

SCOUT SUNDAY



Although we were not able to observe Scout Sunday last year, we have in the past. This year the tradition is back. Currently, we do not have any Cub Scouts or Boy Scouts in our congregation, but we do have three Girl Scouts: **Evelyn Jones, Ashley Jones and Natalie Williamson.** We have had scouts in the past and Dave Poppell was a leader for many years. Scouting in Pudong is comprised

of Cub Scouts Pack 88, and Boy Scouts Troop 969, two separate age groups (7-10 years, 10 years and above). Their leaders are Henricus Peters, Executive Chairperson, Pack 88 & Unit Commissioner of Shanghai; Jack Ilmonen, Cubmaster, Pack 88; and Dave Woodward, Assistant Cubmaster and Executive Den Leader, Pack 88.

SCOUT LAW: A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

SCOUT OATH: On my honour, I will do my best to do my duty to God, and my country, to obey the scout law, to help other people at all times, to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and, morally straight.

Old Testament Reading: *Exodus 20:1-17* Henricus Peters, *Reader*

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it. Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON NOTES

If the Ten Commandments constitute nagging, then one has to admit that these are some pretty big nags. Here in these 10 “words,” or “things” as they are called in Hebrew, are some of the primary tenets of Israelite religion. The command to worship only YAHWEH, the command to use no iconographic symbolism to represent YHWH and the command to honor one's elders — these three imperatives alone outline major features of Israel's religion.

The *first* commandment enjoins the Israelites from worshipping any other gods because it was God “who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery (*therefore*), you shall have no other gods before me.” The *second* commandment instructs the Israelites not to make images which would then become the focus of worship. The *third* commandment warns against the frivolous use of God's name in the making of oaths and promises.

The *fourth* commandment instructs Israelites to establish the seventh day of the week as a day of rest and devotion to God. Here in Exodus, the rationale behind observing the Sabbath day is the fact that God rested after the act of creation. Deuteronomy, however, gives another rationale. In 5:15, the nation is to rest on the Sabbath, and allow rest for the persons and animals that toil within Israel because no one should go through life like a slave. “Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt.” The rationale for the observance of Sabbath here is more humanistically phrased than it is in Exodus.

Until this point the commandments explain how one is to worship God. Now they turn to how one is to relate to others in the covenant community. Elders are to be honored, and murder, adultery, theft, false witness and greed are to be abolished. One should remember, however, with regard to adultery, that only women were required to be monogamous. Men were allowed to have as many wives as they were financially able to support. This means that adultery, if one is a man, is a term that applies only to sleeping with a woman who is already married to another man. If a married man sleeps with a single woman, this is not adultery. It is fornication and could be remedied by marrying the woman in question.

After careful reading and study, rabbinic authorities discerned that there are actually 613 commandments in the Hebrew Bible. Thus the Ten Commandments are only representatives of the two foundational categories of Israelite law, namely, *correct worship of God and correct relationships with others.* All of life under the covenant — economic life, dietary customs, clothing customs, marriage customs, inheritance rights, legal issues, medical treatments — and many more aspects of life were to adhere to God's instructions. The whole of Torah applied to the whole of human life and operated under two basic rubrics: *love of God and love of neighbor* — which echoes what Jesus of Nazareth would suggest about 1,250 years later: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments” (Matthew 22:37-40).

Electronic Giving or Giving in the USA

Would you prefer to give electronically?

Please see our Treasurer, John Ideker, for details.

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



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 4, 2018 11 AM

SCOUT SUNDAY

FAMILY SUNDAY

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: Ignatius Banda

Évocation à la Chapelle Sixtine by Franz Liszt

***Processional Hymn:** *Come Down, O Love Divine* No.475

Acolyte: Natalie Williamson, *Confirmand*

***Call to Worship** Stephen Minister, Judy Kim

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

**People: The decrees of the Lord are sure,
making wise the simple;**

Leader: The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

**People: The commandment of the Lord is clear,
enlightening the eyes;**

Leader: The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;

**People: The ordinances of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.**

Leader: God's word is more desirable than gold!

People: God's word is sweeter than finest honey.

Leader: Let the words we say be acceptable to you, O Lord.

**People: Let the deepest whisperings of our heart
be acceptable, O Rock, O Redeemer. Amen.**

***Invocation** Pastor John

***Sharing the Peace**

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Timothy

Old Testament Reading: *Exodus 20:1-17* Henricus Peters, *Reader*

[See back panel for text]

Focus on the Scouts: Henricus Peters, Executive Chairperson,
Pack 88 & Unit Commissioner of Shanghai, and Rev. Christopher
Mizel, Scout Chaplain

***The Gospel Reading:** Rev. Christopher Mizel, Scout Chaplain

John 2:13-22: The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to you Lord Christ.

Sermon: *God's Nagware* Pastor Timothy

***Hymn of Response:** *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* No. 521

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



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*] ... Yet, forgetting these blessings, we rebelled against you and wandered far away. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. Hear us now as we pray for mercy:

***People (singing):**

Celebrant sings first; people repeat

O Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sins of the world,
have mer - cy up - on us. grant us thy peace.

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*] ... We remember all that has been done for us — the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and the ascension. We long for your return in glory, and present to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made. 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, being alive to your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time, gather us 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"**

A - men, a - men, a - men. men.

James A. Kriewald

Music © 1985 The United Methodist Publishing House

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!*]

Communion Servers: The Rev. Timothy Merrill, The Rev. John Willison,
Stephen Minister Judy Kim, Anne Gribble, Holly Raatz, Ginger Merritt

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:** *Go Forth for God* No. 670 (vv. 1, 4 only)

***Benediction** Pastor John

Postlude: Ignatius Banda

Präludium und Fuge über B-A-C-H by Franz Liszt

Worship Leaders

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

Stephen Minister Judy Kim

Our musicians: Sara Preus and Ignatius Banda

Greeters: Sophie Sajan

Communion Bread Provider: Jeanie Merrill

Friendship Baker: Ginger Merritt

Set-up, Clean-up & Ushering: Doug and Anne Gribble, Cailen McNair,

Patrick Carroll, Quincy Carroll

Altar Flowers: Michelle Barini

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 the parents of the 17 children murdered at a Parkland, Florida, school.
- For Carol Willison whose father passed away recently.
- For Meg and John Ideker's brother-in-law who is being treated for prostate and bone cancer.
- For Sarah Dai and her visa application for Germany, and her studies in church music.
- For Tom Stanley whose father passed away.

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.

Visit us at: TrinityShanghai.org