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:
People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Hallelujah!
Pastor: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us. Hallelujah!
People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.
Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Hymn for Communion | Help My Unbelief

I know the Lord is nigh,
And would but cannot pray,
For Satan meets me when I try,
And frights my soul away;
And frights my soul away.

I would but can't repent,
Though I endeavor oft;
This stony heart can ne'er relent
Till Jesus makes it soft;
Till Jesus make it soft.

*Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief.
Help my unbelief.
My help must come from Thee.*

I would but cannot love,
Though wooed by love divine;
No arguments have power to move
A soul as base as mine;
A soul so base as mine.

I would but cannot rest,
In God's most holy will;
I know what He appoints is best,
And murmur at it still;
I murmur at it still.
(Chorus 2x)

Words: John Newton; Music: Clint Well

Life at Trinity

Departing Hymn | All Must Be Well

We respond in faith and song.

Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well;
Free and changeless is His favor, all is well;
Precious is the blood that healed us,
Perfect is the grace that sealed us,
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us,
All must be well.

Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well;
Ours is such a full salvation, all is well;
Happy still in God confiding,
Fruitful if in Christ abiding,
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding,
All must be well.

We expect a bright tomorrow, all will be well;
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well;
On our Father's love relying,
Jesus every need supplying,
Yes, in living or in dying,
All must be well.

On our Father's love relying,
Jesus every need supplying,
Yes, in living or in dying,
All must be well.

Words: Mary Bowley Peters, Matthew S. Smith; Music:
Matthew S. Smith

The Benediction

God sends us out with his blessing. A benediction is not a prayer. We don't bow our heads. We lift them up and even lift up our hands to receive his blessing as we are sent out as participants in His mission to Fort Worth.

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

—Ephesians 3:20-21 ESV

The Sending

The people of God are sent into the world to love God, love people, and love Fort Worth.

Pastor: Let us go forth to serve Fort Worth and the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God!

* CCLI #5043663 – all songs used by permission

Announcements

Single Ladies' Zoom

Calling all the single ladies! If you would like to connect with other single women at Trinity, join our Zoom call on this Monday, Feb 1 at 730pm! Email Susan (susan@trinitypresfw.org) for the link.

New to Trinity

We love seeing new faces (although masked) but COVID makes it harder for us to connect with you and for new ladies to meet people and plug in to the Trinity community. The Women's Ministry Team will host a ZOOM meeting to help fill in the gaps and give you an opportunity to put some names to some faces. Please email Susan (susan@trinitypresfw.org) if you would like to join!

Membership Seminar

We have scheduled a membership seminar for Feb 6, 9am-1230pm at the chapel at Connell. The seminar is a great way to learn more about Trinity and get the full scoop on becoming a member should you decide to do so. Please RSVP in the church center app. If you have any questions, contact Courtney (admin@trinitypresfw.org).

Race & History: How Does It Affect the Church Today?

Join us Friday, Feb. 26 and Saturday, Feb. 27 at Connell for our Winter Conference with Dr. Sean Lucas! Sean will be speaking Friday night and Saturday morning on the racial history of our denomination and how it impacts us today. We'll meet in the Sanctuary and will observe all of the same social distancing guidelines that we do on Sundays. Registration details TBA.

Women's Bible Study

We are so excited to be kicking off our Spring study. Most of you will be picking back up with your Fall semester groups but if you didn't join us then, we're glad you've joined us now! You will be meeting again this week either in person, or via Zoom. Your leader should explain to you

if your group intends to watch/listen to the lecture before meeting, or if you will do that together. We aren't dictating structure as different things worked for different groups! If you would like to join a group but have not been placed yet, OR if you haven't heard from your leader yet: contact Susan (susan@trinitypresfw.org).

Rivertree Parent University

Parent University is a 4-6 week virtual weekly meeting that provides a series of discussions designed to build community among the families, volunteers, and other stakeholders at Rivertree Academy. These discussions are designed to provide a safe place to have conversations, ask questions, and explore what God says about building Godly-influenced relationships with one another.

Rivertree is looking for volunteer co-facilitators to work alongside a Rivertree parent to facilitate these weekly meetings OR other families who want to attend and participate in the discussion, starting in January. Groups typically meet on Tuesday or Thursday evenings and start times can be flexible between 6 to 7:30, based on facilitators' schedules. Course schedules for the spring semester are listed below - all videos are accessed through the school RightNow Media account. Contact Abbie Pitzer (abbie@rivertreeacademy.org) if you have questions or are interested in attending OR facilitating one of the classes!

