

SUNDAY, May 26, 2024

Trinity Sunday

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006

Rev. Kil Jae Park, Pastor

Jackie Han, Music Minister

“The born-again Christian sees life not as a blurred, confused, meaningless mass, but as something planned and purposeful.”

– Billy Graham

PRELUDE

“Spirit of Faith, Come Down”

Jackie Han

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

* CALL TO WORSHIP

L: God’s love is poured out on God’s world.

P: From the foundations of time, God’s love is woven into all things.

L: When we cry "Abba, Father!", God hears and lovingly responds to us.

P: Thanks be to God who forgives and lifts us up.

L: Now we are called to be born anew!

P: Open our hearts and our lives that we may truly be born with hearts aflame with God’s love. AMEN.

* OPENING HYMN

“To God Be the Glory”

UMH # 98

**1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

Refrain:

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!**

**O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!**

**2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;**

the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (Refrain)

**3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Refrain)**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)

We are so like Nicodemus, Lord. We come to you, hiding in the shadows of our own fears and worries. We want you to give us peace and hope in our hearts. We want to know that everything will be all right; that the world will cease to be a place of terror and war. We want to be born again in a spirit of hope. And yet, we resist submitting our whole lives to you and commit ourselves to the life of love and peace that you desire for us to live. Forgive our selfishness, Lord. Help us to surrender our whole life to you in faith and obedience. Open the eyes of our hearts and help us to see and choose the life of true joy and happiness that is offered to us in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. **AMEN.**

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG “Where the Spirit of the Lord Is” TFWS # 2119

**Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is peace;
Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is love.**

**There is comfort in life’s darkest hour; there is light and life,
There is help and power in the Spirit, in the Spirit of the Lord.**

SCRIPTURE

John 3:1-17

1 Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council.

2 He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

3 Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

4 “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

5 Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.

6 **Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.**

7 You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’

8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

9 “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

10 “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things?

11 Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony.

12 I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?

13 No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man.

14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,

15 that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

“Here I am, Lord”

CUMC Choir

MESSAGE

“The Second Birth”

Pastor Park

RECEIVING THE MORNING’S OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY #94**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***DEDICATION**

PRAYER

THE 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. Amen.

MEMORIAL DAY VIDEO AND PRAYER

Multimedia

*** CLOSING HYMN**

“Because He Lives”

UMH # 364

**1. God sent His son, they called Him, Jesus
 He came to love, heal and forgive
 He lived and died to buy my pardon
 An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.**

Chorus

**Because He lives, I can face tomorrow
 Because He lives, all fear is gone
 Because I know He holds the future
 and life is worth the living
 just because He lives.**

**2. How sweet to hold a newborn baby
 and feel the pride and the joy he gives
 But greater still the calm assurance
 this child can face uncertain days because He Lives.
 (Chorus)**

**3. And then one day, I'll cross that river
 I'll fight life's final war with pain
 And then, as death gives way to vict'ry
 I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He reigns.
 (Chorus)**

**4. Because He lives, I can face tomorrow
 Because He lives, all fear is gone
 Because I know He holds the future
 and life is worth the living
 just because He lives
 (Chorus)**

*** BENEDICTION**

Pastor Park

POSTLUDE

“As the Deer”

Jackie Han

Please remain seated for the postlude

***Stand as able**

Announcements:

- **Altar Flowers are given by Pastor Karen & Tony Gazzillo to the Glory of God and in celebration with love for their son Michael Gazzillo’s birthday.**
- **Special thanks to Carol O’Donnell for hosting the time of Fellowship today. Please join us for fellowship immediately following the worship service.**
- **Join us in the sanctuary on Tuesday, May 28th at 10 am for the Prayer Circle & Chant; 30-45 minutes of prayer, meditation & peace in a busy world.**
- **There will be a Church Council meeting on Tuesday, May 28th at 7:30 pm.**
- **The church office will be closed on Monday, May 27th in observance of Memoria Day.**