

# First Baptist Church in Needham

## Trinity Sunday

Edition 64



1

### Worship and Prayer Resource

Sunday, May 30, 2021

*(for whenever you are so led to pause, reflect, and pray)*

858 Great Plain Avenue · Needham, MA 02492

[www.fbcneedham.org](http://www.fbcneedham.org)

---

<sup>1</sup> Latimore, Kelly. Trinity, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57123> [retrieved April 6, 2021].



## Scripture

### John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God."

Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?"

Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"

Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

*The word of the Lord, thanks be to God.*

## Reflection

We have so little faith in the ebb and flow of life, of love, of relationships. We leap at the flow of the tide and resist in terror its ebb. We are afraid it will never return....The only real security is not in owning or possessing, not in demanding or expecting, not in hoping even. Security in a relationship lies neither in looking back to what it was in nostalgia, nor

forward to what it might be in dread or anticipation, but living in the present relationship and accepting it as it is now.<sup>2</sup>

May we find rest and restoration in the presence of God moment by moment, the eternal Present, now.

---

## Prayers of the People

### Prayerful Meditation

The Sacred Three  
To save  
To shield  
To surround  
The hearth  
The home  
This night  
And every night.<sup>3</sup>

### We Hold in Prayer...

*Many of this week's prayers are requests from members of our congregation in the past week. If you have general or specific prayer requests - joys as well as concerns - to share please contact Holly or Daryn to pass them along.*

**As a community of faith gathered in Spirit, we offer our hearts and voices in prayer where we are, as we are, entrusting the Spirit's moving among us and responding far beyond our individual reach and influence...**

### Prayers of Gratitude & Thanksgiving

**O God, thank you for each new day and all that it brings. You promise to provide all that I need, caring not only for me, but for all creation and so I rejoice...**

With David Penn for Newton Presbyterian's new pastor, Tom Reid, as he joins our sister congregation on the next turn of their journey.

---

<sup>2</sup> *Celtic Daily Prayer: Prayers and Readings from the Northumbria Community.* (New York: HarperCollins, 2002) 414-415.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid*, 27.

With Barbara for being able to see family unmasked and outside!

With Liz, Andrew, and Clif for being able to enjoy the beauty of spring, golfing, and gardening.

With Pastor Holly celebrating the graduation of dear friends and brothers, Hank and Jon Osmundson who graduated from Methodist Theological School in Ohio. And with Andrew celebrating his niece, Amy's graduation from high school.

With Harry in thanksgiving for his son, Lawrence, who installed a fence for Harry's yard.

Anne in gratitude that Bruce has returned after another hospitalization and that she and Sherry can now visit him.

With Mark Holly in celebration of the marriage of his son Patrick to wife, Victoria while surrounded by beloved family and friends.

With Clif in anticipation of Anthony's being able to take time off from work for rest and respite.

With Liz celebrating the news of a neighbor's pregnancy and a new little life to come to her street.

With Peggy and Andrew in gratitude for a good visits with family in Colorado and Oklahoma (respectively) and safe return home.

With Louise, Bev, Barbara and Harry for the blessing of the Worship Resource, coloring pages, and calls from Pastor Daryn and Pastor Holly and for the all the congregation has done and offered them.

*Praise God, from whom all blessing flow....*

## Prayers of Personal Concern, Healing, Solace, & Courage

Faithful God, you know me inside and out, all my hopes and dreams, fears and failures. You hear your children cry out for healing and consolation, courage and strength. Send your Spirit as we seek to follow Jesus's teachings and life's ministry while sharing the concerns of our hearts as I pray...

For Marty in her continued recovery and her son and daughter-in-law in their caregiving.

With Jim for his sister, Kathy, and for his project at work.

For David's wife, Allison, living with debilitating neck pain and awaiting medical diagnosis and treatment.

With Nancy as her family prepares for her sister-in-law Kathy's mother's memorial service on June 11.

With Bev that our Pastors be able to balance the extra work required throughout COVID that continues now with time to rest and renew.

With Nancy as she prepares for a major online event at work over the next few weeks that the technology holds and the people planning and hosting have stamina so that it goes well.

With Dorothy, Pastor Daryn, and Pastor Holly as the congregation moves toward intentional decisions with *Creative Callings*.

*Lord, in your mercy, hear my prayer....*

## Prayers for the Community, Nation, & World

God of compassion and justice, there is so much in the news that is painful, from natural disasters to governmental actions to hunger, poverty, and violence. And there are so many instances of lovingkindness, beauty, and hope. Move among your creation and your children, as I pray...

With Pastor Holly for her colleague, Kakali, who was able to safely return from India after several weeks' delay, and for her mother who remains there as the family continues to grieve Kakali's grandmother's death. For the people of India and around the world who continue to be devastated by COVID, limited vaccines, and inadequate medical access and travelers caught between countries....

With Bev offering prayers for peace in a world rife with violence, mass shootings, and harm that we each enact healing and transformative change in our daily living – to the people we can directly help – as we call for healing and change on societal levels.

With Andrew in gratitude that we in the United States are nearing a hopeful end to COVID while holding in fervent prayer concern for the people of the world in locations where COVID variants continue to spread illness, death, and societal disruption.

*For the moving of your Spirit in hope and healing throughout our world, praise God, from whom all blessings flow ... And for your enduring presence, justice, and mercy in our brokenness, Lord, in your mercy, hear my prayer....*

### **Concluding the Prayer**

**For the prayers of my heart that you, Holy One, know even when words cannot hold them...Hear my prayer, O Lord...**

**+++ Offer your own prayers here. +++**

***Hear my prayer, O Lord...as I pray the prayer your son taught us saying:***

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our sins as we forgive  
those who sin against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For yours is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory forever.  
Amen.

---

## Announcements

Our **church office** is open for our Office Manager, Robin Bevilacqua. We are encouraging limited visits to the church building, and all who visit are required to mask, sign-in, and socially distance. **If you need to speak with Robin, please call ahead if you can.** Pastoral and other church staff are working from home. Office voicemail and email are being checked regularly.

**If you have a pastoral concern, contact Pastor Daryn or Pastor Holly by email, phone, or text.**

---

## Worship Resource and Calls of Caring are Provided Each Week

You are encouraged to make use of the Worship Resources and to find other meaningful opportunities for worship and reflection, Zoom services, or other spiritually enriching means of communing with God and community during this time of social distancing. Contact Pastor Daryn or Pastor Holly if you need help finding links to join other online services.

---

## Worship on the Lawn

*(weather permitting)*

**Sundays May 2 – June 6, 2021**

**10:00 a.m.**

COVID protocols – masks and physical distancing – remain in place.

As we are moving through *Creative Callings* congregational decision-making and prepare for individual vocational discernment and exploration, join us on the Warren Street side lawn of our building for worship on Sundays. Contact Pastor Daryn with any questions.

**Planning to Attend? Pre-register at: [www.fbcneedham.org/worship-ministries](http://www.fbcneedham.org/worship-ministries)**

Services are also recorded and posted on our website for later viewing at:  
[www.fbcneedham.org/outdoor-worship](http://www.fbcneedham.org/outdoor-worship)





*You're Invited!*  
**Celebration on the Lawn  
& Car Parade  
for First Baptist Church  
Nursery School**

**Thursday, June 3, 2021  
6:00pm**

We will gather in celebration of the Nursery School's years as a ministry at FBC Needham and their transition and future as part of Needham Children's Center. Our celebration will include a ceremony of remembrance, a blessing, and sending forth!

*(If rain is predicted on June 3rd, the celebration may take place on June 2nd according to the Nursery School's prerogative - advanced notice of this change will be given if possible).*

---

**Creative Callings**

Collaboration, Innovation, and Prophetic Witness



**Boston University** School of Theology  
Center for Practical Theology

***Creative Callings* Year 2, Session 2:**  
**COLLECTIVE & INDIVIDUAL VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT**  
Intentional Decisions – Faithfully Stepping Forward  
**Continues on Thursdays, at 6:30pm on Zoom!**

**April – May** – *Honing Our Congregational Call/Recognizing New Life*: intentional conversation and reflection as a community

**June – July** – *One on Ones*: individual vocational discernment conversations

**Previous videos are available on the *Creative Callings* link on the church website.** If you have questions about *Creative Callings*, or how you can best support First Baptist in our participation, please contact Pastor Daryn, [pastordaryn@fbcneedham.org](mailto:pastordaryn@fbcneedham.org), or Pastor Holly, [pastorholly@fbcneedham.org](mailto:pastorholly@fbcneedham.org).

# India COVID Crisis Donation Appeal

## *through International Ministries of ABCUSA*

International Ministries continues to work with partner conventions and mission hospitals in India to respond to the need of the current COVID crisis. We are raising funds to help mission hospitals to purchase life-saving equipment like ventilators and oxygen concentrators, and PEE for doctors, nurses, and hospital workers. Follow the link to learn more about the COVID response of the Vellore Foundation at <https://vellorecmc.org/>. Thank you for your prayer and support in this global crisis.

**Make checks payable** to “International Ministries”

Note on the check “India COVID”.

**Send checks to:**

International Ministries,  
1003 W. 9th Ave., Ste. A.,  
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1210

**Give online at:**

<https://portal.internationalministries.org/disaster-relief>

Click link “I would like to support”

Choose “OGHS Covid Response: International”

Check the box “Dedicate my donation in honor or in memory of someone”, and add (India COVID)

## Offering

Your continued financial support of the daily work and ministries of FBC Needham is vital. Offerings can be turned in during Worship on the Lawn, through the church website online, or via mail. May the act of giving be a spiritual practice that accompanies your daily prayer and worship.

**Mail Checks to:**

First Baptist Church in Needham  
858 Great Plain Avenue,  
Needham MA 02492

**Online:**

Go to <https://www.fbcneedham.org>  
Click the **Take Action** link & follow the directions.

*Make checks payable to:* First Baptist Church in Needham.

Please indicate it is your offering or pledge on the check.

---