

Sebastopol United Methodist Church  
Sunday, May 30, 2021  
TRINITY SUNDAY and PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY  
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*Seasonal Theme:*

God as our parent, our Savior, and spiritual presence with us now.

*Theme for the Day:*

God brings us together into his family of love and mercy; we become inheritors of God's undeserved love and glory.

*Call to Worship:*

*(please read the **BOLD** texts, aloud or silently as you prefer)*

Pastor: Give the Lord glory and power. Adore the Lord, resplendent and holy.

People: **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of God's glory.**

Pastor: Heed the voice of the Lord, full of power. Regard the voice of the Lord, full of splendor.

People: **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of God's glory.**

Pastor: The God of glory thunders. The Lord's voice flashes flames of fire.  
In God's temple the people cry, "Glory!" The Lord will give strength to the people.

Unison: **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of God's glory. The Lord will bless the people with peace. Amen.**

*Centering and Prayer of Illumination:*

*(please read along with Pastor Lunisi, aloud or silently as you prefer)*

O loving parents, one with humanity, and Holy Spirit, living presence of God, we thank you for the countless blessings you pour into our lives. Our hearts rejoice for your infinite love, which echoes through creation; for Christ's love, which came to us in human form; for the Spirit's love, which calls our hearts into fellowship with you. May your Living Spirit dwell within us, so your light shines brightly as we listen to and contemplate the words in today's message. Bless us as we bow before you. In the name and way of Jesus we pray. Amen.

*Readings from Scripture:*    **Romans 8:12-17**            **John 3:1-17**

*Message:*    **LOVE, PEACE, AND JUSTICE!**

*Pastoral Prayer*

*The Lord's Prayer* (UMH 895)

*(we read together)*

**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 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 and ever. Amen.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication:*

*With thanksgiving for God's gifts to us, let us offer ourselves and the fruits of our labor for God's work in the world. Thank you for continuing to send your offerings and pledges by mail.*

*(please read along with Pastor Lunisi, aloud or silently as you prefer)*

O God, with these offerings, which are portions of your gifts to us, we give from our hearts with love and commitment to you. Thank you for your Spirit's gifts to us, so bountiful and astounding. They are blessings upon blessings which reveal your presence among us as the merciful, holy, and loving one. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

*Blessing and Benediction:*

Stay calm with a song of peace and love in your hearts. Turn your hearts to others in this wayward world we live in – show them love, peace, and justice. Be the voice of God and the peace of the children of God.

*Scripture Readings – May 30, 2021*

*first reading – ROMANS 8:12-17*

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh – for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are

children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ – if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

*second reading – JOHN 3:1-17*

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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***Thank you for joining us today in worship.***

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