



COUNTRYSIDE TRINITY CHURCH

January 25, 2026

Pre-Service Music

Noah Davis

Welcome and Announcements

Liturgist

Mission Point

Prelude

Noah Davis

Call to Worship

Tammy Charkowski, Liturgist

Leader: In the sea of life's daily stress and strife,
in the struggle to keep our heads above the waves,
Jesus calls us from the shore:
"Follow me, and be fishers of people!"

**All: God gathers us into new boats
built with room for friend and stranger.**

Leader: "Follow me, and use your gifts with purpose.
Follow me, and build abundant life."

**All: We will be weavers of community,
architects of justice,
gardeners of peace.**

Opening Prayer

Liturgist

God our light and our rescue,
our fortress in times of trouble,
when human powers seek to crush us,
protect us in the hidden places of your heart.
Ease our fears and let us rest in you.
When we are safe, but other lives are threatened,
fortify our resolve to be your protection
for all our kin and all your good creation.
When the work is done,
we ask only to live in your house
and enjoy your beauty forever. **Amen.**

* Opening Hymn

"For the Beauty of the Earth" #14 GTG

Congregation



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Call to Confession

Liturgist

Christ calls us to follow, knowing that we are human.
Jesus knows we are not perfect. He knows we will not
always get it right. All he asks is that we try, learn, and try again.
Let us go to God, telling how we have tried and failed,
that God may teach us what we must learn.

*** Prayer of Confession**

Congregation

**Christ, our Messiah, you call us to fish for people, but we
are hesitant to leave our boats. We are afraid to let go of the
things we hoard, believing they make us secure. We are afraid to
put our trust in you, afraid to follow, afraid we will fail. Forgive us.
Transform our fear into faithfulness, and enable us to walk with you,
that we may be part of your work in the world.**

*** Time of Silence for Personal Prayers of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Liturgist

Just as Jesus called the disciples,
so Christ calls us.
Forgiven of our sin
and freed to serve,
let us answer Christ's call.

**All: Christ calls us, forgives us, heals us, and teaches us.
Thanks be to God!**

***Responding to Grace**

"Glory to God" #583 GTG

Congregation

Time With Young Disciples

Rev. Nathaniel Asperger

Prayer for Illumination

Liturgist

Saving God, source of our calling,
your Word is full of power and glory.
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
so that we may receive your grace
and live as your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



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1st Scripture Reading

Ecclesiastes 4:1-12

I looked and saw how much people were suffering on this earth.

I saw the tears of those who are suffering.

They don't have anyone to comfort them.

Power is on the side of those who treat them badly.

Those who are suffering don't have anyone to comfort them.

Then I announced that those who have already died
are happier than those who are still alive.

But someone who hasn't been born yet
is better off than the dead or the living.

That's because that person hasn't seen the evil things
that are done on earth.

I also saw that a person works hard and accomplishes a lot. But they do it only because they want
what another person has. That doesn't have any meaning either. It's like chasing the wind.

Foolish people fold their hands and don't work.

And that destroys them.

One handful with peace and quiet
is better than two handfuls with hard work.

Working too hard is like chasing the wind.

Again, I saw something on earth that didn't mean anything.

A man lived all by himself.

He didn't have any sons or brothers.

His hard work never ended.

But he wasn't happy with what he had.

"Who am I working so hard for?" he asked.

"Why don't I get the things I enjoy?"

That doesn't have any meaning either.

In fact, it's a very bad deal!

Two people are better than one.

They can help each other in everything they do.

Suppose either of them falls down.

Then the one can help the other one up.

But suppose a person falls down and doesn't have anyone to help them up.

Then feel sorry for that person!

Or suppose two people lie down together.



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Then they'll keep warm.
But how can one person keep warm alone?
One person could be overpowered.
But two people can stand up for themselves.
And a rope made out of three cords isn't easily broken.

2nd Scripture Reading

Psalm 133

How good and pleasant it is
when God's people live together in peace!
It's like the special olive oil
that was poured on Aaron's head.
It ran down on his beard
and on the collar of his robe.
It's as if the dew of Mount Hermon
were falling on Mount Zion.
There the Lord gives his blessing.
He gives life that never ends.

This is The Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be To God.**

Special Music

Bethany Scovill

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Brothers and sisters, I make my appeal to you. I do this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I ask that all of you agree with one another in what you say. I ask that you don't take sides. I ask that you are in complete agreement in all that you think. My brothers and sisters, I have been told you are arguing with one another. Some people from Chloe's house have told me this. Here is what I mean. One of you says, "I follow Paul." Another says, "I follow Apollos." Another says, "I follow Peter." And still another says, "I follow Christ."

Does Christ take sides? Did Paul die on the cross for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I didn't baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius. No one can say that you were baptized in my name. It's true that I also baptized those who live in the house of Stephanas. Besides that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else. Christ did not send me to baptize. He sent me to preach the good news. He commanded me not to preach with wisdom and fancy words. That would take all the power away from the cross of Christ.

Christ Is God's Power and Wisdom. The message of the cross seems foolish to those who are lost and dying. But it is God's power to us who are being saved.



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Gospel Lesson

Matthew 4:12-23

John had been put in prison. When Jesus heard about this, he returned to Galilee. Jesus left Nazareth and went to live in the city of Capernaum. It was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali. In that way, what the prophet Isaiah had said came true. He had said,

"Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!

Galilee, where Gentiles live!

Land along the Mediterranean Sea! Territory east of the Jordan River!

The people who are now living in darkness
have seen a great light.

They are now living in a very dark land.

But a light has shined on them." ([Isaiah 9:1,2](#))

From that time on Jesus began to preach. "Turn away from your sins!" he said. "The kingdom of heaven has come near."

One day Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee. There he saw two brothers, Simon Peter and his brother Andrew. They were throwing a net into the lake, because they were fishermen. "Come and follow me," Jesus said. "I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on from there, he saw two other brothers. They were James, son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee. As they were preparing their nets, Jesus called out to them. Right away they left the boat and their father and followed Jesus.

Jesus went all over Galilee. There he taught in the synagogues. He preached the good news of God's kingdom. He healed every illness and sickness the people had.

This is The Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be To God.**

Sermon

"Unity in the Gospel"

Rev. Nathaniel Asperger

Music Meditation

Noah Davis

* Sermon Hymn

"How Firm a Foundation" 463 GTG

Congregation

Joys and Concerns

Call to Offering

Rev. Nathaniel Asperger

* Doxology

Congregation

* Closing Hymn

"The Church's One Foundation" 321 GTG

Congregation

* Charge, Benediction

Rev. Nathaniel Asperger

Postlude

"1st Verse – Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #306

Noah Davis



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CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

For the Beauty of the Earth 14

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

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In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

TEXT: Folliott Sandford Pierpoint, 1864, alt.
MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; abr. William Henry Monk, 1861; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

DIX
7.7.7.7.7.7



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SERVICE MUSIC

Glory to God

583

Gloria, gloria

Capo 3: (Bm)

(Em) (A)

(D)

Dm

Gm

C

F

(chords continue)



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*May be sung as a canon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1979

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GLORIA (Taizé)

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THE WORD

463 How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis-mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

TEXT: "K" in John Rippons's *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.
 MUSIC: American folk melody; Funk's *Genuine Church Music*, 1832, alt.

FOUNDATION
11.11.11.11

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THE CHURCH

The Church's One Foundation 321

1 The chur-ch's one foun-da-tion is Je-sus Christ her Lord.
 2 E-lect from ev-ery na-tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der this world sees her op-pressed,
 4 Mid toil and trib-u-la-tion, and tu-mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has un-ion with God, the Three in One,

She is his new cre-a-tion by wa-ter and the word.
 her char-ter of sal-va-tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
 by schis-ms rent a-sun-der, by her-e-sies dis-tressed,
 she waits the con-sum-ma-tion of peace for-ev-er-more:
 and mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion with those whose rest is won:

From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho-ly bride.
 One ho-ly name she bless-es, par-takes one ho-ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep-ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi-sion glo-rious her long-ing eyes are blest,
 O hap-py ones and ho-ly! Lord, give us grace that we,

With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press-es, with ev-ery grace en-dued.
 And soon the night of weep-ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic-to-rious shall be the church at rest.
 like them, the meek and low-ly, may live e-ter-nal-ly.

This hymn was one of twelve written by an English curate to affirm the articles of the Apostles' Creed with biblical allusions such as 1 Corinthians 3:11 here. Though not created for this text, the tune was joined to it in 1868, and the two have been inseparable ever since.

TEXT: Samuel John Stone, 1866, alt.
 MUSIC: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

AURELIA
 7.6.7.6.D

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FIRST VERSE ONLY

THE CHURCH

Blest Be the Tie That Binds 306

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
2 Be - fore our *Fa - ther's throne we pour our
3 We share our mu - tual woes; our mu - tual
4 When we are called to part, it gives us
5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we

Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of
ar - dent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our
bur - dens bear. And of - ten for each
in - ward pain; but we shall still be
shall be free; and per - fect love and

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.
friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

*Or "Maker's"

Written to express a pastor's unwillingness to leave a beloved congregation, this hymn is frequently used as an expression of Christian fellowship, especially at the conclusion of the Lord's Supper. The tune is attributed to an influential Swiss musician and publisher.

TEXT: John Fawcett, 1782
MUSIC: Johann Georg Nägeli, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1845

DENNIS
SM

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