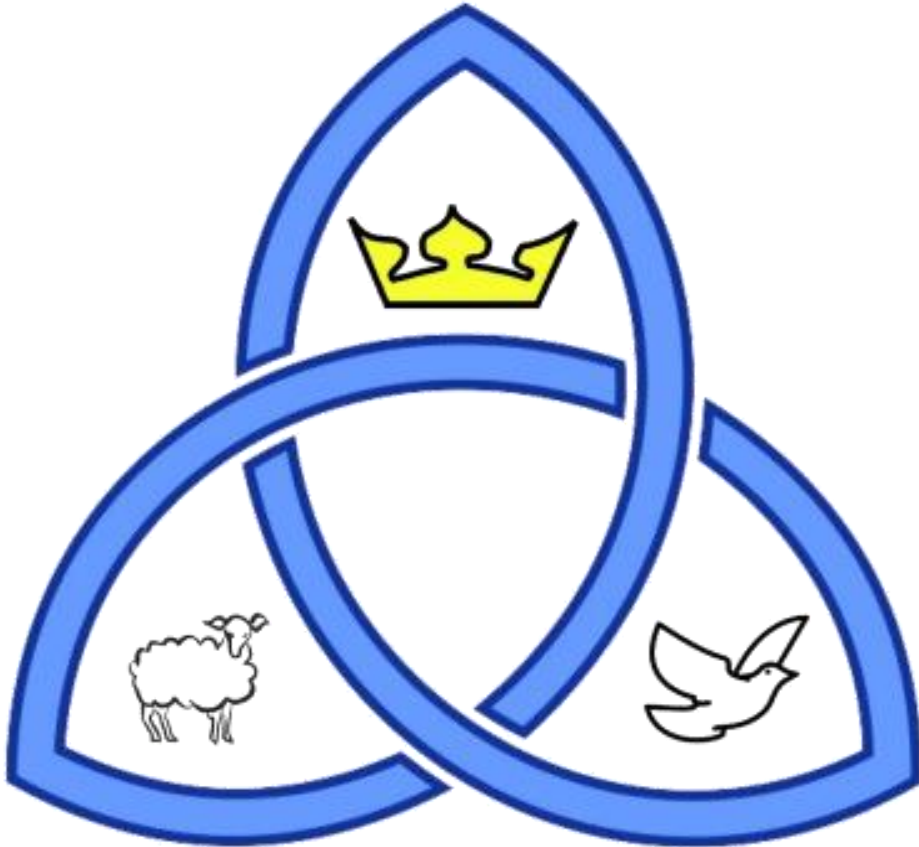


First Congregational United Church of Christ

*Empowered by the Holy Spirit and with the help of God,
we open our doors and hearts to all, in service and love as modeled by Jesus Christ.*



*First Sunday after Pentecost
A Celebration of Trinity*

*The Lord's Day
First Sunday after Pentecost
A Celebration of Trinity
Ten o'clock in the Morning*

The Worship of God

Worship is the submission of all our nature to God. It is the quickening of the conscience by God's holiness; the nourishment of the mind with God's truth; the purifying of the imagination by God's beauty; the opening of the heart to God's love; the surrender of the will to God's purpose—all of this gathered up in adoration.

~William Temple

The Prologue

The doctrine of the Trinity is often called a “mystery.” And yes, it is. But too often we think of a mystery as a problem to be solved, as by an astute detective, or when we are talking about a mystery of the faith, as a problem that has no solution, no answer. “It’s a mystery to me.” On this celebration of Trinity, I am inviting you to think of the mystery of the Trinity, not in terms of what we cannot do, but in terms of what God is trying to do. Think of this mystery as the unfolding of endless possibilities. Just when we think we “get” God, God is revealed to us in new ways, perhaps in the face of a stranger or perhaps in the infinity of nature’s diversity. But the point of the doctrine of the Trinity is to point us toward God, not to make God remote, or obscure. And that is why we celebrate Trinity. It is reminder that God continues to seek to find us, even as we try to find God!

Gathering Music

The Call to Worship and Welcome

The Spirit of the still speaking God be with you.

And also with you.

The Music for Contemplation

The Lighting of the Altar Candles

The Gathering

Greet one another with a holy kiss even as the saints greet you in worship!

We have gathered as the image of God to worship the One who has created us!

Come and worship God! Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! Parent, Child, Advocate, and Comforter; Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer!

O Lord our God how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Let us worship God!

The Choral Introit

You Are Welcome

J. Paul Williams, Joseph Martin

Chancel Choir

The Collect

Let us pray to the Lord,

God the Trinity, three in one, one in three, we have gathered as the image of the Holy to worship the One who comes to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Parent, Child, Advocate and Comforter, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, our holy companion; O Lord, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth; may all of our acts of praise and worship be acceptable to you this day; all this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the holy and still speaking Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

*The Opening Hymn, No. 4 *Holy, Holy, Holy! God Almighty!*

NICAEA

*The Litany of Praise

O Lord our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

All praise to the Father, holy parent, creator, the eternal word who created the heavens, the moon and the stars above!

Out of the mouths of babes and infants God has laid a strong foundation, protecting us from all evil!

All praise to the Son, to Christ our Redeemer, the one whose glory is established throughout the universe, above and beyond the highest heaven!

What are human beings that the Holy One is mindful of us, mortals that God cares for all humanity?

All praise to the Spirit, Advocate and Comforter, mystery that has made humanity a little lower than the Holy, crowning us with glory and honor!

God has made humanity responsible for the works of God's hands, all mammals, the birds of the air, the fish and all sea life!

All praise to God the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer! O Lord, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth! Praise the Lord!

*The Gloria

GREATOREX

*Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Comforter!
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end! Amen! Amen!*

The Call to Confession¹

All that God has created is called "very good!" Life in all its forms is complex and interrelated. Human life is precious and marvelously linked. Let us confess our neglect and irresponsibility in relation to all creation and to one another. In silence and stillness of these moments, let us confess before the Holy.

The Silent Confession

The Corporate Confession²

Let us pray to the Lord,

Triune God, the more we learn of your creation, the more we are filled with awe and wonder. Yet, our vision tends to narrow to our limited concerns, and we forget the immense reaches of the stewardship to which you appoint us. We have not taken good care of this planet, which is our home. Unfortunately, we have not always cared well for one another as sisters and brothers, as beloved faith community. Our doubts outweigh our obedience. God of the Trinity, help us fulfill our baptism and claim our discipleship, as forgiven and forgiving people!

The Assurance of Pardon³

Beloved faith community, hear the good news of Trinity. We are created in the image of God and are blessed with the capacity to reflect God's will in our daily lives. God cares for us and invests us with responsibility. Thus God honors us with high expectations and confidence in our willingness to seek out life's best for all people. We are loved! We are forgiven! Our baptism is renewed!

Thanks be to God!

The Response (insert)

Father, I Adore You

Terrye Coelho Strom

The Time for the Children

Pat Tucker

The Witness from the Epistles

II CORINTHIANS 13:11-13

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you!

Listen to what the Spirit of the still speaking God is saying!

Thanks be to God!

The Sung Response: PSALM 8

REST

*O Lord, our Lord, your majesty is sung in all the earth!
Who hung the moon and stars in space,
And gave to us your chosen race!
From dust a noble birth!*

*How vast the heav'ns, how small are we, and yet we feel your care!
O who are we to own such grace,
To see your glory face to face!
Thy goodness ev'rywhere?*

*All creatures bow beneath our feet! Through us their wants attend!
For life and love so freely giv'n,
May we preserve the gift of heav'n!
Earth's love that knows no end!*

The Witness from the Gospels

MATTHEW 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age!"

The Gospel for today!

Thanks be to God!

The Sermon

Trinity!

Dale Bishop

The Music for Meditation

The Service of Holy Communion

The Concerns of the Church

The Pastoral Prayer

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.**

The Receiving of Our Gifts

The Offertory

*The Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!
Praise Christ all creatures here below!
Praise Holy Spirit, evermore!
Praise triune God whom we adore!*

*The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*The Closing Hymn, No. 245 *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song* BRIDEGROOM

*The Procession of the Light

*The Benediction and Blessing

To our guests! At your choosing, we invite you to join us in a long-standing tradition at First Congregational United Church of Christ as we form a circle as one, joining hands and singing together our Fellowship Song.

*The Fellowship Song *Let There Be Peace on Earth* WORLD PEACE

*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.
With every step I take, let this be my joyous creed.
To take each moment and live each moment in peace, eternally!
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.*

The Music for Reflection

*You are invited to stand as you are able.

*The flowers adorning the Chancel for worship today
are given by Doug and Sharon Breit in honor of their years together.*

Lector: Barbara Helmick

Ushers: Woody and Miriam Chenault

The color for Trinity is White, symbolizing purity and victory. Trinity always follows Pentecost and celebrates the triune nature of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Parent, Child, Advocate and Comforter, Holy Companion, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

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God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



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Linda Brainard, Pianist
Norma Yaeger, Pianist
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First Congregational UCC - Eagle River, WI

June 4, 2023