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BULLETIN **30 March 2014e**

Nursery today:	Susan Miller
	Kirsti Anderson, Barbara Pierce
Next Sunday:	Ivy Munson
	Anita Higgins, Brit Osterling

Helpers, please be in the nursery by 10:20 to receive children.

Reflection

We are searching for God's election.

My Lord, I did not choose You,
for that could never be;
my heart would still refuse You,
had You not chosen me.

You took the sin that stained me,
you cleansed me, made me new;
of old You have ordained me,
that I should live in You.

Unless Your grace had called me
and taught my op'ning mind,
the world would have enthralled me,
to heav'nly glories blind.

My heart knows none above you;
for your rich grace I thirst.
I know that if I love You,
you must have loved me first.

— Josiah Conder

Prelude

I am not skilled to understand
What God has willed, what God has planned;
I only know at his right hand
Is One who is my Savior!

I take him at his word indeed:
"Christ died for sinners," this I read;
And in my heart I find the need
Of him to be my Savior!

That he should leave his throne on high
And come for sinful man to die,
You count it strange? So once did I,
Before I knew my Savior!

Yes, living, dying, let me bring
My strength, my solace from this spring:
That he who lives to be my King
Once died to be my Savior!

Trinitarian Confession and Salutation

Call to Worship Isaiah 41:8–10, 14–16

You, Israel, my servant,
Jacob, whom I have chosen,
the offspring of Abraham, my friend;
you whom I took from the ends of the earth,
and called from its farthest corners,
saying to you, “You are my servant,
I have chosen you and not cast you off”;
fear not, for I am with you;
be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Fear not, you worm Jacob,
you men of Israel!
I am the one who helps you, declares the Lord;
your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel.
Behold, I make of you a threshing sledge,
new, sharp, and having teeth;
you shall thresh the mountains and crush them,
and you shall make the hills like chaff;
you shall winnow them, and the wind shall carry them away,
and the tempest shall scatter them.
And you shall rejoice in the Lord;
in the Holy One of Israel you shall glory.

Psalm 65 *Trinity Psalter*

Prayer of Petition and Adoration

Call to Confession of Sin Deuteronomy 7:6–11

You are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, and repays to their face those who hate him, by destroying them. He will not be slack with one who hates him. He will repay him to his face. You shall therefore be careful to do the commandment and the statutes and the rules that I command you today.

Corporate Confession of Sin and Supplication for Mercy *(unison)*

O Lord our God, holy and faithful and covenant–keeping and ever–loving, we confess that we are sinners and that we have sinned. We have not been careful to do the commandment and statutes and rules that you have commanded us. We have not been grateful for your boundless grace, for the mighty hand with which you saved and redeemed us from the slavery of sin. We have presumed to imagine that your steadfast love, your having chosen us as your treasured possession, are somehow because of our own righteousness and merit. We repent of our many sins, dear Father, and cry to you for forgiveness. We thank you that, instead of repaying us by destroying us, you poured out your righteous wrath on your holy, precious Son. As we renew our covenant with you today on the basis of his sacrifice on our behalf, give us soft and humble hearts with which to marvel at your mercy and eager feet with which to proclaim your gospel of redemption through Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness Psalm 132:11–18

The Lord swore to David a sure oath
from which he will not turn back:
"One of the sons of your body
I will set on your throne.
If your sons keep my covenant
and my testimonies that I shall teach them,
their sons also forever
shall sit on your throne."

For the Lord has chosen Zion;
he has desired it for his dwelling place:
"This is my resting place forever;
here I will dwell, for I have desired it.
I will abundantly bless her provisions;
I will satisfy her poor with bread.
Her priests I will clothe with salvation,
and her saints will shout for joy.
There I will make a horn to sprout for David;
I have prepared a lamp for my anointed.
His enemies I will clothe with shame,
but on him his crown will shine."

The Doxology (#731) *Trinity Hymnal*

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture Ephesians 1:3–14

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every
spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the
world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption
as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious
grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his
blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished
upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his

purpose, which he set forth in Christ [10] as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him,
things in heaven and things on earth.

[11] In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of
him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, [12] so that we who were the first to
hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. [13] In him you also, when you heard the word of
truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,
[14] who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his
glory.

Hymn Your Name We Love, Lord Jesus

Your name we love, Lord Jesus,
And humbly bow before you;
And while we live, to you we give
All blessing, worship, glory.
We sing aloud your praises,
Our hearts and voices blending:
It's you alone we worthy own;
your beauty's all–transcending.

Your name we love, Lord Jesus;
It tells God's love unbounded
To ruined man, ere time began,
Or heav'n and earth were founded:
Yours is a love eternal,
That found in us its pleasure,
That brought you low to bear our woe
And make us your own treasure.

Your name we love, Lord Jesus;
It tells your birth so lowly,
Your patience, grace, and gentleness,
Your lonely path, so holy;
You were the "Man of Sorrows";
Our grief, too, you did bear it;
Our bitter cup, you drank it up;
The thorny crown, did wear it.

Your name we love, Lord Jesus;
God's Lamb—you were ordainéd
To bear our sins (yourself all clean);
You have our guilt sustainéd.
We see you crowned in glory,
Above the heavens now seated,
The vict'ry won, your work well done,
Our righteousness completed.

Heidelberg Catechism: ***Lord's Day 21 (Question 54)***

Q. What do you believe concerning "the holy catholic church"?

A. I believe that the Son of God,
through his Spirit and Word,
out of the entire human race,
from the beginning of the world to its end,
gathers, protects, and preserves for himself
a community chosen for eternal life
and united in true faith.
And of this community I am and always will be
a living member.

Preaching of the Word Rev. John Canales

Sermon Text: 1 Peter 1:1–2

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood:

May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

Prayer of Intercession

Hymn 469 How Sweet and Awesome *Trinity Hymnal*

Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed p. 845, *Trinity Hymnal*

The Gloria Patri (#735) *Trinity Hymnal*

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Hymn — During the bread How Deep the Father's Love for Us

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That he should give His only Son
To make a wretch his treasure!

How great the pain of searing loss!
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross,
My sin upon his shoulders!
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.

It was my sin that held him there
Until it was accomplished!

His dying breath has brought me life;
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything:
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.

Why should his suffering be my gain?
I cannot give an answer,
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom!

Scripture Reading — During the cup John 15:6–27

"By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

"If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. Whoever hates me hates my Father also. If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. But the word that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: 'They hated me without a cause.'

"But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning."

Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

The Collection of Alms and Tithes

Hymn 345 Glorious Things *Trinity Hymnal*

The Benediction