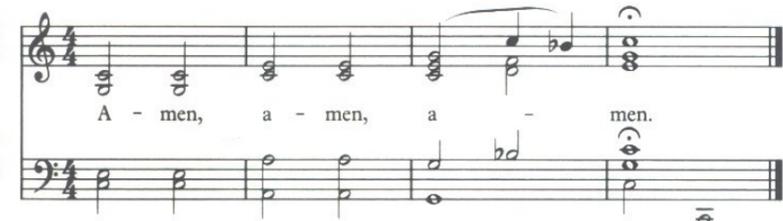


People (singing): "Amen"

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!]

*As the organ plays, reflect on your relationship with God and others,
and offer thanksgiving and praise.*

Communion Servers: The Rev. Timothy Merrill,
Stephen Minister Judy Kim, Kathy Gordon, Ginger Merritt.

***Prayer following Communion (Unison)**

Faithful God, you have adopted us as your children, made us members of the body of Christ and chosen us as inheritors of your kingdom: we thank you that at Your table, you renew your promises within us, empower us by your Spirit to witness and to serve, and send us out as disciples of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Recessional Hymn:** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* No. 140

FIRST VERSE: ALL; **SECOND VERSE:** WOMEN: ALL ON THE CHORUS; **THIRD VERSE:** MEN, ALL ON THE CHORUS

***Benediction** Pastor Timothy
Postlude Ignatius Banda

Symphony No. 6 in G minor: Allegro by C. M. Widor

Please stay for coffee and donuts following the Benediction

Our hospitality hosts are: 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 Cimpian, Masha Doering

Greeters Today: Ai Lin, Sarah Dai

Flowers: Michelle Barini

Communion Bread Provider Today: Eleanor and Natalie Williamson

Set-up, Clean-up & Ushering Today:

Gray Lyons, Jeff and Karen Eekhoff

Friendship Baker: Meg Ideker

Please feel free to contact our pastors:

Pastor Timothy: revtfmerrill@aol.com;

Pastor John: jpwillison@yahoo.com;

Stephen Minister Judy: judyxkim@gmail.com

Friendship Bakers Needed

Last Monday evening, January 22, Board members (at the regularly scheduled monthly meeting) talked about the friendship time following the worship service, also known as the fellowship time. One suggestion that immediately gained traction was that in addition to the much-beloved donut treats, homemade baked goods such as (for example) banana or pumpkin bread, cookies, brownies, cakes, pies, etc., be offered as well. The bakers would not be asked to make brownies, let's say, for the entire congregation, but to just bring in one or two plates. This will not feed everyone, but it will provide a snack for some, and there's always donuts.

We have two more Sundays before the CNY break — February 4 and February 11. Write to Pastor Timothy (who coordinates the volunteers) if you would like to be a "Friendship Baker" for one of these Sundays.

PRAYER REQUESTS

For Meg and John Ideker's brother-in-law who is being treated for prostate and bone cancer.

For Pastor John on the death of his father, 87. John and Carol are in the States now and will return Wednesday.

For Carol Willison's father who is in failing health.

For Dai Sheng and her visa application for Germany, and her studies in church music.

For Tom Stanley's dad who was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

For Erik Paulson concerning his ongoing treatment.

For the Foye family.

For the neighbors of Eleanor and Sam Williamson who have a friend who died suddenly (Matt) and left behind a child.

For little Will, a transplant recipient, who made it home for Christmas, but who now has been diagnosed with a lymphoma. Please pray for parents for whom this is a severe blow.

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.

TRINITY CONGREGATION

OF ABUNDANT GRACE

鸿恩

SHANGHAI



FOURTH SUNDAY
AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 28, 2018, 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.*

Stephen Minister Judy Kim, Liturgist

Prelude: Ignatius Banda
Symphony No. 6 in G minor: Adagio by C.M. Widor

***Processional Hymn:** No. 166
All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine

***Call to Worship**
Leader: The sun rises shining brightly in the east.

People: The whole world reveals the wonders of the Lord.

Leader: A hundred flowers blossom; a hundred birds sing.

People: Everything bears witness to the mystery of God.

Leader: Raising our eyes to heaven, we see Creation.

People: With hearts full of joy, we recite our prayers.

Leader: We look to the Lord for illumination and guidance,

People: In thoughts, words and deeds, we follow the path of righteousness.

—Kim-Kwong Chan and Alan Hunter, *Prayers and Thoughts of Chinese Christians* (Boston, Mass.: Cowley Publications, 1991), 61

*Invocation

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! Our souls long, indeed faints, for the courts of the Lord. Our hearts sing for joy to you, our living God. A day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. We would rather be doorkeepers in the house of God than live in the tents of wickedness. We know that you withhold no good thing from those who walk uprightly.

We reach out to you now, as we worship.

We bring to you our weakness — strengthen us.

We bring to you our ignorance — teach us.

We bring our worries and wounds — heal them.

We bring our defiance and doubt — silence them.

Speak, Lord. We are ready to hear. Amen.

—Based in part on today's psalm reading, Psalm 84

*Sharing the Peace

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Timothy

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 David Chaveriat, *Reader*

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that 'all of us possess knowledge.' Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that 'no idol in the world really exists', and that 'there is no God but one.' Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords— yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. 'Food will not bring us close to God.' We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling-block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Reading: Mark 1:21-28

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, 'What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.' At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to you Lord Christ.

Sermon: "Table Manners" Pastor Timothy

***Hymn of Response:** "The Gift of Love" No. 408

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)

CONFESSIO BEFORE COMMUNION

Call to Confession

All of us have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Yet we believe and proclaim that our God yearns to be reconciled with us and to shower mercy on us. Let us confess our sins together, so that we may know the forgiveness of God.

Confession

Holy God, we confess that in our busy-ness we often ignore each other as human beings. We have emails to write, phone calls to make, meetings to organize and problems to solve. We are pulled in so many directions, and we allow ourselves to think that our work is more important than our relationships. It can be too easy to focus on the task that needs to get done, and be blind to an individual's need. We are tempted to treat people as a means to our end, rather than as fellow children of God.

Remind us of the acts of ministry possible in every encounter we have, with those whom we serve, as well as those who serve us. Forgive us the times when we have been short with each other, or have treated someone as less than our equal. Show to us the face of the risen Christ in each person, no matter how humble or exalted.

Assurance of Pardon

Just as Jesus reached out in compassion to touch and heal the sick of every kind, God reaches out in compassion to heal us of our sin. Know in the most wounded corner of your being that, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are loved and forgiven. Believe this good news that comes to us from God, and be whole.

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.

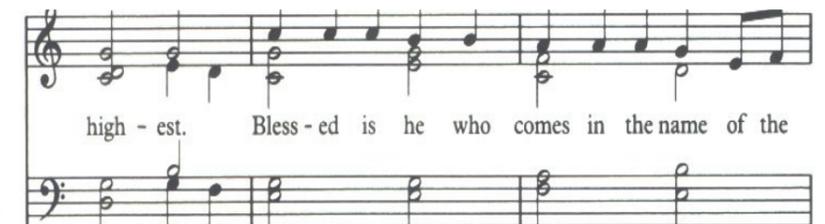
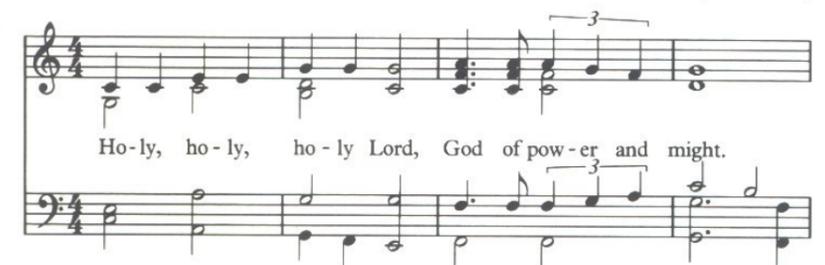
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God;

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. From before time you moved over the face of the deep [*Celebrant continues ...*] Yet we rebelled against you and wandered far away. But as a mother who cares for her children, you would not abandon us. Time and again, you called us to live in the fullness of your love. 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



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, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, ... [*Celebrant continues*] ... to feast at the banquet prepared for us from the foundation of the world. 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!