

[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!]

Communion Servers: The Rev. Timothy Merrill, The Rev. John Willison, Kathy Gordon, Anne Gribble, Holly Raatz

Unison Prayer after Communion:

God our Father, you fill the hungry with good things and send the self-satisfied away empty. In this Eucharist you have filled us with the word and the bread of life of your Son Jesus Christ. Make us hunger now for his coming in the hearts and the homes of all. Fill us with his spirit of service and self-forgetting love, that through us, he may become near to people. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

***Recessional Hymn:** *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* No. 731
VERSES 1 and 2 ONLY

***Benediction** Pastor Timothy
Postlude: *Prelude and Fugue in B Major*, by M. Dupré Ignatius Banda

Worship Leaders

The Rev. Timothy Merrill, the Rev. John Willison,
Stephen Minister Judy Kim

Our musicians: Sara Preus and Ignatius Banda

Greeters: Confirmands

Communion Bread Provider: Todd Gordon

Set-up, Clean-up & Ushering: Todd Gordon, Craig Gingerich

Altar Flowers: Tong Doering

Friendship Baker: Kristi Jones

Please feel free to contact our pastors:

Pastor Timothy: revtfmerrill@aol.com;

Pastor John: jpwillison@yahoo.com;

Stephen Minister Judy: judyxkim@gmail.com

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 Chris and Megan, the parent of little Will, a transplant recipient, who passed away last week.

For Stephen Minister Judy Kim, attending a Leadership Training program in Los Angeles this weekend.

*The Gospel Reading: Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to you Lord Christ.

THE EPIPHANY BANNER

My thought in designing the Epiphany banner was that our season of Epiphany seemed to be both about the church story of the journey of the magi, and about those moments of clear and sudden conscious understanding of a truth. The star at the top of the image is simultaneously the guide for the magi and a symbol of swift enlightenment for us. Underneath the star is their journey, and our journey of faith. Does the image ascend or descend, or both? Are the spheres the magi moving toward the star, or are the spheres us, emanating from the star? The swooping lines and colors are meant to indicate movement — movement from one point of understanding to the next under the space of a heavenly star. —Joan Lueth

INTERVIEW REQUEST

Grade 9 students at SCIS-Pudong want to interview you! They are currently engaged in a unit on religion and, beginning in March, they will be asked to interview people of various faiths about what drives their beliefs. If you are aged 13 and above, and you are willing to share in a face-to-face, Skype, or Face Time interview with these SCIS students about your religion, please contact Suzanne Byerly (sebyerly@hotmail.com) or the SCIS social studies teacher who is driving this unit, Michael Steele (msteele@scis-china.org).

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.

Visit us at: TrinityShanghai.org

TRINITY CONGREGATION

OF ABUNDANT GRACE

鸿恩

SHANGHAI



FIFTH SUNDAY
AFTER THE EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 4, 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.

Prelude: *Esquisses Byzantines: Rosace* by H. Mulet Ignatius Banda

***ProceSSIONAL Hymn:** *The God of Abraham Praise* No. 116
Acolyte: Masha Doering, *Confirmand*

***Call to Worship** Pastor John

Leader: How good it is to sing praises to our God!

People: *He heals the brokenhearted, binding up their wounds.*

Leader: God counts the stars, and calls them each by name.

People: *How great is our God! His power is absolute, and his understanding, beyond comprehension.*

Leader: So come, sing out your thanksgiving to God. Offer to God that worship that belongs to God alone!

***Invocation** Pastor Timothy

***Sharing the Peace**

Welcome and Announcements

Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 40:21-31* Sophie Sajan, *Reader*

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God'? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

***The Gospel Reading:** *Mark 1:29-39* Pastor John
[See back panel for text]

Sermon: *Isaiah and His Olympic Biathlon* Pastor Timothy

***Hymn of Response:** *El Shaddai* No. 123

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

Conversation with the Children Pastor Timothy

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

HOLY COMMUNION



(Musical Setting B, "Blue Liturgy," found in HYMNAL pp. 19-20. 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 BLUE liturgy and follow along.) Remember that for the sung parts, repeated sections are sung first by the celebrant and then by All.

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: All thanks and praise are yours at all times [*Celebrant continues*] ... And so, as the morning stars sing your praises, we join those heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

***People (singing):** "Sanctus"

Celebrant sings first; people repeat

James A. Kriewald

Leader *E♭(D)* All

Celebrant: Glory, honor and praise are yours, Creator of all. Your Word has never been silent. You called a people to yourself to be a light to the nations. [*Celebrant continues*] ... And so, remembering all that has been done for us — the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and the ascension, and longing for your return in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ.

Celebrant sings first; people repeat

Celebrant continues: Send your Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of Christ. Grant that we, [*Celebrant continues*] ... with all your people into the joy of our true, eternal home. Through Christ, and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, all honor, glory and praise to you, O God, now and forever.

***People (singing):** "Amen"

Celebrant sings first; people repeat

James A. Kriewald

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Unison Prayer of Humble Access (page 30, UMC Hymnal)

We do not presume to come to this thy table,

O merciful Lord,

Trusting in our own righteousness,

But in thy manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy

So much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table.

But thou art the same Lord,

Whose property is always to have mercy.

Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,

So to partake of this Sacrament of thy Son Jesus Christ,

That we may walk in newness of life,

May grow into his likeness,

And may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant sings first; people repeat