

**Order of Worship for at Home Use
June 7, 2020
Trinity Sunday**

Welcome to worship with Grace@Home!

We pray that you are blessed as you worship, that God will provide you with all hope and mercy as you enter into His Presence.

**Today is Trinity Sunday.
& Communion Sunday.**

Today, as the joyful people of God, we continue to worship our Risen LORD, separate, but together, as God's family. Today is Trinity Sunday, and as we worship today we celebrate our God -Who is Three in One.

Again today as we worship we acknowledge that we are in fearful and uncertain times, and in the past week - we have entered a period of great unrest in our nation and world. So, we gather to worship...and pray that God's light will shine on us as we pray and deal responsibly with longstanding systemic racism and violence. Yes, as the people of God we turn to the One who knows, loves, sets us on right paths, and forgives. Today, as we always do, we turn our hearts back to God, live into His grace and renew our belief in Him... and as one we call on His name praying for peace and justice and life and light. Lord, hear our prayers.

As we begin you are invited to **prepare your worship space.**

We will be entering into the sacrament of communion today. Please prepare your bread and juice/wine ahead of time. If you don't have one or the other, use what is on hand. A roll or crackers, water or wine - all will be fine as we celebrate the mystery and gift of communion, and gather at the table Jesus has prepared.



If you wish to worship via the video, click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5nAbQAHPqD4>

We Gather as God's Family to Worship

Introit

“Holy Ground”

Dr. David Dorway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J6r51GxZ4Nw>

Welcome/Call to Worship from
Pope

Psalm 8

Pastor Dana

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-kFvYK89hFY>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TEWH6fYwqpk>

Our God is great and powerful. The name above all names.

We come to worship the Trinity, the three in one.

When our world is full of hate and turmoil, sickness and death

We turn to Jesus. Healer, Redeemer, Great Physician.

When our hearts and lives need healing and grace and peace

We rely on the Holy Spirit. Comforter, Counselor, Advocate

When our lives are in peril from within and without

We worship our God. Father, Creator, Beginning and End

The One Who was and is and is to come

All people, of every creed, race and nation...

We all come to worship our great God.

Let us worship God!

Hymn

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

Quartet

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Lydkl0irbU>

Sharing the Peace of Christ

not in video

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you...

and also with you.

In this time of social distancing it is important for us to remember that in Christ we are connected to all who believe in Jesus in every time and place. As the world continues to be isolated, and many are feeling anxious, as Christians we share the peace of Christ as a way to offer hope and the joy of Christ. Again today we use the familiar words, “The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you... and also with you.”

Now, or after your time of worship, reach out via text, email, phone or video call, to someone outside of your home extending the invitation to enter into the peace of Christ with our faith community.

Praise God, that His peace is with us, always!

Holy Trinity, our thoughts, our words swirl and rush through us and in us this week as we come to pray. Help us, hear our cries and those of people across our nation and world. We call upon You, Holy Spirit, to quite our minds as we seek clarity, wisdom, vision, peace and grace at Your throne.

In these past days we have seen tragedy piled upon injustice. Hurt and blame and hatred heaped upon our streets, in cities across the nation. Innocents endangered and lost. Anger fueled words and actions. Spirit of our Holy God. Help us to stop. To breathe deeply Your shalom.

Our hearts are broken, and much too often we hold shame and fear that no matter what we say it won't be enough, too little too late; no matter what we do we won't see the change our world so desperately needs; and we fear hurting others both by our words and by our silence. Help us. All of us. Hold us. Heal us. Forgive us.

Grant us Your grace that we might see ourselves in the light of Your truth... see one another and this world the way that You see. Grant us mercy, Lord. Open the eyes of our hearts. Have mercy.

Reveal to us Your love for each person You made... All of us... Each one... a true delight in Your eyes and to Your heart. God, we know full well that we ALL carry Your image, and mark. Each one is precious in Your sight. Each one LOVED with an eternal love.

Grant us grace to speak this truth... to live into this truth...

Holy Fire, come and burn out all that is not of You, out of our hearts, our relationships, our homes, this nation and world. Bring new life, Father God. Healing and hope. Work in mind or body or circumstance. Put Your hand upon us, send Your Spirit to move, Your Son to save.

We ask in these moments, for You, Holy Trinity, to work in us, in this world. Heal our land. Heal our bodies, Heal Your church. Hold and comfort Your people. Bless us, grant us grace and wisdom...confront in us any falsehood, and forgive us our sins...for they are many.

Set us right and make us holy in Jesus name, Who taught us to pray, saying: 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.

We Listen to God's Word

Hymn/Praise

Jesus Loves Me **not in video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C63z5hCd7bc>

Children's Message

Pastor Jim Houston-Hencken

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UzKq-PfKwEM>

Today the children were challenged to look at creation and see all its beauty and majesty. They were asked to remember that God made everything and called it "good". You can see God's goodness if you just look close enough and with an open heart.

The children were also challenged to look at themselves and others recognizing that God made each one of us, and that God made all of us good. In fact, we are all made in God's image and that makes us good and worthy of respect, honor and grace.

Finally, the children were challenged to understand that everyone, all people are made in God's image and therefore should be treated as brothers and sisters in our world. For we are all God's creation."

Special Music

"How Beautiful"

by T. Paris

Kathy Koch and Savannah Scarlett

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11rg5pIQSRI>

Reading of the Word

Genesis 1:1-25

Richard Kimmel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0ZdUzbuSNA>

“1 In the beginning when God created^a the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God^b swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good.

⁹ And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹ Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good.

¹⁴ And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰ And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” ²¹ So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁴ And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.”

Message

“In God’s Image”
Genesis 1:26-31

Jim Houston-Hencken

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UBACXn0whoo>

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make humankind^c in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth,^d and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

²⁷ So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God, he created them;^f male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” ²⁹ God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.”

As we worship today, I am aware that a crisis surrounds us. Our country is torn apart by hate, rage, violence, racism, and fear. Our city has been touched by this crisis as both police and protestors have fallen victim to this hatred and for many of us, we are in shock. This is not who we are. I don't know what values you hold, but I can tell you that if you are a Christian you are called to recognize the value of every human being and treat them with the respect due a child of God created in God's image, regardless of the color of skin or the uniform a person wears. This country and our faith proclaim, justice for all!

So, let us begin our study looking at the story of Creation and the beginning of God's people as it is told in the very first book of the Bible. You know Genesis literally means the beginning, but it is not about science or creationism, it is about God, His character, and actions. So, much like knowing the artist helps you understand a piece of art, knowing our creator helps us know ourselves. This is why we have chosen to study a foundational book of scripture for the summer. I believe this story of creation speaks directly to the cultural crisis we face today. So, this morning we are beginning at the beginning.

The first chapter of Genesis contains one of the four creation accounts found in the Christian Bible and this epic story sets the stage for all of scripture. You see, in the creation miracle we learn about God, we learn about the creation, we learn about humankind and we learn about our place in God's creation and His special relationship with us.

The great miracle of creation starts with the words "in the beginning." There is no before the beginning. And in the beginning, there was God. God was. There was nothing before Him and we learn from the miracle of creation that there is nothing greater than God. He was before all things. And we learn all this from the first three words of the Bible. God is God. He was first. Everything has its beginning in God. This is the created order. God is first whether we like it or not. God is first AND God is the creator. This is the first and foremost doctrine of Christianity. We call this "the sovereignty of God. God is God. This is important stuff for the created world. If we know God is God then, we can have a relationship with our creator and know our place in creation. If we think we are God, we become selfish and self-absorbed.

So, in the beginning God was there and nobody else. And, "what does God do when He is alone?" God acts. He does what He wants and what God wants to do is create. He could have done anything, and He chooses to create. This is the second miracle of creation. God creates because He chooses to create. This tells us that the very nature of God is to create. He is a creative God. Not only does He create, but He does so with majesty and power.

Have you seen the oceans, have you experienced a thunderstorm? Have you ever looked at a leaf up close and seen the amazing beautiful complexity of life found in the simplest part of the tree? Have you ever marveled at a sunset or looked at the beauty built right into the person next to you? When we marvel at creation we are drawn to the question, “What kind of God would make all this? What does creation tell us about our creator?” Do you really think that all this beauty around us with its amazing complexity and its beautiful simplicity is random? Do you really think that your life that is a one in over a billion chance just happened and continues to happen when all the odds are against you thanking your next breath, let alone being born?

Creation tells us that there is a creator and He must be amazing. He is complex, and he has an eye for beauty. When He scooped out the Grand Canyon or pushed up the Rockies by whatever force He used, He displayed His majesty and His love for beauty.

You can believe, if you want, that all this is simply an accident and that some cosmic anomaly formed life and created the cosmos, but I can tell you that the odds of all this being happenstance are beyond what mathematicians call reasonable. You can believe you are an accident, but I suspect that creation itself chuckles when the created looks at the majesty of what is created and fails to see the magnificent creator.

This miracle story does not tell us how God did all this, but it does tell us that God is responsible for this creation and all its processes, anomalies, and systems: including the scientific system. He created it all. He created it out of nothing ex-nihilo. And He created with only a word.

Not only did he create it all, another miracle is that He created, and it is good. It was not broken or evil, it was good! You see, God created and that was the first miracle. God was there and God’s nature is to create. It is a miracle also that He creates the world with beauty and majesty. You see the world displays God perfection. In the first chapter of the Bible, in this great miracle God tells us this with one simple word.

Sometimes knowing the meaning of just one little word changes everything. Donald Trump has taught us this with the word “cofefe”. He knew what he meant, but the rest of us have not a clue. If we understood the word, we might understand the tweet. The truth is, sometimes the meaning of a word determines the interpretation of an entire statement.

In the creation story the word that defines everything is the word, “good”. In the Hebrew, the word is TOV. And it means good, but not only good. It means perfect, lovely, like a piece of art it is simply tov. 5 times God says creation is good. The 6th time He says, after the creation of Human beings in His own image, creation is VERY GOOD. Totally tov!

This is how it is supposed to be. It is a thing of beauty, it is complete.

Now, this is, of course, before the fall and when creation is at its best. But, nevertheless, creation is good, and it still retains God's blessing. Just look around you, creation is beautiful. Canyons, rivers, mountains, blue sky, and bluer waters. Our creation has sunsets that are beyond description. And look at the intricacies of creation, the magnificence of cellular structures. The complexities of the human body. All around us can be found the magnificence of God in his creation. If you cannot see it, you are not looking. It is all around you and it is TOV.

If you want to see some of the most amazing examples of God creation, look around you. You have been created good. God gave you freedom. You can choose to do good with what God has given you or you can choose evil. But every time a person chooses to do good, it is a miracle from heaven. It is a person being the person God created them to be.

You know, the creation story is not about evolution or science. It is not about biblical creationism. It is about God, his creation, and His relationship with it. God created this magnificent world. God has redeemed this magnificent world and God loves this magnificent world. Our God is the God who made it all. Not only did he make; he made it good. Our job is to recognize that it is God who is the creator and redeemer and that he has said that this is all good and we should treat it as such.

Today we all need to remember that God created us, and this world and it is good. People are created in the image of God, all of us and we have the capacity for good. This is what we should be working for in a time of moral crisis. We need to work for good. It is what God intended from the moment of creation.

We Respond to the Voice of God

Presentation of our Tithes & Offerings

Pastor Dana Pope

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5oYImSMQJhI>

As we continue to worship, we respond to God's love for us, and the needs of the world by blessing God's kingdom with our time, talents, energy and resources. Today as an act of offering, take this time to turn your heart to God and reflect on how you might be light and life to our hurting world. Ask God for wisdom and inspiration as we navigate this time of heartbreak, separation, grief, injustice and violence. Today and this week turn to God and let us dedicate ourselves to lean into Christ's peace and offer that to our world. Let us return God's tithes and our offerings to the church via mail or online giving, using text to give or the following link:

<https://onrealm.org/gracepclv/-/give/now>

Offertory "God So Loved the World" arr. Stainer
Quartet

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7IfhM3WBcV8>

Offertory Prayer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-KBCqDAaheU>

Please pray with me: God of all creation, bless us as we offer all that we have and all that we are, Your tithes and our offerings, our time, talents, and energies. We pray, Heavenly Father, that You would bless them and multiply them for the good of Your kingdom and for the salvation of the world. Help us this week to remember that because of Your love we have all that we need, and enough to share with the world. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

The Service of Communion

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c_pIFxVcl5g

Communion Transcript:

Jesus said: *I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to Me will never be hungry and whoever believes in Me will never be thirsty.*

Friends, this is the Lord's Table, our Savior invites those who trust Him to share the feast which He has prepared.

Today, we celebrate this great gift on our own tables...in our own homes... yet we celebrate as one body, the body of Christ, United in Christ in every time and place, in Jesus name.

Please pray with me: Creator and Sustainer of all creation, in Your wisdom you made all things and sustain them by Your power. You formed us in Your image to love and serve You, but we forget both who and Whose we are so easily.

We are so grateful that in Your Mercy You do not reject us, instead, you name us and claim us as Your own. We thank You that You call us back to You every time we stray, and we thank You for the gift of Your only Son, the way to eternal life, Who loves us even to death on the cross.

We praise You, and we sing once again with the angels, *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna! Hosanna, in the highest.*

You are holy, God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord.

We thank You that Jesus took for us the weight of our sin, and carried for us our guilt. We thank You that He shares our life in every way, and in His dying and rising we have been delivered from slavery to sin and death, and brought into a new life by covenant of water and Spirit.

We remember now Your mighty acts, Triune God, and we ask that You pour out Your blessing on this bread and on this cup, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By Your Spirit, unite us now with Christ and with all that are baptized in His name, around every table around the world, that as this bread is Christ's body for us, You would send us out to be the body of Christ for the world. A people of peace, light, and life. Amen!

On the night of his arrest, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread and after giving thanks to God He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying, *Take, Eat, this is my body broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.*

And in the same way he took the cup saying: *this cup is the new covenant in My blood, poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.*

Whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord until He comes again. These are the gifts of God for the People of God. Thanks be to God!

Come, and share in the joyful feast of God, for all is prepared.

As you take the bread, share the words: *This is Christ's body, broken for you* or *this is the bread of heaven.*

As you share the cup, share the words: *This is the cup of salvation* or *this is the cup of the new covenant.*

Dr. David Dorway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8g0EhDMYD4>

We Go with God to Love and Serve

Closing Hymn “Great Are You Lord” Ingram/Jordan/Leonard
Kathy & Dave Koch, Savannah Scarlett & Kids
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ik--raIbFqI>

Benediction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ki5m6Ixe-qs>

May God’s goodness be yours,
Well, and seven times well may you spend your days
May you be an isle in the sea
May you be a star in the darkness
May you be a staff to the weak
May you be rest for the weary,
May the love that Jesus Christ has for you fill everyone’s heart for you
And, may the love that Jesus Christ has for you fill your heart for everyone
Now and forevermore
Amen

Postlude

Postlude on “St. Denio” C. Callahan
Dr. David Dorway, organist

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oG6YLtA-nGM>

As you continue to worship this week, please keep the following people in prayer, and reach out to one another in word or deed.

In Need of Prayer

Dolores Harris (*Merrill Gardens*)

Judy Aitken, Alice Black, Bill Carlston, Bob Clark,
Carol Daniel, Ann Donithan, Rosamaria Duenas, Pennie Everhart,
Joice Franklin, Mary Gafford, Kathy Koch, Pam Kodey,
Lara Kolberg, Dorell Koon, Carole McKinnis, Sherrie Miles, Beth More,
Maggie O’Donnell, Alice & Gary Oiler, Dodi Palmer, Mary Phillips,
Russ & Pat Reid, Aminta & Jorge Santanilla, Marty Swartout,
Sharon Wilson, and Dick Wohletz

In Memoriam:

Jack Crockett 3/18/2020

Randy Innis 3/18/2020

Clark Trapp 3/18/2020

Ruthy Stull 3/19/2020

Ted Phillips 4/1/2020

Violet Cross 4/4/2020

Bill Franklin 5/4/2020

Greg Holt 5/7/2020

Carol Mohr 5/25/2020