Worship at Trinity Lutheran Church July 26, 2020



Holy Communion (bread only) will be offered for "drive thru" service (9am-9:25am & 10:15am-10:45am) as well as at the end of this worship service. If this time does not work, please contact Pastor Jen.

Welcome as we gather together in the name of God! Whether we are physically present with one another or gathering remotely, we know that Christ is truly present in our midst

Each Sunday, we will gather at 9:30am in our building as well as via Facebook Live. The service will 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.

HYMNS: While we gather for in-person worship, we will not be singing any of the hymns. We will either speak the words responsively and/or listen to the accompaniment. All the words have been included for devotional use.

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: The Israelites endured exile for generations, separated from their homes by war. We are "exiled" from our "normal" lives. How is God calling us to live in this time?

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 *Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort* Diderik Buxtehude

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. Please let us know that you are joining us online by commenting

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Sometimes life takes us where we don't expect.

Sometimes, God takes us where we don't expect.

In worship, we gather to get in touch with God's bigger narrative.

In worship, we gather to expand our hearts.

So let us worship the God of unending surprises.

Let us worship the God of love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We humbly pause in God's presence to lift up all those ways that we are bound by sin

Silence for reflection and self-examination

Creator God,

Being faithful has never been easy.

You asked Noah to build a ship.

You asked the Israelites to plant gardens and build homes while in exile.

You asked the prophets to speak challenging truths.

You asked the disciples to drop their nets and follow you.

And you ask us to love bigger than society wants to.

Being faithful has never been easy, and as a result, we often miss the mark.

Forgive us for holding tightly to human-made plans.

Forgive us for the times we say no to you so that we can say yes to ourselves.

Unravel the grip we have on our agenda so that we can make room for you.

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 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word (ELW 517)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ZTiGuPhaLI

1 Lord, keep us steadfast in your word; curb those who by deceit or sword would wrest the kingdom from your Son and bring to naught all he has done.

2 Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are Lord of lords alone; defend your holy church, that we may sing your praise eternally.

(INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE)

3 O Comforter of priceless worth, send peace and unity on earth; support us in our final strife and lead us out of death to life.

(INSTRUMENTAL)

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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

God of hope, how often have we found ourselves in exile, separated from your presence! Restore us, and let us find you when we seek you. Shed your grace upon us given through Jesus Christ our Lord **Amen.**

READING JEREMIAH 29:1-14 Encouraging the Israelites in Exile to Plant Gardens & Build Houses (When Dreams Unravel)

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. ²This was after King Jeconiah,

and the queen mother, the court officials, the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem, the artisans, and the smiths had departed from Jerusalem. ³The letter was sent by the hand of Elasah son of Shaphan and Gemariah son of Hilkiah, whom King Zedekiah of Judah sent to Babylon to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon.

It said: ⁴Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ⁶Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. ⁷But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. 8 For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, 9 for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord. 10 For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. 11 For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. 12 Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. 13 When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, 14 I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life! Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 11:9-13

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 11th chapter Glory to you, O Lord

⁹ "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for [e] a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit^[f] to those who ask him!"

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: All My Hope on God Is Founded (ELW 757)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3LCGh02Vew

INSTRUMENTAL

1 All my hope on God is founded who will all my trust renew, who through change and chance will guide me, only good and only true.
God unknown,
God alone,
call my heart to be thine own.

2 Mortal pride and earthly glory, sword and crown betray our trust; what with care and toil we fashion, tow'r and temple, fall to dust.

But thy pow'r,
hour by hour,
is my temple and my tow'r.

3 Great thy goodness, e'er enduring; deep thy wisdom, passing thought; splendor, light, and life attend thee, beauty springing out of naught.

Evermore from thy store new-born worlds rise and adore.

INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE

4 Still from earth to God eternal sacrifice of praise be done, high above all praises praising for the gift of God's own Son.

Christ doth call one and all:

ye who follow shall not fall.

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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

(Pastor Jen will be adding our fabric 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 peace, you desire only the best for and in your people. May we be filled with the spirit of your grace, enabling us to live as people of peace in world of injustice and violence. Bring your peace to rest upon all. Life-giving God, hear our prayer

Gracious God, you formed us in your image and asked us to care for your whole creation. Bless those who till the ground and provide sustenance for others. Strengthen those who provide so many essential services that enable us to live. Life-giving God, **hear our prayer**

God of the past, present and future, your transcend time itself; yet, you entered into our time

in Jesus to reveal your unending love and grace to us. Open our eyes and hearts to see your presence in all of our moments, particularly those that are difficult. Life-giving God, hear our prayer

God of wholeness, people are hurting and struggling and our hearts break. Bless the work of all those who take care of all who suffer in body, mind and spirit. May they be held within the embrace of our prayers and strengthened by your healing and life-giving presence. We pray especially this day for...(pause), for those who have no one to name them and for those who do not know Christ's name. Life-giving God, 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 a sign of 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: "Jeremiah sent a Letter" Stephen Fearing https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CHzsrg8PJwQ

OFFERING PRAYER

God of love, you abide with us; you provide for all our needs and guide us in your ways. Out of gratitude for your care, we bring our gifts before you. Use them for your work of caring, that all may feast at the table of abundance, walk without fear, and drink deeply from the cup of compassion given through 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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor Jen will be at the door as you depart to share the body of Christ with you. Please wait to remove your mask and eat it after you are outside.

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

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

Please maintain a distance of 6 feet between yourself and those who are not part of your household as you leave your pew and as you receive the Body of Christ. Also please keep your mask on and do not linger in the building.

SENDING HYMN *How Can I Keep from Singing* (ELW 763) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLPP3XmYxXg

INSTRUMENTAL ONLY (you are invited to use the words as part of your devotional practice)

1 My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation, I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

Refrain:

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

2 Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing. It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]

3 What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth. What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth. [Refrain] 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!

All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]

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(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 & Prayers of Intercession (Jennifer Boyd); Offering prayer (Mary Petrina Boyd, http://www.ministrymatters.com/)

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

Altar Flowers: Today's altar flowers are given by Michael & Heather Hargrave in celebration of their first wedding anniversary. God's blessings to you both and much happiness always!

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

Prayers of Healing

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 (cataracts)

Danny Brooks (Carol Brooks' nephew)

Ursula Merolla (recently hospitalized)

Ralph DiNarte (friend of George O'Toole)

Brian (friend of Rosemary Gebhardt)

Lynne Caruso and Janna Kreps (friends of Holly Larocchia)

Ethan and Dina (friends of Georgina Marek)

Phyllis Land (friend of Pam Carlson)

Margaret, Elizabeth, Kathie, Larry, and Millie. (friends of Joanne Icken)

Prayers for those serving in the medical community

Jeannette Baldanza (Putnam Co. Dept. of Health)
Michael Conroy (Putnam Hospital)
Dr. Lauren Icken (Resident @ Albany Med)
Eric Klammer (FDNY)
Holly Larocchia (Arms Acres)
Lisa Schuldt (Westchester Medical)
Jeff Von Bargen (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

Announcements

Trinity reads: the church Council is inviting the congregation to join them in reading "Dear Church: a love letter from a black preacher to the whitest denomination in the US" by Rev. Lenny Duncan, an ELCA pastor. We have been Invited and challenged by both the Metro NY synod and the ELCA to be deliberate in anti-racism understanding and efforts. We are each encouraged as well to sign the ELCA anti-racism pledge

(<u>https://www.elca.org/racialjusticepledge</u>) as a part of these efforts. The book is available through our publishing house, Augsburg Fortress and other booksellers. If you need assistance in obtaining the book, please contact Pastor Jen. We will be hosting discussions of the book in September.

Altar Flowers: Since we are meeting in person for worship, if you would like to have flowers placed on the altar, please contact Kathie Ruhs.

Re-open Plans: We are now open for in-person worship. 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. You can find the document on our website.

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). We will not meet when Church Council meets.

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. A **study journal** and an intergenerational **prayer art project** will be a part of this series as well.

Upcoming readings:

August 2: JOHN 4:1-29 The Samaritan Woman at the Well (Unraveled Shame)

August 9: JOHN 20:19-29 Doubting Thomas (When the Unimaginable Has Happened)

August 16: EXODUS 1:22; 2:1-10 Moses' Mother Gives Moses Up So He Can Live

(When Our Plans for Our Children Unravel)

August 23: JOB 28:12-28 Job's Lament & Loss (Seeking Understanding When Everything Has Fallen Apart)

August 30: MARK 5:1-20 Jesus Heals Legion, a Man Possessed by Demons (The Unraveling of the Mind)



"Essential Pets of Trinity": Check out our video now on YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEBfzqqPTuf8fe3PjPr21gA

Faith Book Club will not be meeting in August, but will meet again on Monday, Sept. 21st (7pm) The next book is All are invited to join us; invite anyone else among family and friends that you think would like to be a part of our discussions as well.

Recycling efforts: Our Terracycle and returnables recycling efforts are on hold for the time being. We will let you know as soon as we resume them.

Newsletter: Since we are sending out regular updates, we will not have a newsletter sent out. If there is information that you need, please feel free to contact the church office (trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com) and/or Pastor Jen (revjdyer1@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



School supplies: Putnam CAP still plans to help children in the county with their school needs, but are unable to receive

the actual items. They are asking for donations and/or gift cards to places like Target, Walmart, Staples and Office Max. They can be mailed directly to them at: 121 Main Street, Brewster, NY 10509.

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

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=cW15NThGVzA5YUdsYWdKVGJYdVBkUT09

Sundays

10:30 Coffee Hour/Fellowship (Meeting ID: 435 263 0119)

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

Offering

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. Please note that we are not depositing offerings every week, but about once a month.

Artist's statement

NEW ROOTS

(ENCOURAGING THE ISRAELITES IN EXILE TO PLANT GARDENS & BUILD HOUSES)

by lauren wright pittman inspired by jeremiah 29:1-7 | graphic image

I moved to a new state. As I write, I'm living out of boxes, the trunk of my car, and a storage unit. It's a jarring experience to move, even when it's a conscious choice. I've found myself in a place that resembles almost nothing like what I'd envisioned for my life. I left a city burgeoning with opportunities and culture; now I'm in a small town where I'd be thrilled to find one decent, local coffee shop. I'm beginning to realize visions about the future I wasn't even aware of. These unrealized dreams took root in my being in a way that feels defining to who I am. Something happens deep in our core when we feel out of place. The day I moved my immune system failed and I became sick and disoriented. The Israelites were forced into exile, ripped from their homes, places of worship, and way of life. They find themselves in Babylon where they dream of the day they'd return to where they belong. Jeremiah's words are comforting, yet painful. They are told to stay, plant gardens, and allow their families to flourish in this strange land. I'm sure this was disappointing, but when you hold onto the past, you miss the richness of the present. "Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you" (Jer. 29:7). Maybe when our lives unravel in transition, the loose ends of our dreams, the friends we leave behind, and the paths untraveled can become the roots that stabilize us in the new place where we find ourselves. These threads can create grounding that nourishes and transforms us into something new. This new place can be a gift—a place of flourishing and a conduit for deep, authentic connection with self and community.

— lauren wright pittman ©