

Our Covenant with God and One Another

October 25, 2020

The 301 Faith Partners
Fort Collins, CO

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Prelude:

*Joyful
Praise
by Susan
E.
Geschke*

Trinity
Lutheran
Church
Bell Choir

Opening Hymn Jesu, Jesu, 1982 Episcopal Hymnal #602

Chorus

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their
 2 Neigh-bors are rich and poor, neigh-bors are black and
 3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, serv - ing as though we were

Repeat Chorus

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
 white, neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
 love. All are neigh-bors to us and you.
 slaves; this is the way we should live with you.

Words: Ghanaian; tr. Thomas Stevenson Colvin (b. 1925), alt. Music: *Chereponi, [Jesu, Jesu]*, Ghanaian folk song; adapt. Thomas Stevenson Colvin (b. 1925)
 Words, Music: Copyright ©1969, Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission.



Global Refugee Mural - Joel Bergner, 2009, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

Opening Sentence

The Rev. Jane Reina, MoM

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Responders - Mike & Jody Werner, SPEC (for the People)

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

Amen.

Opening Prayer

The Rev. Jane Reina, MoM

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

Mike & Jody Werner Amen



Photo by Mary Jean Currier

To God Be The Glory

from *The English Folk Song Mass*

Paraphrase: Mark Schweizer

Malcolm Archer
The Ashgrove



Angel - Unknown artist - 1275-1300, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

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To God be the glo - ry, all glo - ry in the
Lord Je - sus, the on - ly be - got - ten of the

high - est and peace to his peo - ple who dwell here be - low, Our
Fa - ther we praise and we bless you, the Son and the Lamb. The

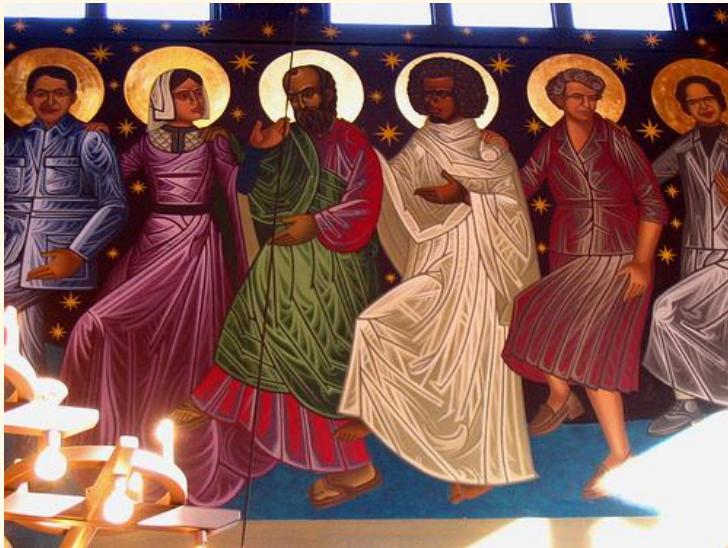
he a - v'n - ly Fa - ther, our Lord, and our sov - reign, to
sin of the world you have tak - en up - on you, have

you, the Al - migh - ty, our prai - ses be - stow. We wor - ship and a -
mer - cy up - on us, the Great I AM. For ho - ly, you -

dore you, we bow here be - fore you with grate - ful thanks - gi - ving, our
meet us, yet low - ly you - greet us, the Lord in the high est, the

song let us raise. All glo - ry and hon - our and glad a - do -
Ho - ly One. All glo - ry to the Fath - er, the Son and the

- ra - tion to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise.
Spi - rit, From a - ges ev - er - last - ing, the Three in One.



Icons of dancing saints
- from St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church, San Francisco, CA

Prayer for the Mission of the Church - the New Zealand Prayer Book

The Rev. Jane Reina, MoM

Draw your Church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving him in his mission to the world, and together witnessing to his love on every continent and island.

Mike & Jody Werner Amen

First Reading: Rooted in Love and Faith

David Cloyd, MoM A reading of a poem by Kerrie Anderson

Some people from different spiritual paths
gathered to plant seeds in a field,
not knowing what might grow.
Like the mustard seed, smallest of seeds—
the seeds planted in fertile earth rooted—
and glorious shoots of green burst forth from the earth.
As the plants grew next to each other their branches
sometimes touched,
sometimes crossed,
sometimes twined together.

The Light shone upon and from the plants,
and blossoms of many colors emerged.



The people were amazed and joyful.
They asked each other,
How can we do more and be better together?
As the people believed in the seen and unseen,
they found their unseen roots
were strong enough to allow
each other to walk alone in the field,
or to gather together for praise, worship, and service.
So the people become of one heart, one spirit,
one body of Christ Jesus,
gathered to shine the Light of Love for all people
rooted in their common faith in the Beloved, God.

Words inspired by the Holy Spirit

Mike & Jody Werner, SPEC **Thanks be to God.**



Cans Around the Church - 301 Faith Partners collect food for the
Food Bank, 10/4/20

*The
Response -*

“We Gather
Together”
by Jan Sanborn

Carrie Hansen,
TLC, piano

Second Reading - Colossians 3:12-17

Betty Wagner, TLC A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Colossians.

God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Mike & Jody Werner, SPEC **Thanks be to God.**



Statue of Europe, or, Unity in Peace - Bernard Romain, 2003, Brussels, Belgium - from [Art in the Christian Tradition](#), a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN

Alleluia

Mass of Mary Magdalene - Sarah Hart

sung and played by Bill Smith, MoM

Refrain:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Verse 2:

**Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life;
You have the words of everlasting life.**

Refrain

Christ Teaching - Catacombs in Rome

Christ Teaching in the Synagogue in Nazareth - Gerbrand van den Eeckhout

Christ Teaching - Ethiopian Inked parchment

Gospel Reading - Matthew 22:34-40

The Rev. Rosean Amaral, MoM The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Mike & Jody Werner, SPEC Glory to you, Lord Christ

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’ He said to him, ‘ “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Mike & Jody Werner, SPEC Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon and Sermon
- The Rev. Rick Reiten, TLC



Dorothy Day with Homeless Christ - Kelly Latimore, 2015 from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.



301 Faith Partners Pastors

Liturgy of Commitment

The Rev. Felicia SmithGraybeal, SPEC

God's covenant with God's people from the beginning is to unite all creation through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit revealed at Pentecost recognizes the different gifts and languages among us, while holding us together as one Church, one body of Christ working together as partners. Our ministry partnership, grounded in the love of Christ, is a flawed yet beautiful expression to the community of God's dream for this world. God's mission has a church: here at 301 E Stuart.

As we move into a long-term partnership, Trinity Lutheran, St. Paul's Episcopal, and Mary of Magdala Ecumenical Catholic Community, will have expectations of one another, renewable agreements, and promises to one another. As three separate and unique congregations, but one faith community, we promise to hold our respective communities in prayer and covenant with one another.



Pentecost - El Greco, 1600

Michael Six

As the Holy Spirit settled upon the disciples in tongues of fire, we are lit from within by the light of our relationship with Christ. Let these candles each of us holds symbolize the flame of devotion that burns at the heart of each of our faith communities as we seek and serve God.

Congregational leaders Michael Six, Betty Wagner, and Rhoda Robinson each light a candle and display it on screen.



Congregational Leaders together: With God's help we covenant to **LOVE** - to love God, Self, and our Partners in Ministry as we Love Our Self.

All the People (press your space bar): **We affirm this covenant.**

Congregational Leaders: With God's help we covenant to **COMMUNICATE** - to be open, honest, and more effective in communication among our three congregations; to communicate the decisions and work of our faith partnership to all three congregations; to respect each congregation to retain its own unique historical character, governance, and polity, as each continues to manage its own finances, even as we share expenses. seeking together God's will for our partnership.

People: **We affirm this covenant**

301 Faith Partners' Racial Justice Banner with Mary of Magdala
pastors, 10/4/20. (Food Bank truck in the background)



Congregational Leaders: With God's help, we covenant to **WORK TOGETHER** in all Volunteer Areas - to help share the responsibility and care of our common spaces including sanctuary, kitchen, narthex, fellowship hall, and sacristy. We will continue to work together across ministry teams such as Faith Formation, Social Eco Justice, Music, and Property, while promising to find other ways to faithfully engage in ministry together.

People: **We affirm this covenant.**

Congregational Leaders: With God's help, we covenant to **SHARE** monthly Operations and Maintenance Expenses - to reassess each congregation's contribution, based on need and ability, to the shared expenses of operating and maintaining the church and its ministries. We share together the information of finances, to better contribute to the shared expense of ministry.

People: **We affirm this covenant.**



Congregational Leaders: We covenant to **INVITE** one another into any capital expense - to consider, create, and fund capital projects (expenses outside normal monthly operation and maintenance) for use by all three congregations.

People: **We affirm this covenant.**

The Rev. Felicia SmithGraybeal, SPEC

Bless, O Lord, this candle, to be a sign of the covenant between these Faith Partners. May it symbolize the harnessing of our separate natures under the easy yoke of Christ. May our separate flames spread the light of our Savior into the dark corners of the world, and may we follow where the Holy Spirit leads us.

People: **Amen**

MANY AND ONE

Steve Angrisano, Sarah Hart and Dwight Liles

Refrain

We are man - y, yet we are one. We are sep - - 'rate, yet bound in his love. And to-ge-th - er we are all his hands and his feet, bring-ing mer - cy and peace to this world. We are man - y and one.

Verses

1. We are fall - en but we are for - giv - en;
2. We are dif - f'rent as morn-ing and eve - ning,
3. We are broth - ers and sis - ters in spir - it,
1. bro - ken and scat - tered, yet be - ing made whole
2. each of us liv - ing as we have been called,
3. found in all na - tions yet near to the Lord,
1. by our re-deem - er, one Lord and one sav - ior,
2. all of us seek - ing, each of us reach-ing to
3. each one be-long - ing, to - geth - er now long-ing for
1-3. the shep-herd who gath-ers us all, gath-ers us all.

The Three-Wick Candle is revealed, lit by the love of God, which transcends all boundaries of space and time, and by the loving attention of God's people gathered here

The Rev. Felicia SmithGrayBeal, SPEC

O God, you have inspired the people of Trinity Lutheran Church, Mary of Magdala Ecumenical Catholic Church and St. Paul's Episcopal Church to join with one another in a covenant of love, communication, common work, sharing of resources and invitation into collaborative creativity. Bless all of us, your servants, that we might love, honor and cherish each other and live faithfully into your mission to reconcile the whole world to you.

God the Creator, God the Redeemer, God the Sanctifier, Bless this union. May it deepen, prosper and grow. May we live into your dream for us. And may our shared home be a haven of love and peace.

People **Amen.**

Peace

The Rev. Felicia SmithGrayBeal

The peace of the Lord be always with you

People **And also with you.**





Communion at our December 2019 Joint Worship Service

Prayers of the People - please write your prayers in the chat box

David Cloyd, MoM With this covenant, may our three communities continue to listen to each other, to hear wisdom shared, to hear current and future goals, to hear the joys and sorrows as we grow God's mission here at 301 East Stuart, we pray,
Mike & Jody Werner **Almighty and Merciful God, hear our prayer.**

Betty Wagner, TLC May we remember that covenant is a verb, we are promising to love God, Self, and our Partners in Ministry as we love Our Self, and in so doing, may we ask ourselves each day - 'Where do we need to stretch for the sake of love today?', we pray,
Mike & Jody Werner **Almighty and Merciful God, hear our prayer.**

Monica Foster, SPEC As we deepen our spirituality in these three traditions, may we continue to be aware of the present moment, so that we are ready to walk the road ahead together, wherever God's mission takes us, we pray,
Mike & Jody Werner **Almighty and Merciful God, hear our prayer.**



Communion at our December 2019 Joint Worship Service

David Cloyd, MoM In this time of great conflict, hostility and fear, may we be a people dedicated to your service. Open our hearts to your loving presence, that we might shine in the darkness and, in deed and in word, be beacons of peace and hope, we pray,
Mike & Jody Werner **Almighty and Merciful God, hear our prayer.**

Betty Wagner, TLC Heal all those who are in need of your abundant wholeness, all those who are injured or ill, lost or broken, bound or imprisoned. May we be a people dedicated to your service, hands and hearts working to end oppression, bring reconciliation, and feed and comfort those in need, we pray,
Mike & Jody Werner **Almighty and Merciful God, hear our prayer.**

Monica Foster, SPEC _____ reads from the chat box _____

As we grow weary under the restrictions imposed by the Pandemic, as we mourn all that we have lost, and as we face the coming winter with all our fears and anxieties, may we be a people dedicated to your service.



Communion at our December 2019 Joint Worship Service

Heal all who we offer up to you. Bring us moments of joy. Bring us hope. Inspire us with new and abundant creativity, we pray,
Mike & Jody Werner **Almighty and Merciful God, hear our prayer.**

David Cloyd, MoM God, today we become faith partners, and as relationships develop among the three churches, we will become a faith community and ultimately a faith family. As within any family, there are times of dissension and disagreement. At those times that we know the healing power of forgiveness and remember the second greatest command that Jesus gave us: to love our neighbors as ourselves," we pray.

Mike & Jody Werner **Almighty and Merciful God, hear our prayer.**

Betty Wagner, TLC God of unity, as we enter this new chapter, we pray for Courage, Patience and Wisdom. Grant us guidance to make the best decision for today - without worrying about tomorrow, but trusting that you hold our future in your hands, we pray.

Mike & Jody Werner **Almighty and Merciful God, hear our prayer.**



Lucy brings her chicken, Sally, for a blessing on Oct. 4.

Monica Foster, SPEC God of community, it is said that it takes a village to raise a child. Today we are committing to becoming a village of churches. Together as a village, we can raise up more of the hungry, more of the homeless and more of the marginalized, and we can take better care of the Earth. We are better together fulfilling Jesus's commandment to "Love our neighbors as ourselves" and God's command in Genesis to take care of creation.

Mike & Jody Werner Almighty and Merciful God, hear our prayer. Amen.



A Prayer in Response to the Fires

Monica Foster, SPEC

Our God of life and love,
We ask for your protection from spreading wildfires across our
beautiful state. We ask for respite and safety for all those
touched by the path of these flames.

Grant calm to those who are frightened; comfort and aid to
those who are displaced; companionship to those who are
alone; and solace to those who are grieving. We ask your
sanctuary for all wildlife and livestock whose lives are in
danger.

As brave men and women strive to calm the fires burning may
we find solace in each other's love. May our faith bring us
peace, and may your Divine presence bring us encouragement
so we may find rest during this uncertain time.
We pray all this in the name of our creator, our redeemer and
our sustainer. Amen

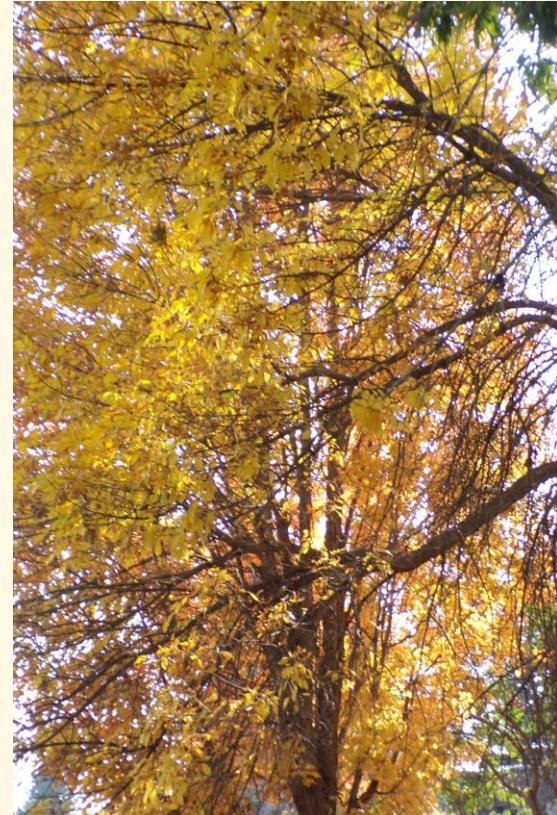
Offering

Katie Kline, TLC

We are grateful to you for all the joys and the blessings of this life. Everything we have and everything we are comes from you. Help us give back, for the furtherance of your kingdom, out of the generosity that springs from our love and gratitude.

People **All things come of you, O Lord, and of your own have we given you.**

During the Offertory, reflect upon what you are thankful for and on what you pledge to offer in the service of Christ and the church



Offertory -

As the Deer
by John Carter

Carrie Hansen
& Paul Falk,
TLC,
Piano



Photo by Felicia SmithGraybeal

Final Blessing

Katie Kline, TLC Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us, so be swift to love and make haste to be kind; and the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us and who travels with us, be with you now and forever more.

Mike & Jody Werner Amen

1. We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,
 2. We all are called for ser - vice to wit-ness in God's name.
 3. We all be - hold one vi - sion, a stark re - al - i - ty;
 4. Now let us be u - nit - ed and let our song be heard.

our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min - is - tries are dif-f'rent, our pur - pose is the same:
 the stew-ard of sal - va - tion was nailed up - on a tree.
 Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.

A sin - gle, great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
 to touch the lives of oth - ers by God's sur-pris-ing grace,
 Yet res - ur - rect - ed Jus - tice gives rise that we may share
 We all are one in mis - sion, we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
 so peo-ple of all na - tions may feel God's warm em - brace.
 free re - con - cil - i - a - tion and hope a - mid de - spair.
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Wonder, Love and Praise #778
- We are all one in mission



Dismissal - The Rev Jane Raina

Announcements

The Postlude follows

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