

Trinity Sunday, June 7th 2020,

Emmanuel UC, North Bay

My name is Rev. Roni Beharry.

**Welcome to worship at Emmanuel United Church
on behalf of Elizabeth, John and Lorne.**

Welcoming our Viewers:

We welcome all our viewers, closer to home here in
North Bay and from your homes across this province and globe.

Prelude:

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

We light this candle because the light of Christ shines in this community
and in each one of us as we live God's love. The flame reminds us of
God's faithful presence in times of trouble and uncertainty.

At Emmanuel United Church in North Bay, we strive to be a
welcoming, caring community, committed to practices of spiritual
nurture and sharing God's love as revealed in Jesus Christ.

Let's take a moment to breathe and centre ourselves.

*Our Call to Worship and Opening prayers are adapted from the Abingdon Worship
Annual, June 7th 2020. Written by Hans Holznagel.*

Call to Worship:

Creation's diversity reflects God's splendour!

For the "many-ness" of God's creative splendour,

We give thanks.

Before Jesus's humility,

and the power of Christ's commands,

we stand in wonder.

For the mystery of relationships—

God is with us, and we stand with one another,

We seek God's holy wisdom.

Opening Prayer:

You are One, O God, and you are Three.

You are majesty and mystery.

Make us one.

Make us "we."

I am because we are. Amen

Hymn: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty" VU #315

Prayer of Confession:

Knowingly or unknowingly; overtly or covertly, we have contributed
to the fracturing of your created order. You created diversity and called
it very good. You delighted in diversity! We have problematized
difference. We have abused the authority you have given us, and
chosen division and micro-aggressions. We have from time to time,
rejected your law and order. We have complicatedly and explicitly
contributed to the oppression of your creation. We have abused the rule
you entrusted to us and we are all broken. This current chaos is our
collective doing. Forgive us we pray. **Amen.**

Words of Assurance:

Now the earth was formless and empty, dense opaqueness was over the
surface of the deep and the Spirit of God hovered there, animating life
out of chaos. Hover over our current chaos and create life out of our
fractured human history. Come and pray in us Holy Spirit. Come and
visit us breath of God. **Amen.**

Time for Youth: "What is privilege?"

As Jesus taught us, we pray together:

We pray to our God:

Our mother and 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,

the power and the glory, forever and ever,

Amen.

Psalm 8

One: These are the prayers of our fore parents of faith.

**ALL: We join our prayers to their prayers,
through the power of the Spirit.**

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1: 1-2:4a

One: Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the church.

ALL: Come and pray in us, Holy Spirit.

Meditation: “Holy Chaos!”

Hymn: “Who Is My Mother?” MV#178

Announcements

Offering

Offertory Prayer: *Adapted from the Abingdon Worship Annual 2020, June 7th, 2020 Written by: Hans Holznagel.*

Gracious God, Holy Trinity,
we offer these gifts and ourselves
as instruments of your ever-new creation. Amen

Agape Meal: Roni - Invitation to Agape feast

Friends, during this time of social distancing, we know that the separation and isolation we have been facing as a body of believers, and simply as very social Canadians, has been something painful for many of us. And so we want to share a very simple and special celebration with you through this worship: an Agape Feast, or a Love Feast.

We want to invite all of you viewers to find three elements and place them on a nearby table:

- a candle to symbolise Jesus Christ as the light of the world, and something to light the candle with of course
- bread to symbolise the body of Christ (a slice of bread, a bun, a piece of loaf cake, rice crackers - whatever you have available)
- and a drink (grape or other fruit juice, water, tea - whatever drink you have available)

So it's a candle, something like bread, and a drink.

As you prepare these physical elements to celebrate this Agape feast in spirit with all those who are joining in our worship near and far,

I invite Elizabeth to share with me in this feast.

While you find these symbolic items John will provide some instrumental music.

Instrumental Selection: “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”
VU#400

Elizabeth: (until the section titled “Focus on the Table”)

In Acts of the Apostles Chapter 2: Verse 42 & 47 we read:
“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people.”

An Agape or Love Feast was a common meal of the early Church. The meal was provided by Church members for fellowship, for charity to the poor, and for widows. Thus, it was a visible expression of unity, the breaking of social barriers, today it symbolizes the dismantling of racism and genuine caring of the Church.

Welcome to this celebration in the name of Christ. We come to share in God’s love.

ALL: We come to share our food and our lives.

We come to break bread together, and open ourselves to each other.

ALL: We come to express our faith and our thanks.

May God’s Holy Spirit be at this celebration and the fellowship of God’s people.

ALL: As we share this bread and wine, we give thanks for the abundance, and we remember those who do not have enough.

May God give food to those who are hungry.

ALL: May God give us a hunger for justice, and a determination to serve those who hunger.

FOCUS ON THE TABLE

Roni: On the table in the midst of this community with whom Christ is present we set symbols to remind us of his promises to us: A candle, to remind us of the way, “I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life”.

ALL: WE LIGHT THIS CANDLE AS A SYMBOL OF CHRIST’S PRESENCE IN OUR LIVES. Our candle is heart-shaped, reminding us that we are formed in love and each one of us, known

by name, is called "Beloved of God". God' We include the following persons and situations in our sharing of life this day...

Bread, a symbol to remind us of God's love, "I am the bread of life. The bread that I shall give is myself for the life of the world".

ALL: A REMINDER THAT WE ARE FED AND NOURISHED AND STRENGTHENED BY CHRIST

Wine, a symbol that reminds us of God's saving love, "I am the True vine sent from heaven" My self-sacrifice cleanses you from all sins.

ALL: IT IS THE SACRIFICE OF CHRIST JESUS WHICH HEALS AND CLEANSSES US.

Let us pray together -

All: God, we welcome your presence with us. May the food and companionship we share nourish and heal our bodies, hearts and minds. And may our spirits be refreshed as we live in the light of your presence. With us now and at all times and places. Amen. Right where you are, we invite you to share in these symbols of bread and wine, remembering always that though we are apart, we are one body in Christ. We eat and drink together.

Instrumental Selection: "Lord Listen to Your Children Praying"
VU#400

RONI: Behold, the fragments of our feast. Our meal is ended, but God's banquet continues as we go from this place.

PEOPLE: Let us take the banquet into the world and never give up until all people are fed and included.

ELIZABETH: May the peace of Christ be upon you, and may you be channels of peace and justice.

ALL: Amen.

Hymn: "Creating God, We Give You Thanks" VU#292

Commissioning and Benediction

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

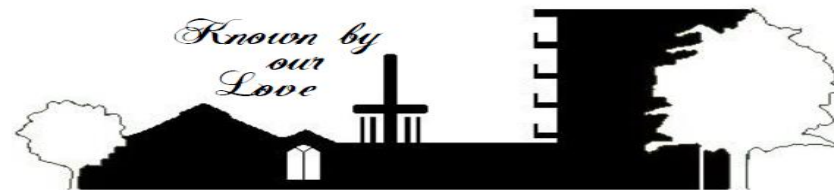
The love of God,

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all,

and give you peace. Amen.

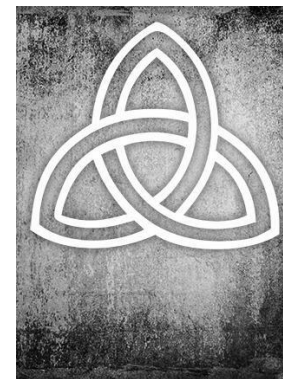
Sung Blessing: "Three-fold Amen"

Postlude:



*Emmanuel United Church shall be a caring,
welcoming faith community, nurturing
spiritual life and sharing God's love
and grace as*

Trinity Sunday



June 7th, 2020

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