

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Need help: Need altar flowers for most Sundays through Dec. 17.

November 19: Confirmation PARENT meeting with Pastor Timothy.

Confirmands and parents meet with Pastor Timothy at SAVOR, 12:30 p.m. following worship service. This is an information and planning meeting. Please contact one of the pastors if your child is interested in participating in Confirmation classes next spring. Your child should be at least 11 to benefit the most from this class.

November 26: G.F. Handel's MESSIAH at the Shanghai Oriental Arts Center. Meg Ideker is singing. The concert is at 90% full.

December 3: First Sunday of Advent. FAMILY SUNDAY.

December 10: Unrehearsed Christmas Pageant! Calling all children.

You can have a part in the Christmas pageant by being a shepherd, or angel, or even some of the animals, like sheep! Circle this date on your calendar, so that you can participate in a Christmas tradition at Trinity.

December 10: Bake Sale. Liam Richmond is calling for volunteers to bake for the Bake Sale, proceeds to benefit a local charity, soon to be named. Look for an email soon!

December 10: Granny Han Project. Details will be forthcoming. We want to help the students of the Granny Han school as we have in the past with donations of clothing items like socks and underwear, and perhaps some school supplies.

READER'S CHOIR: Want to be in a Reader's Choir next Sunday? Contact PT for more information.

REMEMBER TO PRAY ...

- Those grieving in the aftermath of the terror in Texas last Sunday.
- For the leaders of USA and CHINA who are meeting now.
- Holly Raatz's daughter, Brianna, is almost 36 weeks into her pregnancy and is being tested for preeclampsia. Tests results soon.
- Remember Will Kohn, the little boy who needed a heart transplant? We were praying for him last August. Then he received a new heart. There is a *USA Today* story about him. (See Weekly Update email.) Thanks Kathy Gordon!
- For all those of our congregation who are traveling in the next couple of weeks.

Electronic Giving or Giving in the USA

Would you prefer to give electronically?

Please see our Treasurer, John Ideker, for details.

Weekly News & Updates

Want to receive Trinity emails? Send Pastor Timothy an email at: revtfmerrill@aol.com. Or drop your business card in the offering plate.

根据中华人民共和国的法律，只允许外国护照持有人在场参加。
In accordance with the laws of the People's Republic of China, only foreign passport holders are allowed to attend services here at Trinity Congregation.

SERMON NOTES

Smoking or Non-Smoking? What Does the Bible Say about Hell (1)

Today: The Old Testament (Hebrew Bible) and Hell

Next Sunday: The New Testament and Hell

Introduction: Why does this topic interest us?

- Fear: Am I going to hell?
- Curiosity: Is he going to hell?
- Confusion: Would a loving God send someone to hell?

1. Words for hell in the Hebrew Bible.

Sheol

Gehenna

Note: The English word "hell" does not appear in most recent translations of the Old Testament. Where "Sheol" is in the Hebrew, it usually appears as "Sheol."

2. What concept of the afterlife do we find in the Hebrew Bible? Some texts to look at:

Psalm 9:17, Psalm 49:13-14, Psalm 139:1, Proverbs 15:24, Proverbs 23:13-14, Jonah 2:2, Daniel 12:2

3. What accounts for the Jewish conception of an afterlife? What are possible influences?

4. What conclusions do we draw from a study of Jewish view of the afterlife?

NOTES:

TRINITY CONGREGATION

OF ABUNDANT GRACE

鸿恩

SHANGHAI



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY

AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 12, 2017, 11 AM

Please remember to silence your smartphone and other devices during the worship service! Thank you!

THE GUIDE TO MORNING WORSHIP

** All who are able may rise to praise God.*

Prelude: Sara Preus
***Processional Hymn:** "Praise, My Soul, King of Heaven" No. 152
Acolyte: Alexandra Cimpian

***Invocation** Pastor John

***Sharing the Peace**

Welcome and Announcements

Epistle Reading: 1 Thessalonians. 4:13-18 Doug Gribble, *Reader*
Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Reading:** Matthew 25:1-13 Pastor John, *Reader*
Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to you Lord Christ.

Sermon Pastor Timothy
"Smoking or Non-Smoking? What the Bible Says about Hell (1)"

***Hymn of Response:** "My God, I Love Thee" No. 373

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer No. 895

Offertory

***Offertory Hymn:** "All Praise to Thee" No. 682 *Verse 5 only*
(Sung as a round, MEN begin, and WOMEN follow at circle)

LITANY OF CONFESSION BEFORE COMMUNION

Readers from the congregation will present a "Litany of Confession." The reader will say, "In your mercy," and the congregation will respond, "O Lord, forgive us."

HOLY COMMUNION



(Musical Setting A, "Green Liturgy," found in HYMNAL pp. 17-18. Want to follow the complete liturgy without the truncated text below? Use your smartphone [in SILENT mode] and go to the website, TrinityShanghai.org. Select "Holy Communion Liturgies," and click on GREEN liturgy and follow along.)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you;

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts;

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God;

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Celebrant: We praise you and bless you, holy and gracious God, Source of life abundant. [*Celebrant continues*] ... And so on this day, we join with the Saints and Angels in a chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting up our voice to magnify you as we sing:

People (singing): "Sanctus" No. 17

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might.

Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the

high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Celebrant: Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, he looked with favor upon Mary ... [*Celebrant continues*] ...Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, to you be honor, glory and praise, for ever and ever!

People (singing): "Amen"

Elise Eslinger

Celebrant: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People: We who are many are one body,
for we all share in one bread.

[*Ushers will release each row in turn and each row will go to the front by the SIDE aisles, and return by the CENTER aisle. The following instructions may help you feel comfortable as you take communion. First, receive the bread from the server and then either dip it in a bowl with grape juice, or dip it in the cup with wine and then partake and return to your seat. Or, you may receive the bread and partake, and then proceed to the Common Cup in the center which is wine, and drink from it, and return to your seat. Do be afraid to ask a question of the server if you are unsure. No worries!*]

Hymn during Communion: "Let Us Break Bread Together" (No. 618).

After singing the Communion hymn, and as Sara plays, *reflect on your relationship with God and others, and offer thanksgiving and praise..*

Communion Servers: The Rev. Timothy Merrill, the Rev. John Willison,
Joan Lueth and Anne Gribble.

Prayer after Communion (unison)

ALL: O Master and Creator of all things, I thank You for all the good things which You have bestowed upon me, and for the communion of Your most pure and life-creating mysteries. I pray You, therefore, to keep me under Your protection and in the shadow of Your wings; and grant me, even until my last breath, to partake worthily, with a pure conscience, of Your Holy Things, unto the remission of sins and life eternal. For You are the Bread of Life, the Source of holiness, the Giver of good things; and unto You do we send up glory, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

***Recessional Hymn:** "Rise Up, O Men of God" No. 576

***Benediction** Pastor John

Postlude: Sara Preus

Please stay for coffee and donuts following the Benediction

Our hospitality hosts are:

Suzanne Savage, Suzanne Byerly, Judy Kim and Ginger Merritt

Worship Leaders

The Rev. Timothy Merrill, the Rev. John Willison,

Stephen Minister Judy Kim

Our musicians: Sara Preus and Ignatius Banda

Our Acolytes: Natalie Williamson, Alexandra Campian, Masha Doering

Greeters: Jon and Soon-ok Borden

Flowers: Tinne Loh

Set-up, Clean-up & Ushering:

John Merritt, The Boyer family

Please feel free to contact our pastors:

Pastor Timothy: revtmerrill@aol.com;

Pastor John: jpwillison@yahoo.com;

Stephen Minister Judy: judyxkim@gmail.com