

**Sunday, April 18, 2010**

## **Reflections**

“Most people, if they have really learned to look into their own hearts, would know that they do want, and want acutely, something that can not be had in this world. There are all sorts of things in this world that offer to give it to you, but they never quite keep their promise. The longings which arise in us when we first fall in love, or first think of some foreign country, or first takes up some subject that excites us, are longings which no marriage, no travel, no learning, can really satisfy. I am not now speaking of what would be ordinarily called unsuccessful marriages, or holidays, or learned careers. I am speaking of the best possible ones. There was something we have grasped at, in that first moment of longing, which just fades away in reality. I think everyone knows what I mean. The wife may be a good wife, and the hotels and scenery may have been excellent, and chemistry may be an interesting job: but something has evaded us.”  
- C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

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## **Sunday Worship Service Participants**

### **April 18**

Greeter - Allison Wakefield  
Childcare Workers - Pat Newman and Teck Hia  
Scripture Reading - Janet Surprenant

### **April 25**

Greeter - Paula Townsend  
Childcare Workers - Aaron Brooks and Karen Eng  
Scripture Reading - Paula Townsend

### **May 2**

Greeter - Elizabeth Demeusy  
Childcare Workers - Laura Sterrett and Paula Townsend  
Scripture Reading - Bill Townsend

# Service of Praise

## **Prelude**

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

## **\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 57:9-11

*Leader: I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you among the peoples.*

**People:** For great is your love, reaching to the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

**ALL:** Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

## **\*Hymn of Praise**

To God Be the Glory

Number 55 in Trinity Hymnal

## **\*Prayer of Adoration**

## **\*Hymn of Praise**

Wonderful, Merciful Savior

See next page

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*\*Congregation standing*



# Call to Renewal

## Confession of Sin

Almighty God and loving Father, we thank you for placing us in covenant relationships, in homes and families and friendships. Forgive us for taking our vows and promises lightly. Forgive us for the breakdown of family life, for our lack of trust in one another, for failing to give time to our families, for failing to teach and live by your truth and grace. Jesus, our heavenly brother, teach us every day to love and serve, to cherish and protect those with whom we live. In your name we pray. Amen.

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## A Moment of Private Confession

### Assurance of Pardon

Ephesians 1:7-8

In [Christ] we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

### \* + Hymn of Thanks

There is a Redeemer

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

### Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

#### Scripture Reading

John 21:1-19 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup>Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. <sup>7</sup>That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. <sup>8</sup>The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup>When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup>When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." <sup>16</sup>He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." <sup>17</sup>He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress

yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." <sup>19</sup>(This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

## **Prayer of Intercession**

### **Sermon**

Laban: The Good Uncle

Genesis 29

<sup>1</sup>Then Jacob went on his journey and came to the land of the people of the east. <sup>2</sup>As he looked, he saw a well in the field, and behold, three flocks of sheep lying beside it, for out of that well the flocks were watered. The stone on the well's mouth was large, <sup>3</sup>and when all the flocks were gathered there, the shepherds would roll the stone from the mouth of the well and water the sheep, and put the stone back in its place over the mouth of the well.

<sup>4</sup>Jacob said to them, "My brothers, where do you come from?" They said, "We are from Haran." <sup>5</sup>He said to them, "Do you know Laban the son of Nahor?" They said, "We know him." <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Is it well with him?" They said, "It is well; and see, Rachel his daughter is coming with the sheep!" <sup>7</sup>He said, "Behold, it is still high day; it is not time for the livestock to be gathered together. Water the sheep and go, pasture them." <sup>8</sup>But they said, "We cannot until all the flocks are gathered together and the stone is rolled from the mouth of the well; then we water the sheep."

<sup>9</sup>While he was still speaking with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep, for she was a shepherdess. <sup>10</sup>Now as soon as Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, Jacob came near and rolled the stone from the well's mouth and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother. <sup>11</sup>Then Jacob kissed Rachel and wept aloud. <sup>12</sup>And Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's kinsman, and that he was Rebekah's son, and she ran and told her father.

<sup>13</sup>As soon as Laban heard the news about Jacob, his sister's son, he ran to meet him and embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his house. Jacob told Laban all these things, <sup>14</sup>and Laban said to him, "Surely you are my bone and my flesh!" And he stayed with him a month.

*(continued on next page)*

<sup>15</sup>Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" <sup>16</sup>Now Laban had two daughters. The name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. <sup>17</sup>Leah's eyes were weak, but Rachel was beautiful in form and appearance. <sup>18</sup>Jacob loved Rachel. And he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." <sup>19</sup>Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." <sup>20</sup>So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

<sup>21</sup>Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." <sup>22</sup>So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and made a feast. <sup>23</sup>But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and he went in to her. <sup>24</sup>(Laban gave his female servant Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her servant.) <sup>25</sup>And in the morning, behold, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" <sup>26</sup>Laban said, "It is not so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. <sup>27</sup>Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." <sup>28</sup>Jacob did so, and completed her week. Then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife. <sup>29</sup>(Laban gave his female servant Bilhah to his daughter Rachel to be her servant.) <sup>30</sup>So Jacob went in to Rachel also, and he loved Rachel more than Leah, and served Laban for another seven years.

<sup>31</sup>When the LORD saw that Leah was hated, he opened her womb, but Rachel was barren. <sup>32</sup>And Leah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Reuben, for she said, "Because the LORD has looked upon my affliction; for now my husband will love me." <sup>33</sup>She conceived again and bore a son, and said, "Because the LORD has heard that I am hated, he has given me this son also." And she called his name Simeon. <sup>34</sup>Again she conceived and bore a son, and said, "Now this time my husband will be attached to me, because I have borne him three sons." Therefore his name was called Levi. <sup>35</sup>And she conceived again and bore a son, and said, "This time I will praise the LORD." Therefore she called his name Judah. Then she ceased bearing.

### **\*Hymn of Response**

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!  
Number 535 in Trinity Hymnal

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*\*Congregation standing*

## **Sermon Outline**

### **Biblical Text**

Rev 5:5 => “Lion of the tribe of Judah”

### **Application**

# Service of Communion

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

### Guidelines for Reception of Communion

Communion, also called The Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation which proclaims the gospel and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, it is important that you carefully consider the claims of the gospel and the grace that is offered through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. We encourage you to talk with an elder of the church and spend this time now in prayer and meditation on the scriptures in the bulletin.

## Scripture Verses for Those Not Communing

Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.

- Isaiah 53:4-6

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

- John 3:16-18

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

- John 14:6

Knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- Romans 6:6-8, 22-23

## **\*Confession of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

## **\*Song of Benediction**

Worship Christ the Risen King

Rise O Church and lift your voices  
Christ has conquered death and hell  
Sing as all the earth rejoices  
Resurrection anthems swell  
Stand in triumph stand in triumph  
Worship Christ the Risen King

## **\*Benediction**

### **Announcements**

(Please be seated)

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*\*Congregation standing*

# Announcements\*

**The Essentials:** Last week we began a 10 week course on "The Importance of the Gospel." We are meeting at Barnes & Noble on DW Highway in Nashua at 3 p.m. Contact Jason for more information.

## Weekly Schedule:

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Prayer	Sanctuary
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service	Sanctuary
	3 p.m.	The Essentials	Barnes & Noble
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:

Ten Months Data June 2009 through March 2010

Regular Giving	\$61,230.10
<i>(excl. Mercy Fund, Building Fund and Memorials)</i>	
Fund Raising	\$7,380.00
Total Giving (Income)	\$68,610.10
Actual Expenses (excl. Mercy Fund)	\$76,261.00
Budget	\$82,522.86
Shortfall to Expense (Income - Expense)	(\$7,650.90)
Shortfall to Budget (Income - Budget)	(\$13,912.76)

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