



# September, 2017

## Anglican Church of the Holy Trinity

*Christ-centered, Biblically grounded, worshiping in the Anglican Tradition*



# Newsletter

### **Sabbath Worship**

By The Reverend Rob Hartley

Based on a sermon delivered Sunday, August 20, 2017



Isaiah 56:6-7

*...all who keep the Sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant-- these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.*

Sunday worship is among the most important things the Body of Christ does when it gathers together. As Christians we understand that offering an adoring response to the God who loves us and gives us life is fundamental to our relationship with Him.

Sabbath worship is obviously important to God. He gave us the Sabbath and made it His 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment. The Sabbath is not only a day of resting, it is a day of resting in the Lord, a Holy Day to honor God and to be with Him.

A striking feature of Christian worship is that it is a celebration of the immanence (presence, closeness) of God. Most religions celebrate their god's transcendence (his or her aloofness and untouchableness). We do the same, of course, as attested to in the stateliness and reverence of our Anglican liturgy, but it is the intimate presence of God upon which we focus and celebrate. We do not gather to celebrate a memory or an idea of God being aloof and far off; we gather to celebrate His presence. Matthew 18:20 says, *"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."*



We also gather to celebrate a victory, an Easter victory. This is why our Sabbath is on the first day of the week, the Day of our Lord's Resurrection. Our expectation in worship is that Christ, the risen and living God, comes to us as His people gathered, as surely as He came to the Apostles in the Upper Room on Easter morning.

Sunday morning worship offers us the opportunity to step out of our normal routines, step out of time and space, and step into eternity and into the presence of God, albeit for only an hour and twenty minutes on a Sunday. Each Sunday we recite from Isaiah 6 (The Sanctus) which reminds us that we, like Isaiah, are being brought into the presence of the Almighty. Isaiah records, *"In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Above him were seraphim, <sup>3</sup>And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." <sup>4</sup>At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke."*

This passage from Isaiah, along with other Scripture such as Chapters 4, 5 and 7 of the Book of Revelation, remind us that we are not the only part of the created order that has worship as a fundamental response to our Creator. Angels also worship, and it is not hard to imagine that as we worship on Sunday mornings, we have the heavenly host worshipping with us.

Worship is offering something very precious to God - ourselves. Our Eucharistic liturgy says, "we offer ourselves, our souls and bodies, as a living sacrifice," and Scripture speaks of us offering a sacrifice of praise: Hebrews 13:15-*"Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name."*

We Christians therefore recognize our responsibility to God and our fellow Christians to be present at Sabbath worship. Too often we come on Sunday mornings seeking what we will get out of worship, which is a good and proper expectation to have, but we first come seeking the face of God, honoring God, offering a sacrifice of praise, and supporting our brothers and sisters in doing the same.

A joyful truth about our worship is that the Holy Spirit, God Himself, empowers and anoints us to worship Him. Our worship is Spirit-filled and Spirit-lead, if we will allow it to be. In Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan woman at the well in John Chapter 4, our Lord says, "Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth." The Holy Spirit creates true and Spirit-filled worship, for as Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 12, "No one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Spirit." It is the Holy Spirit who checks our unworthy instincts, inspires our prayers, moves us to praise, convicts us, and changes us. Our expectation is that we leave worship differently from how we came in, and, as we know, it is the indwelling Holy Spirit who is the instrument of Godly change in our lives.

Finally, Christian worship is permeated with a deep sense of participation, mutual support, and fellowship. We did not come to have someone worship for us. Early Christian communities gathered for worship to honor and celebrate God, to seek a touch from Him, and to support fellow Christians in their desire to do the same. We get a sense of this in Acts 2- "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup> They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. <sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

Is being absent from Sunday worship a sin? It depends, of course. What we do know is that sin is anything outside of the will of God for us, and the Lord obviously wills that His people be gathered together with Him on the Lord's Day. My suggestion, therefore, is to be there. God will be glorified by your presence and you will be blessed by being in His.

**Father Rob+**

### *Lay Ministries*

<b>2017</b>	<b>September 3 13 Pentecost</b>	<b>September 10 14 Pentecost</b>	<b>September 17 15 Pentecost</b>	<b>September 24 16 Pentecost</b>	<b>October 1 17 Pentecost</b>
<b>Euch. Min.</b>	Mike S	Rosemarie M	Sandra S	Jerry N	Rosemarie M
<b>Ushers / Greeters</b>	Joseph A Bill B Judy C	Mike S Deborah K Donna L	Wayne L Richard M Jason N	Monte S Margaret W Joseph A	Bill B Judy C Deborah K
<b>Presenting Bread/Wine</b>	Billy & Amy H	Nancy H Dianne H	Mike & Amber H	Bob & Sue J	Lisa J Phyllis K
<b>Prayer Team</b>	Nancy H Wayne L	Rosemarie M Margaret W	Ginger H Monique T	Nancy H Wayne L	Rosemarie M Margaret W
<b>Lector-OT</b>	Judy C	Jami W	Avery S	Ginger H	Billy H
<b>Lector-NT</b>	Sue J	Wayne L	Richard M	Annette M	Jason N
<b>Altar Guild [week of]</b>	Annette M Donna L	Rosemarie M JoEllen B	Virginia F Marguerite P	Ginger H Monique T Terry N	Annette M Donna L
<b>Acolyte Guild</b>	Oke I	Avery S	Jackie F	Sandra S	Oke I



**Altar Flowers** are given by members of this congregation either in honor of or in memory of loved ones as well as acknowledging any special occasions.

There is a suggested donation of \$35.00 plus a \$6.00 delivery fee for a total of \$41.00.

There is a sign up booklet on the table near the entrance to the sanctuary. Remember to make a note in the memo of your check.

*Come to a  
Wedding Shower!*

*The congregation is invited to a wedding shower that will be held for Linden Shepherd and Caleb Mortimer on Saturday, September 16 from 2:00-4:00 pm. They are registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond.*

## ***Worship as the Ultimate Act***

*Excerpt from an August 7 on-line article by Ed Stetzer*

John Piper, in his well-known book *Let the Nations Be Glad*, wrote this about worship: *Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. ...When this age is over and the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever.*

Obviously, the entrance of sin into the world today has somewhat clouded this picture. Yet, the Fall did not eliminate the need or desire for worship. Worship is universal. Even in a fallen world, fallen people seek to give adoration, affection and attention to something. Scripture indicates to us that worship is an ultimate experience. 1 Chronicles 16:25 tells us that *“The Lord is great and is greatly to be praised.”* Worship is a central and transformative practice in the life of the believer. We were created for worship and all people need to worship—the key is the direction [object] of our worship.

Worship is a deeply rooted emotional experience that is central to the core of who we are as people. It is an emotional experience, not always in a sentimental way, but in a way that redirects our heart’s affections from ourselves and focuses the heart on Jesus. And, that makes it not all about us, our preferences, or what we desire. Worship, at its heart, is not about us.

*Ed Stetzer holds the Billy Graham Distinguished Chair of Church, Mission, and Evangelism at Wheaton College, is Executive Director of the Billy Graham Center for Evangelism, and is interim pastor of Moody Church in Chicago.*



***On August 20<sup>th</sup> during the 10:00 am Eucharist: Jackie Fekula, Debra Kurilla, Donna Lariscey, Bonnie Newman, Susan Pemberthy, Jami Warning, and Margaret Williams were installed into The Talitha Koum Chapter of the Daughters of the Holy Cross (Anglican Church of the Holy Trinity).***

## **Are You Ready for the Conversation?**

Dear church family,

I’m excited about a study we’re beginning soon on Wednesday nights entitled “Everyday Questions,” produced by Ravi Zacharias International Ministries. While most of us do not see ourselves possessing the gift of evangelism, we are all admonished in 1 Peter 3:15 to “always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.”

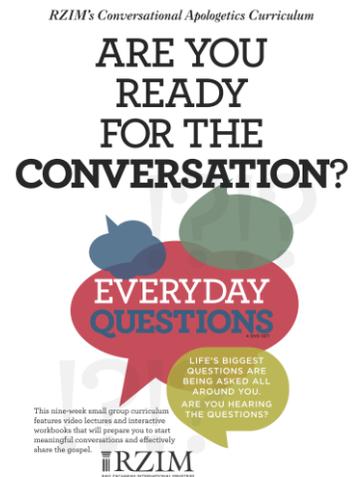
And the reality is that we all have opportunities to discuss the big questions about life with the people we care about and see each day.

I’m looking forward to our conversations as we seek to articulate our beliefs and convictions regarding where we come from, our own significance, our moral compass, and our destiny.

Each week we will view a video clip that will encourage conversation as we discuss the message of the video and seek answers to spiritual questions that will enable us to better understand and explain the Christian worldview. We will also discuss how to have meaningful spiritual conversation with people with different belief systems and personalities. In addition, there is a short Bible passage suggested weekly for further study.

Join us on Wednesday nights at 6 PM for supper, prayer and praise, and meaningful dialogue beginning September 13<sup>th</sup> for this nine-week study. Come grow with me!

Pressing on,  
*Twyla*



# September, 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
						<b>9:00 to 10:20am</b> Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian Ed <i>Nursery available</i>	<i>Labor Day</i>	10:00-11:30 am Women's Bible Study  6:00 pm Choir	6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Bible Study <i>Nursery available</i>			<b>9:00 to 10:20am</b> Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian Ed <i>Nursery available</i>		10:00-11:30 am Women's Bible Study  6:00 pm Choir	6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Bible Study <i>Nursery available</i>	<i>Holy Cross Day</i>		<b>9:00 to 10:20am</b> Men's Breakfast & Bible Study  <b>2:00 to 4:00 pm</b> <i>Wedding Shower for Caleb &amp; Linden</i>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian Ed <i>Nursery available</i> <i>Vestry Luncheon</i>		10:00-11:30 am Women's Bible Study  6:00 pm Choir	6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Bible Study <i>Nursery available</i>	<i>St Matthew, Evangelist</i>		<b>9:00 to 10:20am</b> Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 11:20 am Coffee 11:30 am Christian Ed <i>Nursery available</i>		10:00-11:30 am Women's Bible Study  6:00 pm Choir	6:00 pm Fellowship Supper & Bible Study <i>Nursery available</i>		<i>St Michael &amp; All Angels</i>	<b>9:00 to 10:20am</b> Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

## *Links to the Ways We Communicate*

Parish Website	<a href="http://www.achtna.org">http://www.achtna.org</a>
Monthly Newsletters (web + mailed)	<a href="http://www.achtna.org/newsletters">http://www.achtna.org/newsletters</a>
Sunday Bulletin Announcement Pg.	<a href="https://www.achtna.org/">https://www.achtna.org/</a>
Holy Trinity Mobile App	<a href="http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/4a5efa_80ea18e8be5a4eb69541c319aa89a00f.pdf">http://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/4a5efa_80ea18e8be5a4eb69541c319aa89a00f.pdf</a>
Email Distr. of news and messages	(If not receiving emails and would like to, please provide your email address to Fr. Rob)
Prayer List (Sun Bulletin +Web)	<a href="http://www.achtna.org/parish-prayer-list">http://www.achtna.org/parish-prayer-list</a>
Rob's Blog (North Augusta Anglican)	<a href="http://holytrinityna.blogspot.com/">http://holytrinityna.blogspot.com/</a>

*Holy Trinity is a congregation of the Anglican Church in North America*

**Christ-centered, biblically grounded, worshipping in the Anglican Tradition**

Sweetwater Center, 160 Merovan Drive, North Augusta, S C 29860

**www.ACHTNA.org (803) 341-0075 robhartley@comcast.net Blog: North Augusta Anglican**

Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Steve Wood, Rector: The Rev. Rob Hartley

Assisting Clergy: The Rev.'s Dan Brown and Theophilus Iwuji

Vestry: Jennifer Dorn, Jerry Nault, Larry Pettinato, Mark Watkins

Senior Warden: Mike Fekula; Junior Warden: Darren Newman



*Anglican Church of the Holy Trinity*  
**A Survey on Sunday Worship**



Dear Family and Friends of Holy Trinity:

We gather for worship on Sundays to honor God, to be edified through our encounter with God in Word, Sacrament and fellowship, and to support one another in being faithful to God's command to keep the Sabbath holy. Sunday Worship is the primary thing we do as the Body of Christ gathered; therefore, we want to do it as well and effectively as possible.

Holy Trinity's leadership is interested in how they can best do this for you, as well as best serve the community around us who may be looking for a church. This survey, therefore, has two parts: for current attenders and non-attenders.

**Current attenders:**

**1. What brought you to Holy Trinity?**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anglican background | <input type="checkbox"/> Programs (which ones): _____                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Location            | <input type="checkbox"/> The style of worship (liturgical-Sacramental) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching            | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A friend            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (list) _____                            |

**2. What would you suggest doing differently in worship?**

- Times of worship (suggestions) \_\_\_\_\_
- Occasional prayer and praise services
- Music (what blesses you) \_\_\_\_\_
- A Sunday evening contemporary service
- Other (list) \_\_\_\_\_

**3. What makes our Sunday worship attractive and edifying to you? What blesses you the most?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**4. What blesses you the least?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**5. What would assist you in inviting your friends and neighbors to church with you?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Non-Attenders** (to Holy Trinity folk- feel free to poll your friends and neighbors or pass this survey to them)

**1. Do you have a church family?**

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but only at Christmas and Easter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No  | <input type="checkbox"/> Not at present; maybe in the future   |

**2. If you were looking, what would you be looking for in a church family?**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> People friendly, accepting, easy to talk to | <input type="checkbox"/> Place to growing spiritually          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programs for the children                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Messages that are relevant to my life |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities to serve the community        | <input type="checkbox"/> Fellowship and community              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (list) _____                          |  |

**3. What would make it easier for you (and others you might bring) to attend a church like holy Trinity?**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A member to invite me to go with them | <input type="checkbox"/> Convenient Location               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Convenient time                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Child care and children's program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teen programs: 12-18 years            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (list) _____                |

**4. What does the word "Anglican" mean to you?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**5. If a person says that they are a "Christian," what does that mean to you?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please enclose the completed survey in an envelope and place in the offering plate, church office or mail to Holy Trinity, 160 Merovan Drive, North Augusta, SC, 29860.**

## **Matthew 25 Initiative**

<sup>35</sup> ... for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' <sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup> And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' <sup>40</sup> And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'



The poor, needy and disenfranchised are all around us. The ACNA has an initiative to help us reach “*the least of these*” who are our brothers and sisters. It is called “The Matthew 25 Initiative” [matthew25i.org]. The offer is that any church that starts or supports a ministry that makes Christ known through alleviating human need, may apply for a matching grant. Our association with CMONA, Megiddo, the Lydia Project, etc. may qualify for matching money, but this may also be a good opportunity to explore other hands-on ministries we would like to get started. Let us also not forget that, through our relationship with Thrivent Financial, we have further possibilities for funding outreach initiatives.



My charge to each of us is to prayerfully listen to the Lord as to how we can further meet the needs of the poor, needy and disenfranchised around us. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Father Rob+**

## **The Venerable Bede**



Bede (672/673 AD – 735 AD) is one of the few saints honored as such during his lifetime. His writings were filled with such faith and learning that even while he was still alive, a Church council ordered them to be read publicly in the churches.

At an early age, Bede was entrusted to the care of the abbot of the Monastery of St. Paul, Jarrow in Tyne and Wear, in the Midlands of England. At an early age he demonstrated a happy combination of genius and scholarship. Ordained a deacon at age 19 and to the priesthood at age 30 Bede was ever occupied with learning, writing, and teaching. Besides the many books that he copied, he composed 45 of his own, including 30 commentaries on books of the Bible.

His most famous work *Ecclesiastical History of the English People* is regarded as a decisive landmark in the history of the English church in the late Dark Ages. Bede recognized the opening of a new day in the life of the Church even as it was happening.

Although eagerly sought by kings and other notables, even Pope Sergius, Bede managed to remain in his own monastery until his death. Only once did he leave for a few months in order to teach in the school of the archbishop of York. Bede died in 735 praying his favorite prayer: “Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As in the beginning, so now, and forever.”

**Father Dan+**

## **Our children and teens at the blessing of the backpacks, beginning of the school year-2017**

