

**Sunday, March 14, 2010**

**Reflections**

The more we know of God, the more unreservedly we will trust him; the greater our progress in theology, the simpler and more childlike will be our faith. - J. G. Machen

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**Sunday Worship Service Participants**

**March 14**

Greeter - Elizabeth Demeusy  
Childcare Workers - Linda Mason and Denise Kingsley  
Scripture Reading - Laura Sterrett

**March 21**

Greeter - Linda Mason  
Childcare Workers - Michael Sterrett and April Claggett  
Scripture Reading - Matt Oquist

**March 28**

Greeter - Denise Kingsley  
Childcare Workers - Janet Surprenant and Matthew Demeusy  
Scripture Reading - April Claggett

# Service of Praise

## **Prelude**

We invite you to prepare your heart for the worship of our God.

## **\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 47:1, 6-9

*Leader: Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.*

**People:** For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise.

*Leader: God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.*

**People:** The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham, for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted.

## **\*Hymn of Praise**

Holy, Holy, Holy

Number 100 in Trinity Hymnal

## **\*Prayer of Adoration**

## **\*Hymn of Praise**

The God of Abraham Praise (verses 1-3, 6)

Number 34 in Trinity Hymnal

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*\*Congregation standing*

# Call to Renewal

## Confession of Sin

O God, our great shepherd,  
you tenderly gather us as lambs,  
carrying us with your all-embracing love.  
Yet, like sheep, we wander from you:  
following our own ways, ignoring your voice,  
distrusting your provisions.  
Forgive our stubborn rebellion, our hardened hearts, our lack of trust.  
Refresh us once again by your quiet waters of mercy  
and restore our souls by your redeeming love.  
Guide our paths, that we might follow you more closely.  
Through Jesus Christ, our good shepherd, we pray. Amen.

*Worship Sourcebook (Reprinted by permission from The Worship Sourcebook, © 2004, CRC Publications.)*

## A Moment of Private Confession

### Assurance of Pardon

1 Peter 1:18-19

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

### \* +Hymn of Thanks

Lamb of God  
See next page

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*\*Congregation standing*

*+Young children may be dismissed at this time.*





# Call to Commitment

Collection of Our Gifts to God and to His Church

## Doxology

Text: Thomas Ken, 1709

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH L.M.

Louis Bourgeois's *Genevan Psalter*, 1551

Piano

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all crea- tures here be -

low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

A - - - - - men.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

## Scripture Reading

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them.

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable:

<sup>11</sup>"There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup>And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup>"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.'" <sup>20</sup>And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup>For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup>And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup>but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'" "

## Prayer of Intercession

### Sermon

Birth of Isaac

Genesis 21-22:19 (ESV)

#### *Genesis 21*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as he had promised. <sup>2</sup>And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. <sup>3</sup>Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. <sup>4</sup>And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. <sup>5</sup>Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. <sup>6</sup>And Sarah said, "God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me." <sup>7</sup>And she said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

<sup>8</sup>And the child grew and was weaned. And Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. <sup>9</sup>But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, laughing. <sup>10</sup>So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son, for the son of this slave woman shall not be heir with my son Isaac." <sup>11</sup>And the thing was very displeasing to Abraham on account of his son. <sup>12</sup>But God said to Abraham, "Be not displeased because of the boy and because of your slave woman. Whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for through Isaac shall your offspring be named. <sup>13</sup>And I will make a nation of the son of the slave woman also, because he is your offspring." <sup>14</sup>So Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.

#### *Genesis 22*

<sup>1</sup>After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." <sup>2</sup>He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." <sup>3</sup>So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup>Then Abraham said to his

young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." <sup>6</sup>And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup>And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" <sup>8</sup>Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

<sup>9</sup>When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup>Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup>But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." <sup>12</sup>He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." <sup>13</sup>And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

<sup>15</sup>And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup>and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup>I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, <sup>18</sup>and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice." <sup>19</sup>So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba.

## **Sermon Outline**

### **Biblical Text**

Birth of Isaac (Ge. 21:1-14)

Genesis 22

Is 53:7, 1 Cor. 5:7

### **Application**

The Plan, Faith & Submission to God

James 4:7

### **Conclusion**

**\*Hymn of Response**

All to Jesus I Surrender  
Number 562 in Trinity Hymnal

**\*Confession of Faith**

The Heidelberg Catechism  
Question 1

*Leader: What is your only comfort in life and death?*

People: That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

**\*Song of Benediction**

Fairest, Lord Jesus (verse 4)  
Number 170 in Trinity Hymnal

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,  
now and forevermore be thine.

**\*Benediction**

**Announcements**

(Please be seated)

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*\*Congregation standing*

# Announcements\*

There is a **church luncheon** today after the service. Please stay and fellowship.

## Weekly Schedule:

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Prayer	Sanctuary
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary
	4 p.m.	Alpha Marriage Course	Eng Home
Wednesday	6:30 p.m.	Midweek Small Group	Claggett Home
	6:30 p.m.	Midweek Small Group	Brooks Home

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## Budget Information:

Nine Months Data June 2009 through February 2010:

Regular Giving	\$53,818.10
<i>(excl. Mercy Fund, Building Fund and Memorials)</i>	
Fund Raising	\$7,280.00
Total Giving (Income)	\$61,098.10
Actual Expenses (excl. Mercy Fund)	\$66,311.04
Budget	\$74,270.57
Shortfall to Expense (Income - Expense)	(\$5,212.94)
Shortfall to Budget (Income - Budget)	(\$13,172.47)

*\*If you have any announcements, please contact the Oquists.  
Phone: 603-881-3808, Email: announcements@nashuapca.org*