

PREPARING AT HOME

May 21-27, 2018

Focus reading: Isaiah 6:1–8 (<http://bible.oremus.org/?ql=388658212>)

Other lectionary readings: Psalm 104:24–35b; Romans 8:22–27; John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15

Theme: Take Notice

As we prepare for Trinity Sunday we consider the awesome power of the living God. The focus passage recounts the story of Isaiah’s call. It comes at a time when political powers, particularly Assyrian powers, had overtaken Judah’s neighbors Israel and Syria and were turning their attention to Judah. Fear reigned in Judah, as those with military strength turned up the volume of their threats. It is in this context that God calls Isaiah, and it is not with a whisper! Isaiah’s encounter with the living God overwhelms his senses! He sees the hem of God’ robe fill the temple. He hears the heavenly beings sing praise to God. He feels the foundation of the temple shake as he tastes the smoke that permeates the air. God’s glory and majesty fill the temple! This vision of God’s majesty leads Isaiah to an awareness of his own sinfulness, and his unclean lips are purified by the seraphim. *This* is power, not the clamoring of a neighboring bully-king! The King of Judah and others who fear the political power of such bullies have it all wrong. It is God alone who has power and majesty. Isaiah responds to the living God with worship and trust. Unfortunately, the king will not follow his lead.

SINGING THE FAITH

“Holy! Holy! Holy!” is a good hymn for reflecting on Trinity Sunday and Isaiah’s vision.

“Here I AM, Lord” is a more contemporary hymn that is also appropriate for this passage.

You can find both hymns on the Internet. Listen to them. Read the words. Sing them.

Draw them. Dance them.

A VISION OF GOD

Isaiah had an amazing vision! Ask “I wonder” questions after reading the story together.

“I wonder how Isaiah felt after seeing this vision?” “I wonder if Isaiah talked about the

vision to other people?” “I wonder what God’s voice sounded like?” “I wonder what

God would ask us to do?” Draw a picture of how you envision God’s glory.

PRAYER

Glorious, God,
You are awesome!
You are powerful
and wise
and good.
Send me to tell and show
others how amazing you are!
Amen.

Prospect Presbyterian Church, Maplewood, NJ, www.prospectchurch.org

Rita Boyer, rita@prospectchurch.org