

**TRINITY UNITED CHURCH
PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO**

September 13, 2020



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**We acknowledge that we meet and live
on the traditional territories of the
Mississauga Anishinaabe People.**

**We give thanks for their care for the land
over thousands of years and
for their deep spirituality and
honouring of the Creator and the creation.**

**May we live with respect in God's creation
and in harmony with our neighbours.**



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

September 13, 2020

15th Sunday after Pentecost

We Welcome All who Worship with us this morning

PRELUDE: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

(In the style of Karg-Elert) Van Denman Thompson

WELCOME

**LIFE AND ACTION OF THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH
MINUTE FOR MISSION**

CENTRING TIME

CHANT: MV14¹ (3 times)

Where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there, I am there.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

HYMN: VU326 "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.

He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken-hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones,
your tongues again employ;
you blind, behold your Saviour comes,
and leap, you lame, for joy!
My gracious Master and my God,

assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of your name.

FAITH FORMATION

Spiritual Practices

Stories to Share: A Sea to Cross

Exodus 14: 19-31

HEBREW SCRIPTURE: VU876² "Song of the Sea"

Refrain: **For you, my God, my strength and song,
Have now become my victory.**

I will sing to God, who has triumphed gloriously.
Horse and rider are thrown into the sea.

God is my strength, my song, my salvation.

This is my God, whom I will praise,
our parents' God, whom I will exalt.

God is a warrior: Eternal is God's name. R

Pharaoh's chariots and his army are cast into the sea;
his chosen officers are sunk in the Red Sea.

The floods covered them;

they went down into the depths like a stone,

your right hand, O God, glorious in power,
your right hand, shattered the enemy.

In your great majesty you overthrew your foes;

you sent out your fury and consumed them like stubble. R

At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up.

The floods stood up in a heap;

the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.

The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake,
I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them.

I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.'

You blew with your wind, the sea covered them;

they sank like lead in the mighty waters. R

Who is like you, O God, among the gods? Who is like you,
**majestic in holiness, awesome in splendour,
wonderful in action?**

With constant love you led the people you redeemed.

You guide them by your strength to your holy dwelling.

You bring them in and plant them
on the mountain of your inheritance,
the place you made your dwelling,
the sanctuary your hands have established. R

CHOIR: “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” arr. by Roland E. Martin

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 18: 21-25

REFLECTION: “At Water’s Edge”

HYMN: MV89³ “Love is the Touch”

Love is the touch of intangible joy;
love is the force that no fear can destroy;
love is the goodness we gladly applaud:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the lilt in a lingering voice;
love is the hope that can make us rejoice;
love is the cure for the frightened and flawed:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the light in the tunnel of pain;
love is the will to be whole once again;
love is the trust of a friend on the road:
God is where love is for love is of God.

Love is the Maker and Spirit and Son;
love is the kingdom their will has begun;
love is the path which the saints all have trod:
God is where love is for love is of God.

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER (VU916)⁴

Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo
through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed
by peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done
by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.

ORGAN MEDITATION: “Amazing Grace” arr. by Gerald Near

CLOSING HYMN: VU651 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: VU421⁵ "Lead On, O Cloud of Presence"

**Lead on, O cloud of Presence, the exodus is come.
In wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home.
Our slavery left behind us,
new hopes within us grow.
We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.**

POSTLUDE: "Hymn Setting: Cwm Rhondda" J. Bert Carlson

Leading in worship today are Rev. Joanna MacQuarrie; Robert Grandy, Minister of Music; Judy McMichael, Worship Leader; Chris Freeman, Margaret Marris, Karla Buckborough, Mary Rawlings, Barb Diceman, COVID Choir members and Dave Freeman, Choir and Technical Production.

Food for Thought

**"It makes all the difference in the world
to believe that the dream of God for the world is going to happen"**

Mary Jo Leddy, Radical Gratitude, 2002, Orbis, 139.

Credits:

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TODAY'S MUSIC

PRELUDE: This setting of the 1759 hymn, "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" was written by American organist Van Denman Thompson (1890-1969), Music Professor at DePauw University in Indiana for 45 years. His setting is subtitled "In the style of Karg-Elert", - a German organist and composer, many of whose compositions use an echo technique, whereby the last phrase of the melody is repeated several times on succeeding quieter organ stops.

ANTHEM: Our COVID Choir offers a choral setting of "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" - this one arranged by Buffalo composer Roland E. Martin, with an accompaniment by J.S. Bach! Martin quotes the Prelude from Bach's unaccompanied Cello Suite #1 as the choir sings the hymn in unison and in a two-part round. It is a hymn of providence and grace, penned by Robert Robinson

(1735-1790), a Calvinistic Methodist minister, who confesses in the hymn how great a debtor he is to the grace of God.

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I find my greatest treasure; hither by Thy great help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood;

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

ORGAN MEDITATION: Many people find comfort in singing the hymn "Amazing Grace". It is the personal testimony of the author John Newton, whose early life on a slave ship was turned around by an "amazing grace" that "saved a wretch like me." American composer Gerald Near wrote a setting of this hymn in a warm yet sparse atmosphere, found in his "Three Gospel Preludes for Organ" from 2011.

POSTLUDE: To conclude the service - a rollicking setting of today's final hymn: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah", by J. Bert Carlson (1937-2017). An accomplished musician and published composer, he was also a Lutheran pastor for over 50 years. In his setting, statements of the tune are interspersed with dance-like sections.

OFFERING

Your donations are appreciated and used carefully to further Christ's work in the community. Please make donations to Trinity UC and to the Mission and Service Fund by using Canada Helps, a Canadian not-for-profit organization. Just go to Trinity's web page <http://trinitypeterborough.com> and click on the "Donate Now" button located at the upper right hand side of the page. Canada Helps will issue you a tax receipt in Trinity's name. Cheques may also be placed in the secure mailbox located beside our main door under the covered portico. If you would prefer to make your payments using PAR, (pre-authorized remittance) please contact the church office and they will make the arrangements.

*** Please visit our home page for the latest update on accessing church services and programming in times of COVID-19** COVID Choir