

God Invites us to the Table

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We Join Earth and Heaven in Song

Holy, holy, holy,

Lord, God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name

In earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy,

Merciful and mighty

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

We Proclaim the Mystery of Our Faith

Christ has died!

Christ is risen!

Christ will come again!

God Feeds us at the Table

We Share Praises and Requests and We Pray Together

We Share Announcements

God Sends Us

We Sing the Doxology

Our song is from the Iona Community. GIA Publications, Inc.

Our prayer of confession is from Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church.

The Early Service at Trinity

October 1, 2023 - 8:30 am

Ordinary Time – World Wide Communion Sunday

God Gathers Us for Worship

Candle, Bible, Water, Towel, Bread, and Cup

“Come All You People (Uyai Mose)”

Uyai mose, tinamate Mwari (x 3)

Uyai mose zvino.

Come all you people, come and praise your Maker (x 3)

Come now and worship the Lord.

We Hear God’s Vision for a Multi-colored Kingdom

LEADER: After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.

They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

PEOPLE: “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me,

“These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”

“For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
**They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike
them, nor any scorching heat;**
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to the spring of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

We Sing a Hymn of Praise – “Before the Throne of God Above”

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb
My perfect, spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I Am
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood

We Affirm our Faith (using portions of the Belhar Confession)

**We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
who gathers, protects and cares for the church
through Word and Spirit.**

**We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,
the communion of saints called from the entire human family.**

**We believe that God has entrusted the church
with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ,
that the church is called to be the salt of the earth
and the light of the world.**

**We believe that God has revealed himself as the one
who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;**

**that God calls the church to follow him in this,
for God brings justice to the oppressed
and gives bread to the hungry;**

that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;

**that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger,
helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;**

**that for God pure and undefiled religion is
to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering;**

**that God wishes to teach the church
to do what is good and to seek the right.**

**We believe that the church must therefore
stand by people in any form of suffering and need,
and that the church must strive against any form of injustice,
so that justice may roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream!**

**My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God**

**One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God**

Songwriters: Vikki Cook / Charitie Bancroft

Before the Throne of God Above lyrics © Sovereign Grace Worship

We Confess Our Sins

**Loving God,
this morning we bring You our confession.
Hear us, Lord.
We confess we have gone astray.
Shepherd us, Lord.
We confess we often love You half-heartedly.
Make us whole, Lord.
We confess we trivialize Your sacrifice.
Give us perspective, Lord.
We confess we find most of our strength in ourselves.
Be our strength, Lord.
We confess little zeal for Your glory.
Give us passion, Lord.
We confess we've done so many things wrong.
Forgive us, Lord.
We confess we often don't love You well.
Love us, Lord.**

Silent confession

**We ask these things in the Name of Jesus Christ,
who exchanges our confession for abundant life in Him.
Amen.**

God Assures Us of Forgiveness & Calls Us to Faithful Living
John 3:16-17

We Share the Peace of Christ

**The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.**

God Speaks Through the Word and Spirit

"Trinity's DNA: Growing in Community" – 1 John 4:7-21

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹ God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶ So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷ Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.

¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ²¹ The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.