



Worship at Home

An outreach ministry of Trinity United Methodist Church

The order of our Worship
Service leads us to experience
God with us.

Prelude

Repentance is the Prelude to Worship. It literally means we turn to God with our suffering prepared to be comforted.

Opening Hymn

All suffering is a song of the heart and mind separated from I Am who is with us always. Sing your song of suffering. Put your shame, guilt, blame, fear, or sin into words. By this we deny ourselves.

The Welcome

Our song of suffering opens our hearts and minds to God who promises to be with us always. Now, welcome God by inviting I Am into your suffering heart, soul, and mind. By this we deny ourselves.

Prayer

Jesus tells his disciples to pray for those who persecute you and to love your enemies. Give thanks for those who persecute you. Give thanks for your enemies. Give thanks that I Am is with them also. By this we take up our crosses



The Tree of Life bears the fruit of the Resurrected Spirit of Christ. Cleaning Fire!

Divine Reading of Scripture: Matthew 28: 16-20

God hates sin. Sin is whatever we think or act upon that makes us feel separated from God. God hates being separated from you!!! God desires to be with you always through Holy Communion.

Those who deny themselves faithfully take up their crosses to follow Jesus into God's Grace. Grace is God's desire to be with you always. Worship leads us into God...by faith in Jesus' power and authority over sin, mercy, and love.

Sing your song of sinful separation. Be still and know God! Repentance means God and Human turn to trust one another.

The New Testament sings the song of God with us in our suffering, fear of I am who is with us always, breathing resurrection life into us.

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. **17** When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. **18** Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

The Message

The following is my new song. It is a song of those who mourn to be strangely comforted. It is a song of hunger and thirst for God found filled to overflowing. It is a song of blessing those who persecute you.

I encourage you to write your own and sing it with gladness.

Moses asked God, "Who am I to say sent me?" God responded, "Tell them I Am sent you." Scripture teaches that God is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Jesus' parting words sum it all up. Look! I Am with you. Always!

Let's begin by looking at fear that blinds our eyes and deafens our ears.

Fear of being in God's presence is sin. Repentance means we "Look" into everything we call sin to see "I am" with you. Violate the least of the 613 Laws of Moses and look to see Jesus with you. Turn to the greatest of the 613 Laws of Moses and look to see Jesus "do unto others (you) as he would have them (you) do unto him."

Shame, guilt, and blame are clear signs we fear being in God's presence. Repentance means we look into our shame, guilt, blame to experience "I am" with us/you. This is why Jesus says, "Deny yourself and take up your cross. We deny ourselves the moment we 'Pray for those who persecute and love our enemies with patience, kindness, generosity...not insisting on your way."

Fear of being rejected by the world blinds us from seeing "I am" with us always. Repentance means we live in the world to let people see "I am" with us. This is why Jesus eats with sinner and tax collectors. This is why Jesus spends his last nights on earth in Bethany, the House of Affliction! He wants the vilest sinners to experience "I Am" doing unto them as the Son of Man who suffers and dies would have them do unto him.

All of these things and more gave Jesus reason to "do unto others as he would have them do unto him" so we could see the height, depth, and width that "I am" goes to be with us always.

How do we make disciples of Jesus Christ. We practice doing unto others as we would have them do unto us.

I confess I fear people. Sometimes this fear leads me into survival mode where I fight, play dead, or run. Most of the time Fear simply gives me reason to judge, condemn, and vilify the very people I AM promises to be with always. My life path is littered with people I have judged and demonized. Thankfully the Holy Spirit leads us to confess such temptations to deliver us into "I Am's" Presence.

Who are the "others" Jesus calls me to love as "I am" loves me? They are people I fear, persecute, and treat as enemies. The sign in my office reminds me that "Courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen" to the very people I am tempted to persecute and revile. When I deny myself to listen to "others" I quickly discover their hearts, souls, and minds are just like mine. They blame me for their shame and judge me guilty of all kinds of sins.

This is why Jesus tells us to deny ourselves. Only after we have denied our shame, guilt, and blame as the way to power that controls people for personal gain, will we take up our crosses to follow Jesus.

Jesus bore His cross to show us that "I am's" mercy opens the door to Grace greater than all our sin. For to many years I have wanted my neighbor to carry my cross. At the same time I am tempted to carry yours. Only when I deny myself to carry my cross will I sit down with "others" to listen, hear, and comprehend their heart and mind.

As Rob Thomas sings, "Well everyone here, is wondering what it's like to be with somebody else. And everyone here's to blame, and everyone here gets caught up in the pleasure of the pain. Everyone well everyone here hides Shades of shame, yeah, but looking inside we're the same. We're the same and we're all grown now. Yeah, but we don't know how to get it back to good.

The way back to Good? Deny self. Take up your cross. Follow Jesus. In others words, eat with the very people we see as sinners. Ask them what is on their hearts and minds. Offer them mercy. Tell them our stories of "I Am" with us always. Bless those who curse us. Lead them through the Beatitudes. Teach them to ask

God questions. Walk with them as they seek to apply New Covenant answers either by faith alone, divine revelation or hearing God's still voice. These New Covenant ways of living is how Jesus shows us that He is "I am" who is with us always.

He is Risen. Now is the time "I Am" sends us to let His Son rise up in us so that "others" may see Him through us, especially by those who persecute us and revile us. For there is neither conservative or liberal, legalism, moralism, or progressivism, male nor female, but One in Christ.

Hear the Good News! There is nothing you or I can do that has the power or authority to change what God has done through Jesus Christ.

Amen

Tithes and Offering

Jesus says, where your treasure is there your heart shall be also.

Tithing physical things denies their control of life. Offering the suffering of our heart and mind gives us our cross to bear. Sharing our Good News Stories offers Christ Jesus to those who persecute us and revile us.

Benediction

Look, I Am with you always. Amen

Postlude

Jesus says, the first shall be last and the last shall be first.

