

Traditional Worship for September 20, 2020
Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church, Lynchburg VA

Chiming of the Trinity: Glory to the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit

Welcome

Pastor Jim

Prelude

Joy Siddons

Call to Worship

(from Psalm 105)

Leader: Give thanks to God who spread a cloud for a covering and gave fire to light the night!

People: Who opened the rock and water gushed forth and flowed through the desert sands.

Leader: Seek the Lord and the strength only God can give, a presence that continually abides.

People: We will remember the wonderful works God has done, the miracles, and the judgments God made.

All: Let us praise the Lord!

Congregational Hymn

“God Is Here!”

(Glory to God #409)

***God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
 May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
 Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
 Wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.***

***Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;
 Here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.
 Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,
 Here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit it comes to each.***

(continued)

***Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
Here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore
What it means in daily living to believe and to adore.***

***Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt
Keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.
Here, in the day's dedication, all we have to give, receive:
We, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!***

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession [unison]

Lord, in faith and repentance we turn to you. We know that we are not deserving of your mercy. We have coveted, stolen, and lied. We have gossiped and borne false witness. We have idolized the famous, popular, and powerful, and paid little attention to you. We have taken your goodness for granted, and acted like it belonged only to us. Make us more humble, God. Help us to see that you love us because of who you are, not because of who we are. Teach us to love others in the same way. [time of silent prayer] Amen.

Kyrie [Glory to God #423—verse one]

***Create in me a clean heart, O God
Create in me a clean heart, O God
Create in me a clean heart, O God
And renew a right spirit within me.***

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Please share the peace that Christ has given you.

(continued)

Affirmation of Faith [*unison*]

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination [*unison*]

Suzanne Raine

Father, in our hearing of your word today, we rely not on our wisdom or understanding, but on your gracious gift. Reveal to us what you need us to know, and guide our steps in the path your Son walked ahead of us. Amen.

First Scripture Lesson:

Matthew 20:1-16

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn

**"O Word of God Incarnate"
(Glory to God #459)**

***O Word of god incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
We praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.***

***The church from you, dear Savior, received this gift divine;
And still that light is lifted on all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass that, all life's voyage through,
Amid the rock and quicksands still guides, O Christ, to you.***

(continued)

***O make the church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold
To bear before the nations your true light, as of old;
O teach your wandering pilgrims by this our path to trace,
Till, clouds and storms thus ended, we see you face to face.***

Second Scripture Lesson:

Jonah 3:1 – 4:1

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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.***

Sermon:

That's Not Fair, God!

Pastor Dave

Offertory

Prayers of Concern & Joy

(Current prayer requests can be found in the additional bulletin notes emailed weekly to church members. During the period of silence, you may add your prayers at home for the people and circumstances that are on your heart. If you would like to let us know about a prayer concern, please email office@sapclynchburg.org or visit the prayer wall on our website: www.sapclynchburg.org/prayer-wall.)

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.

Congregational Hymn

“Help Us Accept Each Other”
(Glory to God #754)

*Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
Teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
We are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.*

*Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
We struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
To love them as we find them, or as they may become.*

*Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
In living situations to do the truth in love;
To practice your acceptance until we know by heart
The table of forgiveness, and laughter’s healing art.*

*Lord, for today’s encounters with all who are in need,
Who hunger for acceptance, for justice and for bread,
We need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on:
Renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!*

Charge & Benediction

People: Alleluia! Amen.

Postlude