

WORSHIP AT HOME

God's Promise | Deny Self | Faith in God's Son

Faith trusts a Promise

The World promises power, authority, and wealth

Satan promises knowledge of good and evil.

Religion promises that being right and good gains God's favor.

Jesus promises to be with us always.

Faith in Christ's Promises

Struggle with Jesus who forgives sin. Mercy.

Struggle with Jesus who reconciles our relationship with God. Grace.

Struggle with Jesus when you are persecuted and reviled by neighbors who trust the promises of the World, Satan, Business and Religion. Love.



Jacob struggles with the Angel of the Lord. A lesson in Worship!

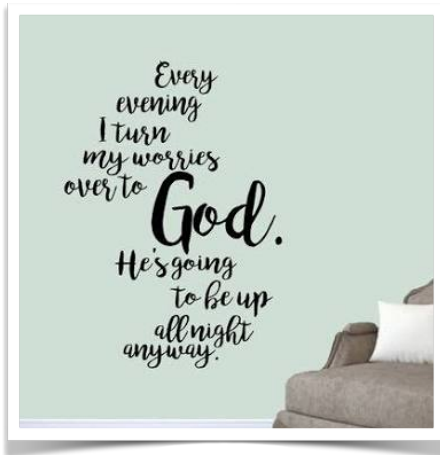
Prelude

Opening Hymn

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name, I've been born again in Jesus' name, and in Jesus' name I come to you, to share his love as he told me to. He said, Freely, freely you have received, freely, freely give. God in my name, and because you believe, others will know that I live.

Welcome

Before we worship, **we struggle with God.** We struggle with fear, shame, guilt, blame, and broken relationships. **We**



Announcements

Projected Pastor

The Reverend Tim Robinson is projected to Pastor Trinity UMC's. His first Sunday will be July 4th, 2021. Nicole, his wife, works at MEOC. Join me in prayers of thanksgiving for Tim and Nicole.

Other News

A new copier was installed in the Church Office on Thursday.

The Church Rummage Sale is Monday, MAY 3RD, through Friday, MAY 7TH, in the Parsonage Basement.

Final plans are being made to install a Carillon in the Church. It plays bells, music, and chimes the hour. Trinity is known for its music.

Join us for Sunday school. We live in a world of Government, Business, and Religion. What does Jesus' teach that equips people to heal and restore relationships. How does Tradition, Reason, and Experience blind Trinity UMC

struggle with power, authority, and control. We struggle with confession, repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation. Cain missed the Mark. Struggle with God and learn to worship in Spirit and the truth of God's love.

Special Music

Something beautiful, something good; all my confusion he understood; all I have to offer him is brokenness and strife, but he made something beautiful of my life.

Prayer

Father, we believe in Jesus. We believe he suffered all our sins to show us Your Mercy. Why do we struggle with one another seeking forgiveness? Like Jacob, teach us to wrestle with you, not our brothers, sisters, neighbors, or enemies.

Bless us like you did Jacob. Bless us to be a blessing to those who



harm us, curse us, and revile us. Like Jesus, lead us to deny our selves, take up our crosses, and rise to do unto others as Jesus did unto us.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit isn't a Saint a sinner who struggles with God and humanity? Isn't a Saint a sinner who overcomes sin by struggling with You until we limp away in Your Mercy, Grace, and Love.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

Scripture: Genesis 32

22 That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. **23** After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. **24** So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. **25** When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. **26** Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak."

But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

27 The man asked him, "What is your name?"

"Jacob," he answered.

28 Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel,^[f] because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome."

29 Jacob said, "Please tell me your name."

But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?" Then he blessed him there.

30 So Jacob called the place Peniel,^[g] saying, "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared."

Instrumental Meditation

Message

Esau and Jacob are twins. Like Cain, God placed the Mark upon them. The Mark God places upon God's children is the promise.

God made the Promise to Jacob, Isaac, Abraham, and Cain.

God's Promise to Jacob.

3 Then the Lord said to Jacob, “Go back to the land of your fathers and to your relatives, and I will be with you.” Genesis 31:3

God’s Promise to Isaac.

24 That night the Lord appeared to him and said, “I am the God of your father Abraham. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bless you and will increase the number of your descendants for the sake of my servant Abraham.” Genesis 26

God’s Promise to Abraham.

“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ^[a] **3** I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” Genesis 12:2-4

God’s Promise to Cain.

15 But the Lord said to him, “Not so ^[e]; anyone who kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over.” Then the Lord put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him. **16** So Cain went out from the Lord’s presence and lived in the land of Nod, ^[f] east of Eden. Genesis 4

God’s Promise to Easter People.

Jesus promises, “Look, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matthew 5:17)

A Promise shapes a unique relationship. The person who makes the promise is the only one who may fulfill it. The person Marked with the Promise Watches, Listens, and Waits on the One who made it.

In every way God’s Promise calls us to live by faith. Faith requires us to deny our individual power, control, and authority. Faith means we trust the One who made the Promise. Faith is the practice of Love. Faithful-Love does not insist on its way. Therefore, faith filled Love always practices patience. Such patient -love gives us Hope to See Jesus with us always.

Esau and Jacob were both marked from Birth with God’s Promise. Esau sold his birth-right, God’s Promise, to Jacob. Jacob took it upon himself to fulfill the promise. Both sinned. Both Missed the Mark.

Esau sold his birth-right and thus became a slave to his brother. Esau sold God’s Promise to gain the things of this world.

Jacob refused to watch, wait, and listen for God to fulfill the promise. Jacob was a slave to selfishness revealed as deceit, lies, and cheating his neighbors. Jacob used his power and authority to control his neighbors to take the things of this world.

Have you noticed that Esau and Jacob live in you? Like Esau, we **give** up on God's Promise. Like Jacob, we **take** it upon ourselves to fulfill God's Promise. Give and Take is the way of the World, Satan, and Religious Legalism, Liberalism, and Progressivism!

Hear the Good News! Jesus fulfilled God's Promise to Cain, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They teach us that we become like the one with whom we struggle. Fear of his brother, Esau, drove Jacob into the wilderness. In the darkness of fear and night a Man came and wrestled with Jacob. The Man is God revealed as Father, Promised Holy Spirit, and only begotten Son!

25 When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. **26** Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak."

But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

27 The man asked him, "What is your name?"

"Jacob," he answered.

28 Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel,[f] because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome."

Deny the World. Struggle with God who created the world and gave us the Son.
Deny Satan. Struggle with God who has power and authority over Satan, Sin, and Death.
Deny The Law of Moses and the Prophets. Struggle with Jesus who fulfilled the Law and Prophets.

Saints live in the world. They keep the laws of government. They have jobs, pay taxes, and purchase possessions. Saints have rules, doctrines, creeds, traditions and liturgy. Therefore, Saints look patriotic, productive, and religious! At each junction of life they watch, wait, and listen for God's Promise. Jesus is with is always!!! Saints struggle with God. They are known by their limp! Limping is a sign of roundedness and weakness. Such is the person who overcomes the World, Government, Business, and religion through God's Promised Mercy, Grace, and Love. Amen.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
On the third day he rose from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Benediction

Postlude