

**Trinity United Methodist Church  
Dedication and Blessing of the Sanctuary  
June 21, 2020**

**Prelude:**

**Lighting the Candles**

**Special Music:** Victory in Jesus

**Call to Worship**

Common - Sense cries,

**“We hunger and thirst for lasting things.”**

Look around, this sanctuary lasted throughout our three-month exile. Exiled people, rise up!  
(Stand) Rise up and look around! Now, tell me; “What do you see?”

**“Look, we lasted too.”**

Spiritual -Sense prays,

**“Our Father, Who abides in Heaven, We hunger and thirst for eternal things.”**

**Opening Prayer:**

Let this be the time and place our Common Sense is Born Again to be led by Christ’s Spiritual-Sense.

**This is Jesus’ Way to Truth that gives Life! Let us Come and See Jesus. Father, give us eyes to see Christ in our afflictions. Give us ears to hear the same Spirit that led Jesus through this valley of suffering and shame! Amen**

**Cleansing the Sanctuary:**

Covid-19 carried us into Egypt. Egypt is the place fear filled people go for sanctuary! Fear always turns Egypt into hellish exile. For three-months we have lived in exile. Exiled people, “Give voice to your affliction.” Exiled people, “Give voice to your suffering.” Exiled people, “God has heard your cries.” God has seen your affliction. Now is the time to Come and See the Lord’s goodness!

**Blessed are the ones who come in the Name of Christ our Lord! Amen**

**The Dedication and Blessing of this Sacred Space**

Exiled people hunger and thirst!

**We hunger and thirst for God, for the Living God. When shall we see God?**

**Special Music:**

**The Reading of God's Word.**

Nathaniel asked Jesus, "How do you know me?"

**Jesus answered, "I saw you while you still sat beneath the fig tree."**

Easter People lend me your ears! Jesus saw you while you sat for three-month beneath the fig tree. The Fig tree gives birth to the sweetest fruit in all of Israel.

Easter People lend me your eyes! Jesus saw you while you sat for three-months beneath the fig tree. The Fig Tree bears the fruit of God's Peace.

Easter People lend me your minds! Jesus invites you to Come and See. You who are afflicted with diseases of every kind, Come. Come and See where Jesus stays!

Easter People lend me your hearts! Jesus invites you to Come and See. You who tend the wounds of your suffering with shame, guilt, and blame, Come. Come and See where Jesus stays!

Easter People lend me your souls! Jesus invites you to Come and See. You who hunger for Peace born of mercy, Come. Come give the Lord your Sin and receive His sweetness. You who thirst for Grace, Come drink.

**Our Tithes and Offerings:** A Special Gift for the Back Pack Ministry

(At the end of the service you will be invited bring your offering to the Table of Your Lord. Come practicing humble social distancing!)

**The Homily: Lord, When did You See Me?**

**Closing Prayer**

**Father, remind us always that our hunger and thirst for Lasting things is Christ our Lord. He is our Sanctuary. Let this physical sanctuary be a place on earth where we gather to bring your Way, Truth, and Life to earth as it is in Heaven. Amen**

**Postlude**

### **The Homily**

See! This Bible is physical. Come and See Jesus to receive the Spirit of God's WORD!

Listen! This Hymnal is physical. Come and Hear Jesus to receive spiritual ears that hear Angels Sing "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace with those whom God favors."

See! This Candle is Physical. Come and See Jesus to receive the Light of the World.

Listen! You hear a knock at the Door, and answer. Come and See Jesus, he stands knocking at the Door of Our Judgmental Minds!

See the Stained Glass Windows. Come and See Jesus, he sees us through our sin stained suffering Hearts.

See The Lord's Table. Come and See Jesus inviting us to His Table of Grace, prepared in the presence of all our enemies.

Look at The Cross, why does the symbol of suffering and shame sit on the Lord's Table? Come and See Jesus. At the Cross He made our souls His Sanctuary.

Listen to water being poured into the Baptismal Font. Come and See Jesus pour His Spirit into your heart-soul-mind.

Remember the touch of Anointing Oil. Come and See Jesus to receive His anointing. He is our Healer.

This cup is a physical symbol of the New Covenant. Come and See Jesus. He is the New Covenant of Mercy, Grace, and Love.

This bread is a physical symbol of Jesus fulfilling the Old Covenant filled with suffering and death. Come and See Jesus. He is risen. He invites us to rise with Him.

All of these Physical things are gifts. Physical things are for GIVING. Spiritual things. Are. For RECEIVING.