

Worship at Trinity Lutheran Church (online edition)

June 28, 2020



RIZPAH MOURNS HER SONS

by lauren wright pittman

inspired by 2 samuel 3:7; 22:1-14 | graphic image
(see artist statement at end of bulletin)

Welcome to this new way of gathering together! While we cannot be physically present with one another, we know that as we gather in God's name, Christ is truly present.

Each Sunday, we will gather at 9:30am via Facebook Live. It will later be posted on our YouTube page (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEBfzqqPTuf8fe3PjPr21gA?view_as=subscriber)

If you know of others who are in need of signs of God's love and grace, who are curious and/or questioning, who would like to experience the peace of Christ – please invite them to join us “live” and/or to visit our Facebook page or YouTube channel.

If anyone needs to talk to someone amidst this time of anxiety, please feel free to contact Pastor Jen via the church office (trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com) and/or her personal email (revjedyer1@yahoo.com).

Our weekly emails are also posted on our website <http://trinitybrewsterny.org/wordpress/>.

Listed here is the order of worship so that you are able to follow along. We have included links to the hymns and an anthem picked by Franklyn that you may listen to in addition to our online service

*Congregational responses are in **bold**. You are invited to read aloud wherever you may be worshipping. Though I cannot hear you, we know that we are speaking together from where we all are for God's ears and attention.*

Setting up: Set aside some sacred space where you are to worship and prayer. Light a candle (or more), set out your Bible and/or a cross. Spend a few moments in silence before you begin.

Unraveled: This year's summer series is about the ways in which our lives are unraveled and the ways in which God weaves them back together again.

Introduction: This unfamiliar story startles us out of our complacency. A mother's grief calls for more than for us to join her in lament, but seeks justice and compassion.

We will be going LIVE before beginning the service with time for reflection to allow time for people to join our live feed before the spoken portion of our service begins.

PRELUDE “*March from Saul*” Georg Frideric Haendel

WELCOME

You are invited to comment below the video if there are particular prayers that you would like to lift up and have others pray about during the week.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Gracious God, we bring you the broken parts of ourselves.

Hem us in before and behind.

Creator God, we bring you the joyful parts of ourselves.

Weave us together in hope and praise.

God of new life, we bring you doubt and faith knotted up in our hearts.

Unravel our doubt. Weave faith into our hearts.

In hope and faith we pray

Draw us together and point us toward you.

In hope and faith we worship.

God, you are a God of invitation.

You invited Abraham to follow you.

You invited the disciples to drop their nets.

You invited the children to draw near.

You invited Peter to walk on water.

You invited the tax collector to dinner.

You invited the Samaritan woman into eternal life.

Just the same, you invite us to live lives of faith.

Give us the strength to say yes.

When we come to this space, we bring all of ourselves.

We bring joy and hope,

dreams and prayers,

grief and doubt,

memories and heartache.

God meets us here.

God hears our prayers and sees our scars.

With open hearts and authenticity,

Let us worship good and gracious God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We pause in our God’s humbling presence to lift up all those ways that we are bound by sin

Silence for reflection and self-examination

God of creation, **Humanity is capable of such evil. Stories in scripture alongside stories on the news remind us of that truth all the time. For the moments when we choose violence over peace, exclusion over inclusion, and fear over hope—forgive us. When we choose pride over what is right, and comfort over justice— Show us mercy. And when we numb our pain instead of leaning into empathy— Unravel us, for we long to be changed. Gratefully we pray, Amen.**

God beyond all expectations revealed the fullness of his love and grace on the cross and through the empty tomb. Jesus Christ gave all for us that we might live the fullness of life that God has given us. May God's mercy and grace be woven into our lives as we receive the entire forgiveness of all our sins in the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN *“Let Justice Flow Like Streams”* (ELW 717)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1_VDCy_CnEM

- 1 Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure
Enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant cleansing sure
- 2 let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed,
an ever flowing stream of faith translated into deed.
- 3 so many God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true,
and justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.

Text © Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox Press. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #734594-A.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord, hear the cries of Rizpah and all who seek justice. We pray for the long arc that bends toward justice: Grant us wisdom, give us courage for the facing of these days, by the power of the Spirit, all for the sake of the kin-dom that we share in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

READING: 2 SAMUEL 3:7; 21:1-14 Rizpah Mourns Her Sons (Public Grief That Inspires Action)

⁷Now Saul had a concubine whose name was Rizpah daughter of Aiah. And Ishbaal said to Abner, 'Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?'

²¹Now there was a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year; and David inquired of the LORD. The LORD said, 'There is blood-guilt on Saul and on his house, because he put the Gibeonites to death.' ²So the king called the Gibeonites and spoke to them. (Now the Gibeonites were not of the people of Israel, but of the remnant of the Amorites; although the people of Israel had sworn to spare them, Saul had tried to wipe them out in his zeal for the people of Israel and Judah.) ³David said to the Gibeonites, 'What shall I do for you? How shall I make expiation, that you may bless the heritage of the LORD?' ⁴The Gibeonites said to him, 'It is not a matter of silver or gold between us and Saul or his house; neither is it for us to put anyone to death in Israel.' He said, 'What do you say that I should do for you?' ⁵They said to the king, 'The man who consumed us and planned to destroy us, so that we should have no place in all the territory of Israel— ⁶let seven of his sons be handed over to us, and we will impale them before the LORD at Gibeon on the mountain of the LORD.' The king said, 'I will hand them over.'

⁷ But the king spared Mephibosheth, the son of Saul's son Jonathan, because of the oath of the LORD that was between them, between David and Jonathan son of Saul. ⁸The king took the two sons of Rizpah daughter of Aiah, whom she bore to Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth; and the five sons of Merab daughter of Saul, whom she bore to Adriel son of Barzillai the Meholahite; ⁹he gave them into the hands of the Gibeonites, and they impaled them on the mountain before the LORD. The seven of them perished together. They were put to death in the first days of harvest, at the beginning of the barley harvest.

¹⁰ Then Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth, and spread it on a rock for herself, from the beginning of harvest until rain fell on them from the heavens; she did not allow the birds of the air to come on the bodies by day, or the wild animals by night. ¹¹When David was told what Rizpah daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done, ¹²David went and took the bones of Saul and the bones of his son Jonathan from the people of Jabesh-gilead, who had stolen them from the public square of Beth-shan, where the Philistines had hung them up, on the day the Philistines killed Saul on Gilboa. ¹³He brought up from there the bones of Saul and the bones of his son Jonathan; and they gathered the bones of those who had been impaled. ¹⁴They buried the bones of Saul and of his son Jonathan in the land of Benjamin in Zela, in the tomb of his father Kish; they did all that the king commanded. After that, God heeded supplications for the land.

Word of God, Word of life **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation



From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license # _____.

HOLY GOSPEL: **John 19:25-30**

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 19th chapter **Glory to you, O Lord**

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), 'I am thirsty.' ²⁹A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: "O God, Why Are You Silent" (ELW 703)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7SQFPxpBI5E>

1. O God, why are you silent?
I cannot hear your voice.
The proud and strong and violent
All claim you and rejoice.
You promised you would hold me
With tenderness and care.
Draw near, O Love, enfold me,
And ease the pain I bear.

2. My hope lies bruised and battered,
My wounded heart is torn;
My spirit spent and shattered
By life's relentless storm.
Will you not bend to hear me,
My cries from deep within?
Have you no word to cheer me
When night is closing in?

3. Through endless nights of weeping,
Through weary days of grief,
My heart is in your keeping,
My comfort, my relief.
Come, share my tears and sadness,
Come, suffer in my pain;
O bring me home to gladness,
Restore my hope again.

4. May pain draw forth compassion,
Let wisdom rise from loss.
O take my heart and fashion
The image of your cross.
Then may I know your healing
Through healing that I share,
Your grace and love revealing
Your tenderness and care.

APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(You are invited to share in the comments, in your own gatherings and in your thoughts additional prayers. During the prayers, you are invited to write your prayers on strips of fabric to be woven into our art display. Pastor Jen will be adding prayers to our community prayer wheel during this time)

Woven together as your whole Church, we lift our prayers before you, O Lord, for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

God of eternity, throughout history you have seen nations rise and fall. You call your people of today to work for ways of peace and justice amidst the chaos of our world. Empower us to live with the boldness of your love and grace, bringing your righteousness to bear upon all people. Loving God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God of all creation, you intricately wove this earth together as a sign of your loving imagination.

Open our eyes to look beyond ourselves to see the wonders of all creation and to faithfully care for all that that has been entrusted to us. Loving God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God of all humanity, we are created in your image and you call us “very good”. Help us to see amidst our diversity of race, gender identity, background, and more – the beautiful tapestry of humanity. Let us celebrate with you the richness of the many ways that you are revealed to all people. Loving God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, parents, guardians and families mourn with Rizpah the death of their beloveds due to violence, prejudice, poverty, sickness and disease. May we join their laments and lift up our prayers for the healing of this world. May all that is broken in relationships and communities, in families and amongst strangers be healed by your grace and love. We pause now to lift up our prayers for all those that we name before you now.....(*pause*) and for all those who have no one to name them. Loving God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Here other petitions may be offered.

Pastor: In the face of our own uncertainties, we offer all these prayers before you, O Lord, for with you nothing is impossible as is revealed through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

The Peace of the Christ be with you always **And also with you**

(you are invited to share the peace with those who are with you, by commenting in the Facebook feed as well as by calling/sending a message of peace to someone)

OFFERING *(You are invited to listen to this song as our “anthem” for this week. You are also encouraged to continue to share your offering with Trinity be mailing them to the church office or by donating online via our website: www.trinitybrewsterny.org)*

ANTHEM: “God of Justice, We Must Go” Tim Hughes
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b3NeIRb1LY4>

OFFERING PRAYER

We give in grateful thanksgiving for all that God has given us. In the upside down world of the gospel, we measure our wealth not by what we have, but what we can give away. O Lord, accept these gifts that we offer generously to bless your church, your people, your whole creation in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

MISSION & MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN “Christ, be our Light” (ELW 715)

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.
Refrain

Refrain:

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow’r to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Refrain

3. Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Refrain

4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

Refrain

5. Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

Refrain

© 1993, Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #734594-A.

DISMISSAL

Go, in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God!**

(The worship has ended, let the service begin)

Worship Notes: Parts of today's worship are adapted by Pastor Jen Boyd from the following sources: Opening litany ("*Prayer by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*"); Prayer of the Day (adapted from Commemoration of Emanuel 9); Prayers of Intercession (Jennifer Boyd); *Offering prayer* (Rev. Quentin Chin <http://uccfiles.com/pdf/FeedmySheepEaster3April14.pdf>);

Scripture quotations from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission

In Our Prayers

We are particularly mindful of so many who are in need of prayers during this time. You are invited to contact Pastor Jen to add specific names to this list:

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Marriage of Peter & Danielle Donoghue

Prayers of Healing

John Reed (friend of Doris O'Toole)

Michael Masucci (Lauren Baldanza's youngest son)

Robert Peters (father of Stephen Peters)

Pastor Marv Henk

Diane & Frank Strittmatter (friends of Dorothy Kafalas)

Danielle Nestor (ankle surgery)

Mary Gerhardt (hip surgery)

Jill Russo's dad (cancer)

Maisa Tompuri

Prayers for those serving in the medical community

Jeannette Baldanza (Putnam Co. Dept. of Health)

Dr. Lauren Icken (Resident @ Albany Med)

Eric Klammer (FDNY)

Lisa Schuldt (Westchester Medical)

Jeff Von Bargaen (Putnam Hospital)

Prayers for essential workers

Justin Larocchia (Corrections)

Kystal Langke (Postal worker)

Prayers of the Wider Church

Bishop Elizabeth Eaton (Presiding Bishop of the ELCA) and ELCA staff

Bishop Paul Egensteiner (Bishop of Metro NY Synod) and synod staff

Mother Gladys Diaz (deployed Asst. to Bishop for our area)

Prayers for families who have had loved ones die

Families of

Additional Prayers

For college students and professors as their semesters draw to a close

For 2020 graduates that are unable to have commencements

Announcements

Re-open Plans: Following the recommendation of the Re-open Task force, the Church council has voted to re-open for in-person worship on **Sunday, July 5th (9:30am)**. Please carefully read the **Procedures document** to detailed information about what plans are in place and the expectations for those who plan to attend. There are numerous changes that are being made.

Please note: *If you do not feel ready or comfortable to returning to in-person worship, please do not feel pressured or guilty about your decision. We will continue to offer worship on Facebook Live. In addition, if decisions are made by local or state governments regarding this status change, we will follow their guidance.*

Bible Study: continues to meet Wednesday nights via Zoom (see link below) that will dovetail with our Sunday morning themes (see next announcement)

Summer Worship Series: *Unraveled* - What happens when our world falls apart? How do we press onward when our tightly-knit plans unravel into loose threads? What do we become when our identity—or the path we're on—comes undone? What if all of this is not the end we fear it will be? In our unraveling, sometimes life surprises us with unexpected joy, love, and hope—with a new beginning we couldn't have imagined. Sometimes we need God to unravel us, for we long to be changed.

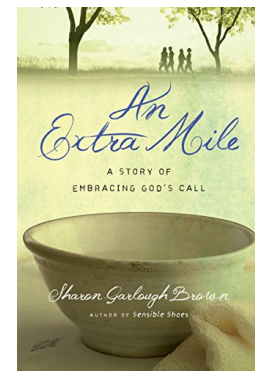
This series will explore **12 stories** of unraveled shame, identity, fear, grief, dreams, and expectations. These stories will frame our worship and be used in Bible study. There will also be **a study journal** as well as an **art project**. A separate email will be sent out with more details.



“Essential Pets of Trinity”: Watch for its release coming to a computer near you soon!

Faith Book Club will meet again on Monday, July 20th (7pm) The next book is “An Extra Mile: a story of embracing God’s call” by Sharon Garlough Brown. This is the last book in this series. All are invited to join us.

2020 Graduates: Please send the name of the graduates in your household so that we may honor them and celebrate with them. Please send their names as well as the place that they are graduating from and what degree (as applicable) to Pastor Jen (please send even if you think she already knows)



Graduation Pictures: Jennifer Morello has offered to put together a video of past and present graduation pictures from those who are a member of Trinity. Please submit your photos via e-mail to jenmorello24@gmail.com

Recycling efforts: Terracycle has discontinued the cereal bag collection so we will not be collecting them anymore at Trinity. Unfortunately, these are not allowed in your regular recycling bins and must be put in the trash. We will continue to collect the beauty products and dental products.

Also, for those of you with returnable bottles and cans, you can go to Carmel Beverage on Rt. 52 in Carmel which is open for returnables, or to Quick and Easy Bottle Returns on Old Route 6 in Carmel. You can find them on FaceBook.

Newsletter: Since we are sending out regular updates, we will not have a newsletter for May. If there is information that you need, please feel free to contact the church office (trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com) and/or Pastor Jen (revjdye1@yahoo.com)

Food Pantry: As the need grows for those in our community, you are invited to drop off items for Putnam CAP's food pantry. You may either drop them off here at Trinity or at the CAP office on Main Street in Brewster. You can find an updated list of their current needs on their website: <http://putnamcap.org/index.html>



Zoom Gatherings: Each of the gatherings use the same password (410002) except where indicated, but different meeting ids; see below for each of the links. *If you need the links at any time, please contact Pastor Jen (revjedyer1@yahoo.com or call/text 518-231-4633)*

Weekly gatherings

Monday (5pm) Praying together (Meeting ID: 785 777 354)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/785777354?pwd=NnJsNmZLQzJDVki1WHBNdlRCdEJYdz09>

Wednesdays (7pm) Bible study Meeting ID: 346 900 784)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/346900784?pwd=RnBtMEo4QUhQOG9veEZjRVNwMkd2QT09>

Fridays (10am) Thread & Yarn group (Meeting ID: 890-6099-7152)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89060997152?pwd=cW15NThGVzA5YUdsYWdKVGVJYdVBkUT09>

Sundays

10:30 Coffee Hour/Fellowship (Meeting ID: 435 263 0119) **PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4352630119?pwd=YXo0a241ZkJMMThKb1FSbm5ITEZqUT09>

Offering

You are also encouraged to continue to share your offering with Trinity by mailing them to the church office or by donating online via our website: www.trinitybrewsterny.org . Please note that we are not depositing offerings every week, but about once a month.

Artist's statement

RIZPAH (RIZPAH MOURNS HER SONS)

by lauren wright pittman inspired by 2 samuel 3:7; 22:1-14 | graphic image

I don't know what to say. This story leaves me without adequate ways to fully process the searing pain and utter wrecking of the life of this woman, Rizpah. She is a "low status" wife of Saul. She is raped by a man who denies his actions. Her two sons are sentenced to death as a king fumbles to rectify wrongs that cause a famine in the land.

She gathers her sackcloth and climbs the mountain of God to defend the bodies of her children and their half brothers. She spends day and night for up to six months fighting off birds of prey and animals of the night from ripping apart the bodies of her children and what shred of hope she has left. David hears of her passionate, radical, public grief and is moved to delayed justice. He calls for the burial of Saul and Jonathan, but also sees to the proper burial of the seven sons that he carelessly offered up to appease God. Justice in this scenario looks like sheltered, buried, dry bones. Rizpah's public unraveling causes the unraveling of David's distorted version of justice. God doesn't require a human sacrifice for the end of the bloodguilt. God ends the famine when David listens to the voice of this strong, fierce, unraveling woman. I pray that we learn from Rizpah. When we see injustice may we, like Rizpah, climb the mountain of God and defend those who cannot defend themselves. When we see someone unraveling in inexplicable grief, may this sight unravel us from the ways we are entangled with injustice.