

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SHREWSBURY

Trinity Sunday

ONLINE

June 7, 2020

Welcome

Prelude “Awakening” by *H. Engelmann*

***Hymn** “For the Healing of the Nations”

For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord,
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom,
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow brief life's span.

You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.

Call to Worship

Leader: The God of our ancestors calls to us today;

People: May we have the faith of our ancestors to go where God leads us.

Leader: The God of our children calls to us today;

People: May we work for justice and peace to build up the reign of God on earth.

Leader: Jesus, the son of the Living God, calls to us now;

People: May we worship God, follow Jesus, and be moved by the Spirit

To do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with God, now and forever. Amen.

Call to Confession

God's mercy is deeper than the depths of the sea, and God's grace is wider than the whole of the earth. Trusting in that mercy and that grace, let us make our confession, before God and each other, first in a moment of silent prayer.

Moment of Silence

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives:

The fear that stifles us,

The prejudice that blinds us,

The ignorance that hobbles us,

The doubt that plagues us.

Help us, we pray, that we will

Find courage in unlikely places,

See the world with new and gracious eyes,

Move to those places where love is needed,

Have faith that you are with us always.

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Hear the Good News: we are forgiven! We are set free to go out into the world and be the loving, gracious, hopeful people of God!

Thanks be to God! Amen

Time With Children

Lessons: Isaiah 58: 6-12, Matthew 28: 16-20

Sermon: "Always"

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory "Prayer" Op. 48 No. 1 by L. V. Beethoven

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low
Praise Holy Spirit evermore
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen**

Prayer of Dedication

HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Leader: We Are the Body of Christ dispersed and gathered at the same time, which is always true though we do not always see it.

In your many kitchens, and living rooms, rest your hands lightly upon these elements which we set aside today to be a sacrament. Let us ask God's blessing upon them and upon us and upon all those who are in our prayers this morning.

Unison:

Gentle Host, rest upon us as you rested upon water and light, earth and creatures, human beings, all in your image. Send your Spirit of life and love, power and blessing upon your children who are staying at home so that this Bread may be broken and gathered in love and this Cup poured out to give hope to all. Risen Christ, live in us, that we may live in you. Breathe in us, that we may breathe in you. We prayer in the name of Jesus, the one who taught us all to pray...

Our Father...Amen.

Words of Remembering

Sharing of the Elements

Leader: Let us at our many tables receive the gift of God, the Bread of Heaven.

All: We become the Body of Christ in the Bread we share.

Leader: Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the Cup of Blessing.

All: We are one in Christ in the Cup we share.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: In thanksgiving for this meal of grace, rejoicing that, in the holy dispersion of virtual worship, we claim the risen Christ's love is not limited by buildings made with human hands, nor contained in human ceremonies, let us pray ...

All: O Holy One, our tongues have tasted the good news and our lives are filled with the Spirit that hovered over creation and blew fresh hope on Pentecost. Creator open our hearts. Word, speak peace in our voices to all the people in all the hotspots and hurts of the world. As we journey masked through our lonely or dangerous or over-busy day, Holy Spirit, fill us with this blessing — that it is good. Amen

***Hymn** "They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love"

We are one in the Spirit
We are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit
We are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity
May one day be restored

Refrain

And they'll know we are Christians
By our love, By our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
By our love

We will walk with each other
We will walk hand in hand
We will walk with each other
We will walk hand in hand
And together we'll spread the news
That God is in our land

Refrain

We will work with each other
We will work side by side
We will work with each other
We will work side by side
And we'll guard each man's dignity
And save each man's pride

Refrain

All praise to the Father
From whom all things come
And all praise to Christ Jesus His only son
And all praise to the Spirit
Who makes us one

Refrain

Benediction

Postlude "The Heavens are Telling" Hob. XXI:2 by F. J. Haydn

*Our Music Director and Organist is Mr. Curtis Smith. Ms. Rachel Smith assisted
in the worship service.*

*The flowers on the altar are given by Kathi Buzzell celebration of the engagement of
Christopher Buzzell and Meredith Hughes.*

Graduates

Congratulations and best wishes to those members and friends of our church family who are graduating this spring, or have graduated within the year.

The following is a list of those of whom we are aware:

Shrewsbury High School

Caitlin Kane, daughter of Jim and Hannah Kane, plans to attend Endicott College in Beverly, MA in the fall to study Criminal Justice.

Seth Mullins, son of April and Paul Mullins, plans on attending college in the fall.

Tammy Pedjoe, daughter of Tim and Suzanne Pedjoe, plans on attending Pace University to study Psychology with a minor in Criminal Justice.

Kyra Ward, daughter of Joan and Ken Ward, plans on attending Wheaton College majoring in Film and New Media Studies.

Megan German, daughter of Martha and Greg German, is taking a gap year in order to prepare to attend college to study the competitive major of Performing Arts.

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School

G. Noel Doan, daughter of Beth Anne and Andy Doan, will be attending MassArt in September 2020.

Hartford Seminary

Beth Anne Doan is graduating from Hartford Seminary from the first half of the Co-operative Masters of Divinity and will be attending Boston University School of Theology in September 2020.

UMass Lowell

Kathryn Taylor Evasius, daughter of Christopher and Christine Evasius, is graduating with a B.S. in Civil Engineering with a minor in Business Administration and has accepted a position with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation as an assistant resident engineer.

University of Colorado Boulder

James E T Smith, son of Diane and Dave Smith, is graduating as Doctor of Philosophy in Chemical Physics and will be working at the Flatiron Institute's Center for Computational Quantum Physics (part of the Simons Foundation in NYC) beginning the end of September 2020.