

PRINCE OF PEACE



God is holding
Your life!

Sunday January 17, 2021
Second Sunday after Epiphany
Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Introduction: The account of the calling of Nathanael brings up the idea of place. Nathanael dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. Where we come **from** is not important, it's where or to whom we come **to** that is important. And that who is Jesus. Jesus lets Nathanael know that he, Jesus, is the place where Nathanael will meet God. Our Psalm emphasizes that there is nowhere we go that God is not present—no state of our being that results in our being abandoned. God has knit us together, has woven us, knowing us from before our beginning. God, indeed, is holding our lives.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity + one God,
Whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.
(Silence is kept for reflection)

Holy God,
You search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways.
We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin-
Our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.
We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love.
We distrust those who are not like us.
We exploit the earth and its resources
and fail to consider generations to come.
Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone.
Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them;
Receive them in your divine mercy.
Amen.

How vast is God's grace!
Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus,
our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved.
You are forgiven. God is holding your life. In that gift of God's forgiveness
we are called to be the beloved community living our Christ's justice
and the Spirit's reconciling peace.
Amen.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Children's Moment

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3.1-10 (*New Revised Standard Edition*)

Samuel's Calling and Prophetic Activity

3 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴ Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!"^[a] and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵ and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶ The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸ The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Psalm: 139.1-6 (*New Revised Standard Edition*)

The Inescapable God To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.

¹ O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

**²You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.**

³ You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.

**⁴Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.**

⁵ You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

**⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

Gospel: John 1.43-51 (*New Revised Standard Edition*)

Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶ Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰ Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹ And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, ^[a] you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

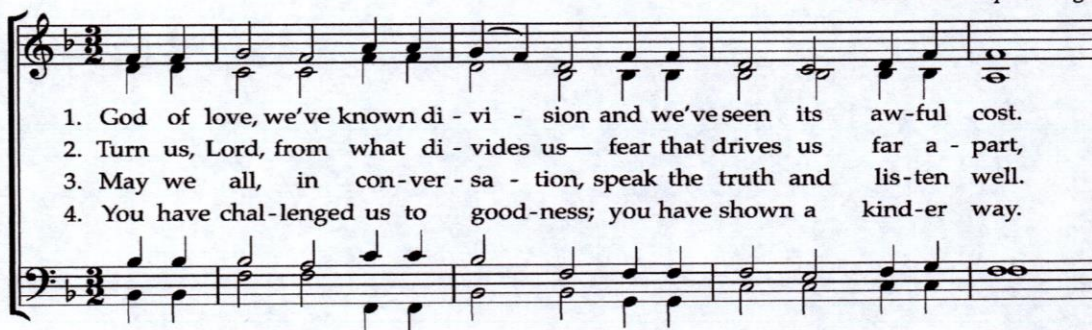
Message

Song: "God of Love We've Known Division" Text Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2020 ; Beach Spring, attr. B.F. White; harm. Christopher Gage 2017

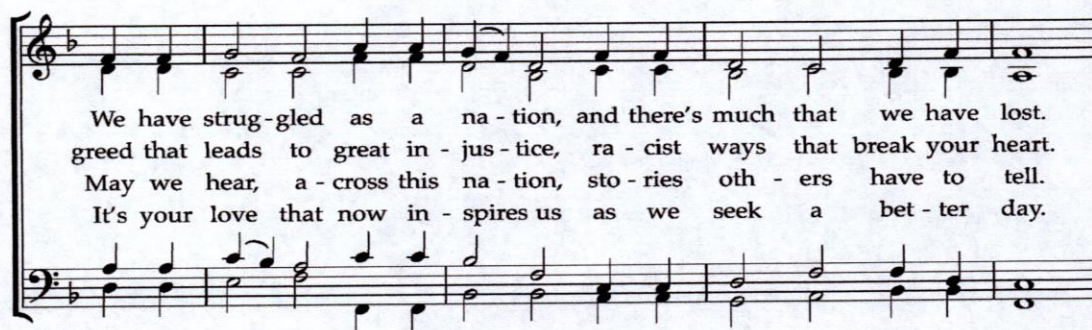
God of Love, We've Known Division

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2020

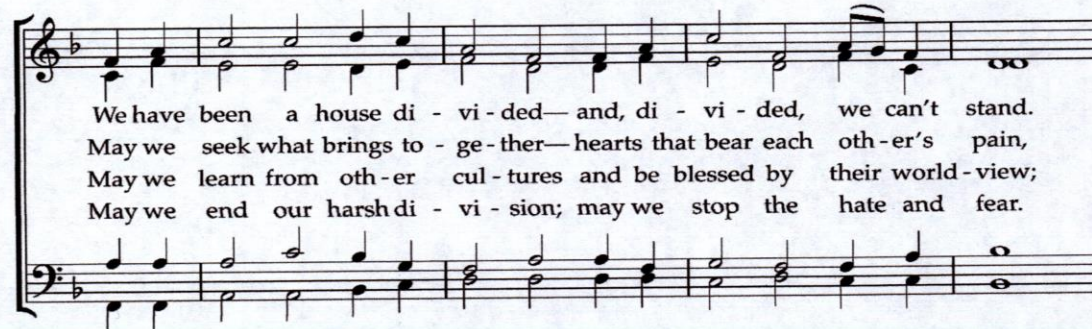
Beach Spring, attr. B. F. White;
harm. Christopher Gage



1. God of love, we've known di - vi - sion and we've seen its aw-ful cost.
2. Turn us, Lord, from what di - vides us— fear that drives us far a - part,
3. May we all, in con-ver - sa - tion, speak the truth and lis-ten well.
4. You have chal-lenged us to good-ness; you have shown a kind-er way.



We have strug-gled as a na - tion, and there's much that we have lost.
greed that leads to great in - jus - tice, ra - cist ways that break your heart.
May we hear, a - cross this na - tion, sto - ries oth - ers have to tell.
It's your love that now in - spires us as we seek a bet - ter day.



We have been a house di - vi - ded— and, di - vi - ded, we can't stand.
May we seek what brings to - ge - ther— hearts that bear each oth - er's pain,
May we learn from oth - er cul - tures and be blessed by their world - view;
May we end our harsh di - vi - sion; may we stop the hate and fear.



May our na - tion be u - ni - ted; give us peace through - out this land.
care and mer - cy toward our neigh - bors, love that wel - comes stran - gers in.
May we serve with one a - noth - er— lov - ing oth - ers, lov - ing you.
Make us one, Lord, as a na - tion; may we be u - ni - ted here.

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New Hymns: www.carolynshymns.com | Email: carolynshymns@gmail.com

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

**On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living 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.

The Peace

Announcements

In January and February you can watch our worship services on Facebook each Sunday at 9:30 AM. We hope to be able to gather together safely later in the New Year! In the meantime, stay home, stay warm and stay safe!

POP Annual meeting will take place January 31 at noon on Zoom. You will receive a link by email. Committees are asked to have their reports in by early next week to give time to prepare report. Reports will be sent in pdf format by email or postal mail if you prefer. Thank you!

The 2021 POP envelopes are here! If you would like to receive yours by mail, please email the office with your preferred address Attention Donna at princeofpeacebrockton@gmail.com or dplouffe16@gmail.com thank you!

Bible study on Wednesday 10 am Live or taped on our facebook page.

“New” Thirsty Thursday video also on facebook. Send in your pics by Tuesday check in for the theme of the week.

Prayers of Intercession

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Sing Response: God is holding your life, God is holding your life, God is holding your life, we believe. (sing twice)

For the body of Christ gathered throughout the world and for all servants of the gospel, that following Jesus, the church lives out its calling every day,
Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For police officers and firefighters, for attorneys and paralegals, for peacekeepers and military personnel, and for the leaders of governments, that they provide protection to all people especially the most vulnerable,
Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For those lacking food or shelter, for those who are sick or grieving, and for those who are imprisoned or homebound, that God console all who suffer,
Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

In thanksgiving for the saints who have gone before us that their lives give us a vision of the gospel in action,
Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Sing Response: God is holding your life, God is holding your life, God is holding your life, we believe. (sing twice)

The Lord's Prayer

Blessing:

May God, the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
And the Holy Spirit, the comforter, keep you in peace.
Go in the knowledge that
God is holding your life
You are not alone.
You are loved. **Amen.**

Hymn: “This Little Light of Mine ” 677 African American spiritual; arr. Horace Boyer 1935 Joy Irregular

1. This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

3. Jesus gave it to me
I'm gonna let it shine
Jesus gave it to me
I'm gonna let it shine
Jesus gave it to me
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

2. Everywhere I go
I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go
I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

Thanks for joining us!

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**Worship Sundays @ 930am, Bible study Wednesday 10am and
“New” Thirsty Thursday video View all here on our facebook page**

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