

First Presbyterian Evanston

May 30, 2021 – 10 a.m.

Trinity Sunday

FOCUS

Prelude

O Spirit of Life

*(Words: Johan Niedling, 1602-1668; Music: from "Geistliche Kirchensänger," Köln, 1623,
arr. J.S. Bach, 1685-1750)*

O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God, in ev'ry need you bring us aid, proceeding forth from heaven's throne, From God, the Father and the Son; O Spirit of life...O Spirit of God, make us to love your sacred word; the holy flame of love impart, that charity may warm each heart; O Spirit of life...O Spirit of God enlighten us by that same word; teach us to know God's radiant love, lead us to Christ who reigns above; O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God.

Welcome & Announcements

EXALT

Opening Songs

Holy, Holy, Holy

*(Words: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826;
Music: John Bacchus Dykes, 1861, desc. David McKinley Williams, 1948, CCLI Song #1156)*

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 evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinfulness 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!

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

All: Holy, holy, holy God, the words of praise slip easily from our lips. You are almighty! You are glorious! You dwell in holy splendor! But as we are swept up in those lofty words, we can miss the point. Because we can describe you, we start to think that we can understand you. And then we think we can predict your actions, and expect your favor, and control your mercy. Holy God, forgive us for limiting our vision of you: for only acknowledging your presence some of the time, for refusing to see the complexities of your blessings, and for praying only for the people we think are worthy of our concern. Close our lips and turn our eyes to gaze on you in awe and wonder, so that we may receive your love and your grace, not as facts to understand but as gifts to treasure. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Savior. Amen.

(Time of silent confession.)

Leader: Brothers and Sisters, God is ever and always healing us, renewing us and preparing us for deeper understanding through the Holy Spirit. This is the good news that brings new life:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

ENCOUNTER

Children's Moment & Passing the Peace of Christ

Faith in Action

Scripture

Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. 2 Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. 3 And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

4 The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. 5 And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. 7 The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” 8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 2 He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” 3 Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” 4 Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” 5 Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6 What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ 8 The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” 9 Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” 10 Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

11 “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell

you about heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

17 “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Sermon

Rev. Henry Coates, Associate Pastor

RESPOND

Confession of Faith – The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sharing of Tithes and Offerings

Songs of Response

If You Say Go

(Words & Music: Diane Thiel, 2002; CCLI Song #3548640)

If You say go, we will go
If You say wait, we will wait
If You say step out on the water
And they say it can't be done
We'll fix our eyes on You and we will come

If You say go, we will go
If You say wait, we will wait
If You say step out on the water
And they say it can't be done
We'll fix our eyes on You and we will come

Your ways are higher than our ways
And the plans that You have laid
Are good and true
If You call us to the fire
You will not withdraw Your hand
We'll gaze into the flames and look for You

If You say go, we will go
If You say wait, we will wait
If You say step out on the water
And they say it can't be done
We'll fix our eyes on You and we will come

We'll fix our eyes on You and we will come
We'll fix our eyes on You and we will come

Here I Am, Lord

(Words & Music: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981; One License Song #80670)

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

Prayers of the People & The 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 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.

Closing Hymn

Trinity Song

(Words & Music: Sandra McCracken, 2016; CCLI Song # 7068847)

Holy Father, Son, and Spirit
Holy Communion, Three in One

Holy Father, Son, and Spirit
Holy Communion, Three in One

Come with Your peace, with Your invitation
Bind us together in holy love

Come with Your peace, with Your invitation
Bind us together in holy love

Holy Father, Son, and Spirit
Holy Communion, Three in One

Come with Your peace, with Your invitation
Bind us together in holy love

Holy Father Son and Spirit (Come with Your peace, with Your invitation)

Holy Communion, Three in One (Bind us together in holy love)

Holy Father Son and Spirit (Come with Your peace, with Your invitation)

Holy Communion, Three in One (Bind us together in holy love)

Holy Father, Son, and Spirit

Holy Father, Son, and Spirit

Holy Father, Son, and Spirit

Three in One, Three in One, Three in One

Benediction

Postlude

I Bind Unto Myself Today

(Words: attr. St. Patrick, 372-466, paraph. Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895;

Music: tune "St. Patrick's Breastplate," v. 1-2,5, Irish Melody,

arr. Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929; CCLI Song #3157646)

I bind unto myself today

The strong Name of the Trinity

By invocation of the same,

The Three in One and One in Three.

I bind unto myself today

The power of God to hold and lead,

God's eye to watch, God's might to stay,

God's ear to hearken to my need,

The wisdom of my God to teach,

God's hand to guide, God's shield to ward,

The word of God to give me speech,

God's heavenly host to be my guard.

Christ be with me, Christ within me,

Christ behind me, Christ before me,

Christ beside me, Christ to win me,

Christ to comfort and restore me,

Christ beneath me, Christ above me,

Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,

Christ in hearts of all that love me,

Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

I bind unto myself the Name,

The strong Name of the Trinity

By invocation of the same,
The Three in One and One in Three,
By Whom all nature hath creation,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word.
Praise to the Lord of my salvation;
Salvation is of Christ the Lord!

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Mission Statement:

***First Presbyterian Church of Evanston
exists to know Christ and to grow in him
as we serve and make disciples in Evanston, the Chicago area,
and the world.***



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Today's Worship Service Leaders: Paul Koch, Vocals, Prelude, Darshaya Oden, Vocals; Tina Laughlin, Percussion; Hannah Dixon McConnell, Dir. of Worship, Welcome, Vocals, Piano; Rev. Amanda Golbek, Minister of Children and Youth, Confession, Children's Message, Faith in Action; TBD, Scripture Reading; Caryl Weinberg, Dir. of Mission, Prayers of the People; Jim Teague, Dir. of Communication, Live Stream; Noah McLeod, Guest A/V Coordinator; Jake Collins, A/V Volunteer & Set-Up; Aaron Budoff, Building Team