

WEEKDAY WORSHIP

May 21-27, 2018

Worship as encounter with the living God cannot be limited to one hour per week. "Weekday Worship" invites you to extend your worship beyond the sanctuary, to hear the story of the Bible as your story, lived out each day of each week. Feedback is appreciated and should be directed to Rita Boyer.

BIBLE READING

This week's reading is: Isaiah 6:1–8 (<http://bible.oremus.org/?q=388658212>).

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

The theme is: 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's 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.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

"Questions to Consider" enable you to connect your story to the biblical story. Rather than easy questions to be answered at first glance, these questions or reflections can be returned to and meditated upon throughout the week.

How is God speaking in situations of political chaos today?

How is God calling us to bear witness to God's power and majesty today?

Continue to reflect upon the worship theme of May 20:

Where do you see evidence of the church as being "on fire" with God's Spirit today?