



Trinity United Church of Christ

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January 21, 2024

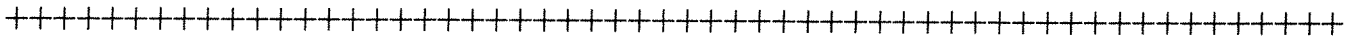
8AM and 10:30AM Worship

3rd Sunday following Epiphany

Awakening joyful service guided by our still speaking God!

*Congregational responses in **bold print**.*

** Denotes standing as you are able.*



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

PRELUDE – “Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart” – *Atkinson/Sorenson*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Spirit of God moving over the waters,
bringing light where there was only darkness;
Holy Spirit, move among us, change us, enlighten us.

Spirit of God, there at the baptism of Jesus,
claiming, anointing, speaking loving words;
Holy Spirit, touch us, enthuse us, claim us.

Spirit of God, calling disciples in days of old and today
to follow Jesus, the way, the truth, and the life;
Holy Spirit, meet us, convince us, inspire us.

***HYMN #504 “You Walk along Our Shoreline”**

***PRAYER**

Trust in God!

**God will give us a challenging task,
but also the strength to get it done.**

Trust in God!

**God will call us to discipleship,
and give us the insight to work out our following of Jesus.**

Trust in God!
God will show us our role within the faith community,
and sensitivity to the needs of those beside us.

Trust in God!
God will love us “through all the changing scenes of life,”
and will be there at life’s end to welcome us home. Amen.

*RESPONSE TO PRAYER #504 “You Walk along Our Shoreline” (v1)
*You walk along our shoreline where land meets unknown sea.
We hear you voice of power, “Now come and follow me.
And if you still will follow through and wave and shoal,
Then I will make you fishers, but of the human soul.”*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
(Praying a Silent Individual Prayer)

#750 KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
God goes with the faithful ones,
pardon and peace are yours.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

ANTHEM
“Come, Sing, Rejoice!”
by G. F. Handel; arr. Hal H. Hopson
Senior Choir

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

SCRIPTURES

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. ¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Mark 1:14-20

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” ¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

SERMON

“Tuck and Roll!”

HYMN #172 “**Jesus Calls Us, o’er the Tumult**”

(Remain Seated)

PRAYER/LORD’S PRAYER

**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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power and the Glory, forever. Amen.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in God,
the creator of all things,
the giver of life and breath.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
born Emmanuel, God with us,
baptized and revealed the most beloved Son of God;
he sought to heal humanity by taking our brokenness upon himself,
suffering for us, dying for us
and being raised from the dead for our sake
and for the sake of all the world.
We believe that he will come again.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
continually poured out refreshing our lives,
leading us into a new day, ever-birthing the church,
the body of Christ in the world.
This Spirit is our soul companion and counselor of truth
reminding us of the gift of faith,
the ever presence of God
and the promise of eternal life.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

***CELEBRATION OF OUR GIFTS**

We are poor, unless God blesses us.
We are rich, when we offer up what we have to God.
Let us offer our gifts with open hearts and minds.

Recognition of Jane Eiker (10:30am)

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

#164 "Arise, Your Light Is Come" (v1)
***Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;
Show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today!***

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**God blesses these gifts as we, disciples of Jesus,
seek to make them effective. Amen.**

2024 CONSISTORY INSTALLATION

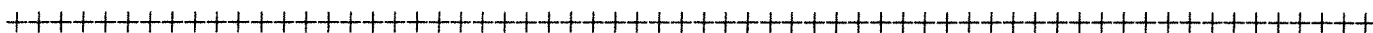
Congregation Response

We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, to honor your leadership, and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.

***HYMN #436 “God of Grace and God of Glory”**

***FINAL BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE**



Elements from today’s worship have been adapted from the following resources:

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Prayers to Share, Year B.

David Sparks. Wood Lake Books. Kelowna, BC. 2002.

Affirmation of Faith

The Rev. Dr. Amanda Burr is a United Methodist elder appointed to United Methodist Church of Palm Springs, California.

Prelude - *Spiring of God Descend Upon My Heart*. Tune by Atkinson, arragned by Sorenson. Copyright 2014. Lillenas Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

Hymns - *You Walk Along Our Shoreline*. Text and Tune by Dunstain. Copyright 1991. GIA Publications. All rights reserved.

Other Hymns - *Jesus Calls Us O’er the Tumult* and *God of Grace and God of Glory* are both public domain

Anthem – *Come, Sing, Rejoice*. Tune by Handel. Text by Hopson. ©1996. Harold Flammer Music, a division of Shawnee Press, Inc..

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Today’s Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Frederick A. Young		Pastor
Jen Mickelson	8:00am	Lay Liturgists
Ann Harvey	10:30am	
Sara Shank		Organist
John McKay		Senior Choir Director
Mark Luckenbaugh	8:00am	Percussion
	8:00am	Ushers
Lenore O’Rourke and Terry Krietz	10:30am	
M. Jane Alleman and Ruby Warren	10:30am	Greeters
Bonnie Smith	10:30am	Acolyte
Georgia Hollabaugh, Kara Young, Luke Milhimes, Sue Churchill,		Tech Team
Russell Bailey, Carl Barrick, Stacey Rushwald, George Steckert, Garrison Redding, Terry Krietz		

Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1984; alt.

1. You walk a-long our shore-line
where land meets un-known sea.
We hear your voice of pow-er,
“Now come and fol-low me.
And if you still will fol-low
through storm and wave and shoal,
Then I will make you fish-ers,
but of the hu-man soul.”

2. You call us, Christ, to gath-er
the peo-ple of the earth.
We can-not fish for on-ly
those lives we think have worth.
We spread your net of gos-pel
a-cross the wa-ter’s face,
Our boat a com-mon shel-ter
for all found by your grace.

3. We cast our net, O Je-sus;
we seek your prom-ised reign;
We work for love and jus-tice;
we learn to hope through pain.
You call on us to gath-er
God’s daugh-ters and God’s sons,
To let your judg-ment heal us
so that all may be one.

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Mark 1:16–20; John 17:20–26

Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult

172

Cecil F. Alexander, 1852; alt.

1. Je-sus calls us, o'er the tu-mult
of our life's wild, rest-less sea;
Day by day that voice still calls us,
say-ing, "Chris-tian, fol-low me."
2. As of old, Saint An-drew heard it
by the Gal-i-le-an lake,
Turned from home and toil and kin-dred,
leav-ing all for Je-sus' sake.
3. Je-sus calls us from the wor-ship
of the trea-sures we a-dore,
From each i-dol that would keep us,
say-ing, "Chris-tian, love me more."
4. In our joys and in our sor-rows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
Je-sus calls, in cares and plea-sures,
"Chris-tian, love me more than these."
5. Je-sus calls us! By your mer-cies,
Sav-ior, may we hear your call,
Give our hearts to your o-be-dience,
serve and love you best of all.

Matt. 4:18–22; Mark 1:16–20; John 21:15

God of Grace and God of Glory

436

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt.

1. God of grace and God of glo-ry,
on your peo-ple pour your power;
crown your an-cient church's sto-ry;
bring its bud to glo-rious flower.
Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age,
for the fac-ing of this hour,
for the fac-ing of this hour.

2. From the e-vils that sur-round us
and as-sail the Sav-ior's ways,
from the fears that long have bound us—
free our hearts for faith and praise.
Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age,
for the liv-ing of these days,
for the liv-ing of these days.

3. Cure your chil-dren's war-ring mad-ness;
bend our pride to your con-trol.
Shame our reck-less, self-ish glad-ness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age,
make our bro-ken spir-its whole,
make our bro-ken spir-its whole.

4. Set our feet on loft-y plac-es;
gird our lives that they may be

STRUGGLE AND CONFLICT

ar-mored with all Christ-like grac-es,
in the fight to set us free.

Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age,
in the quest for lib-er-ty,
in the quest for lib-er-ty.

5. Save us from weak res-ig-na-tion
to the e-vils we de-plore;
let the search for your sal-va-tion
be our glo-ry ev-er-more.
Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age,
serv-ing you whom we a-dore,
serv-ing you whom we a-dore.

Trinity United Church of Christ
Gettysburg, PA

January 21, 2024
Third Sunday After Epiphany



Sermon
“Tuck and Roll”

Jonah 3:1-10
Mark 1:14-20

Rev. Dr. Frederick Young
Pastor

The Season of Epiphany has been full of God's voice; naming and claiming Jesus, awakening Samuel, now sending Jonah to be a messenger of repentance. As a prophet, Jonah is unique. Most prophetic proclamations focus on a reason to change. The story of Jonah portrays the human response to God's call. Our snippet of text for today doesn't give us the whole story of this anxious prophet. But he knew something cataclysmic was about to happen, and he wanted to distance himself from God's wrath. You can read the book of Jonah in about 15 minutes, but for now, here are some brief highlights.

God asked Jonah to travel to Nineveh, the capital city of the Assyrian Empire, to warn the people to change their ways or God would destroy the entire place. Generally speaking, the Assyrians were not nice people. Jonah was not too keen on saving them. Instead, he ran for the dock and boarded a ship headed in the opposite direction, hoping God wouldn't notice. A huge storm came (guess God noticed) and tossed the ship all around. Everyone aboard started praying and trying to figure out why they seemed so cursed. Jonah raised his hand and admitted he was running from God.

Eventually, the sailors agreed to toss Jonah overboard! It worked! The sea became calm again, but Jonah was swallowed whole by an extremely large fish. While sitting in the muck and mush of fish guts, Jonah changed his heart and decided to do what God asked, go to Nineveh.

The fish spit him out and the soggy prophet headed to the city of Assyrian sin. He preached about repentance, and the citizens of that wicked city listened and became moved by the spirit. They changed their hearts and God decided to save the people.

Instead of rejoicing at a successful visit, Jonah was angry that God did not wipe out his enemy's capital city! Jonah wanted to see Nineveh destroyed. Nothing good can come out of Nineveh! This parable sings of race, intolerance, nationalism, and God's unequivocal grace. Even an ancient prophet can be biased, *"Since they are not MY people, they can't possibly be God's people!"*

Young poet laureate, Amanda Gorman, once declared:

*"If we merge mercy with might and might with right,
then love becomes our legacy."*

Walking along the shoreline Jesus began to build his legacy of love. He chose disciples from the packed, damp sand by the water's edge, the way many of us stop to collect shells, bits of driftwood, and colorful sea glass. He called to them in the midst of an ordinary day, over the sound of gulls and their rough-hewn nets, he invited them to join his mission. Peter and Andrew, James and John. They left their nets, boats, fish, and families and followed him.

Both of our scripture texts remind us that faithful living has unexpected twists and turns. In spite of these consequences, Jesus began his ministry preaching about repentance, just after John the Baptist was jailed for sharing the same message. The four fishermen called by Christ could not have imagined the repercussions of faithful living that would lead them to witness crucifixion and resurrection. Peter, Andrew, James and John could not have foreseen how dropping their nets and blindly following would lead them to set a new course for their lives.

We are so much like those first followers, caught up in our daily routines. What would it sound like to be called away? How might we be awakened to hear and hopefully share the Good News?

Do not be afraid to live out faith! Be witnesses of Christ in your daily environment, with simplicity and courage. Above all, may you be able to show those you meet, your peers, the face of mercy and the love of God who always forgives, encourages, and imbues hope.

Pope Francis, 2013

Pope Francis eloquently describes the work of faith. Throughout my years of ministry, I have fielded questions about the need for a congregation to recite statements of faith each week. Is it merely tradition or an empty habit or something much deeper? Sometimes folks say they don't understand all the language or cannot fully embrace the theology each creed proclaims. This is why I like to find many styles of affirmations of faith. Some like the Apostle's Creed, some, the New Creed, and others, more modern statements. We may not agree with every proclamation, but the purpose of corporately speaking creeds is to give us purpose as a community, to focus our attention on why we come

together to worship; to give us a destination as we follow. It is important to have some kind of statement of faith at the center of our lives, because knowing what we believe and why we believe it, shapes how we live our faith.

Take the *Masai* people in East Nigeria. In 1960, during a council meeting of the *Congregation of the Holy Ghost*, the Masais rewrote the Gem Na creed to better reflect their belief system as a people. They claim:

We Believe in One High God, who out of love created the beautiful world. We believe that God made good his promise by sending his Son, Jesus Christ, a man in the flesh, a Jew by tribe, born poor in a little village, who left his home and was always on safari doing good, curing people by the power of God, teaching about God and humankind, and showing that the meaning of religion is love. He was rejected by his own people, tortured and nailed hands and feet to a cross, and died. He was buried in the grave, but the hyenas did not touch him, and on the third day he rose from the grave.

Culture and faith beautifully woven together to create a creed a people can easily follow. Jonah, hid away on a ship headed away from God, hoping his actions would mean a quick demise to his enemy. However, God had other plans, and, in the end, all were changed. Jesus collected followers along the shoreline, and changed not only their lives, but their hearts. Both call stories remind us of our purpose as faith followers. Both remind us that if we are not sure of what we believe or how we should behave, others will be happy to do our thinking for us.

*We Believe in One High God,
who out of love created the beautiful world.*

What is it that we believe? Amen.