



Trinity Presbyterian Church
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**CHRIST THE KING/REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY
WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

Prelude

**“Oh, sing unto the Lord a joyful song” from *Biblical Songs, Op. 99*
by Antonin Dvorak**

Welcome & Announcements

Leader: This is a day that God has made!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Time for sharing news of the church.

Call to Worship

Leader: We have gathered virtually, for God gathers us together,
with that community called faith:

People: where the hungry are served first, where the thirsty drink life’s water.

Leader: We have gathered virtually, for God welcomes us together
into that home called grace:

**People: where the naked are clothed in robes of hope;
where the stranger is embraced as the long-lost prodigal.**

Leader: We have gathered virtually, for God reunites us together,
sisters and brothers and siblings into that family called love:

**People: where the imprisoned model justice,
where the sick are cradled in God’s peace.**

Gathering Song

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
Glory to God #187, v. 1-4

Invitation to Confession

Leader: They are promises stretching back into the dim recesses of time,
yet as new as this very moment.

When we lose our way, God searches for us until we are found.

When we hurt others, God brings healing to all. When we sin, God forgives us.

Let us hold these promises close to our hearts,
as we confess those things we try to hide:

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

We stock the food pantries, but brush aside those who hunger for friendship. We give our hand-me-downs away, but overlook those whose hopes have been stripped away. We happily spend time with those just like us, but turn a deaf ear to our neighbors who ‘talk funny.’

Forgive us, Hope of the ages. You persistently search for us in the side streets of the world, gathering us up and bringing us home, so we may be drenched in the waters of your bottomless pool of forgiveness, watched over by your Child, Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Savior, through whom we pray. Amen.

Assurance of God’s Forgiveness

Leader: God searches for the lost,

People: **and finds us;**

Leader: God invited the hungry to the table,

People: **and feeds us;**

Leader: God sends Jesus,

People: **and frees us from death’s prison;**

Leader: God forgives all who sin,

People: **and heals us with mercy and grace. Thanks be to God!**

Passing the Peace

Leader: Since God in Christ Jesus has forgiven us,
let us forgive one another.

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

Please share the peace of Jesus Christ

with those with whom you are joining us for worship.

Song of Praise

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Glory to God #582

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: Eternal God, whose empire promises abundance for all and mutual caring, turn us away from indifference to the inequalities that grant to us advantages we enjoy, that we may see and serve those who are hungry, thirsty, ill-clothed, sick, persecuted, or shut out. We seek to be faithful to your rule of love, that together we might experience your gift of eternal life. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you

scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Responsorial Psalm

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Glory to God #385, v. 1-4

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 25:31-46

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; 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, 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.’ 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? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ 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.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Message: “Seeing Jesus”

Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Song of Response

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

Glory to God #343, v 1-4

Affirmation of Faith

Leader: We believe in the God who was revealed to the people of Israel in their journey from bondage to freedom.
Who is revealed to us through our cultures, our history,
rooted in East and West, in North and South;
our struggles in the homelands and the new lands:
who was revealed in Jesus the Christ,
with whom we identify in his life, pain, death, and resurrection.

People: **We believe that through our pains, we are being healed:
through our death, we are receiving new life;
and through our resurrection, we are being made whole.**

**Though some of us have known rejection and oppression,
we rejoice in our life together;
we celebrate our common humanity,
our common identity, our common experience.**

Leader: We believe that our broken world awaits
those unique and beautiful gifts that only we can bring;
thus, we offer our lives to bring justice, love, and freedom, to all people.
Amen.

Litany Prayers of the People

A time for silent prayers will be offered during the Litany Prayers of the People.

Leader: Jesus says: Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find;
knock, and the door will be opened for you.
Trusting in Christ's grace, let us offer our prayers for the church and the world, neighbors and
loved ones, saying, God, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We ask your provision for all people. Teach us compassion and generosity.
Put an end to economic exploitation. Fill this world with your abundant life.
God, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We search for your beloved community. Break down systems of oppression.
Dismantle patterns of privilege. Establish justice and equality for all.
God, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: We knock at the door of your house. Gather us in as disciples of your way.
Nourish us in faith and faithfulness. Send us out to share good news.
God, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

And now, God of healing and hope hear us as we offer our individual prayers
from wherever we are gathered to worship this day,
for ourselves, for our neighbors, friends and loved ones:

Silent Prayer

Leader: Thank you, Loving God, for hearing all these our prayers.
Living God, we ask, we search, we knock –
answer our prayers with the power of your Spirit,
who transforms our lives to do your will.
We pray through our Sovereign Savior, Jesus, the Christ,
who taught his disciples to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth
as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and
the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering

Invitation

Doxology

I Will Call Upon the Lord

Glory to God #621

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

God of steadfast love, receive these expressions of our thanks for the glorious inheritance entrusted to us. We hereby enlist ourselves and our resources toward the realization of your eternal purpose for all humanity. May this congregation become more and more a source of hope for each of us and for all we meet as we cross the crowded ways of life. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

Song of Service

Rejoice, the Lord is King!

Glory to God #363, v 1-4

Commission and Blessing

Postlude

Fantasia and Fugue in C major

by W.A. Mozart

Participants in Today's Worship

Pastor – Marilyn Gamm

Guest Preacher – Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett

Director of Music & Pianist/Organist – Christian Hendricks

Liturgist – Jayne Howard

Children & Youth Minister – Hannah Peters

Communications Coordinator – Katie Gibbons

Technical Support – Dylan Voss and John Roman

Soloist – Evan Babel

The Trinity Choir:

Soprano – Aleta Klein, Cricket Gordon, Jenn Clodi, Madeline Black (Section Leader)

Alto – Connie Torretta, Margy Brown, Nancy Wagoner, Rachel Presti, Janelle Pierce (Section Leader)

Tenor – Brian Schroer, Pat Courtney, Evan Babel (Section Leader)

Bass – George Van Hare, Nigel Holloway, John Galczynski

Contact Trinity's staff and leadership by emailing admin@trinityucity.org or contacting the church office.

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWS AND NOTES FOR NOVEMBER 22, 2020

We open our doors to all persons to join in worship, fellowship, educational programs, and service.

We welcome into membership all who profess faith in Jesus Christ without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, worldly conditions, sexual orientation, disability, or any other human condition.

We elect and ordain persons who are called by God and committed to serving the Lord Jesus Christ in the Church.

Today's guest preacher will be the Rev. Dr. Diane Givens Moffett, who has served as President and Executive Director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA), the mission arm of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), since June 2018. Dr. Moffett will be using the Matthew 25:31-46 Gospel reading to share about her vision embraced by the 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies as an invitation to become a "Matthew 25 Church."

Prior to her election leading PMA, Diane served as senior pastor of St. James Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, North Carolina. While there, she also served on several boards, became a candidate for mayor of the city, and was co-chair of the Greensboro Interfaith Clergy Council and vice president of the Pulpit Forum.

In April 2018, Diane received the Sojourner Truth Award, the highest honor of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, for her commitment to serving others.

Diane's service to the denomination also includes serving as the first woman pastor at Elmhurst Presbyterian Church in Oakland, California, and associate pastor of evangelism, discipleship and ministry at Elmwood United Presbyterian Church in East Orange, New Jersey.

She has also served as coordinator of the Korean and African American Pastors Reconciliation Project and executive director at Harbor House Ministries.

Diane holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology and social welfare from the University of California at Berkeley, and both a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry from San Francisco Theological Seminary.

Diane is married to Mondre Moffett, a trumpeter and professor of Black music studies at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. They have three daughters and five grandchildren.

I Believe Even When....

The Worship Committee is excited to share that our theme for this year's four Sundays of Advent, for framing the traditional Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols, and for the Sunday after Christmas is "I Believe Even When...."

As the language of the soul even during these challenging times, this worship series is designed to focus upon and heighten our music appreciation "even when" we cannot be together in all the many ways we would prefer.

As such, our weekly worship format will be modified to include a time of "Threshold Music" as we from wherever we are gathering "enter" into the service, a time of appreciating the "Witness of Music" between the weekly Scripture readings and concluding each week with a "Carol of Resistance."

Our weekly services will include an original "Litany of Belief" composed from the one-liners you have submitted that capture what we as a worshipping Christian community believe through which we will name and claim our belief in the hope for tomorrow.

And our services will also include a time for "Prayers in the Stillness" at the beginning of our weekly prayers of the people.

Our "I Believe Even When...." Worship series begins the First Sunday of Advent on November 29.

As we continue to remain physically distant to ensure our mutual health and safety, coming together for Christmas Eve in our beautiful sanctuary is not possible this year—at least not in person. However, we are working on a Christmas gift to you, our congregation, and for everyone you share it with: a Lessons and Carols service, with individual parts filmed and put together for one video. We will acknowledge the difficulties of these times, but the emphasis, as always when we emerge from Advent, will be on light and overcoming darkness. And we want to have as many of you involved as possible. Just as with a usual Lessons and Carols service, there are nine readings, which we would record individuals and families reciting from their homes, by the fireside, maybe, or by a Christmas tree—something to add and share for the Christmas mood. We're still looking for a few more readers for the Christmas Eve video.

We are also looking for musicians. While we are mostly keeping with carols, we are expanding the amount of music in relation to past years, to get as many people involved as possible. The music, contrary to the readings, would ideally be filmed at the church in the evening, to reflect the atmosphere of a usual Christmas Eve Vigil service (conditions permitting). You would work with Music Director Christian Hendricks to find a suitable arrangement (even a solitary voice or instrument is welcome). Some parts of the service will be allotted specifically to our contract soloists and to handbells. Hannah is also looking for children to play music for the prelude, as we would normally have for the Family Service.

If you are interested in **either** reading a Lesson or performing a Carol, please contact Christian at christian.hendricks@trinityucity.org. Thank you, and come December 24th, we will present you, and you all will present each other, a most heartfelt gift of music and goodwill.

Our December Sunday Symposium will be December 6 at 11:15 a.m. via Zoom. In addition to a time of fellowship, the Session has called a Congregation meeting during the Symposium for the purpose of electing four members each to the Session and to the Board of Deacons, and to elect two members of the congregation to the 2021 Nominating Committee.

Working for justice means keeping the issues in the forefront of people's minds. Every Wednesday, members of First Presbyterian Church stand at their busy corner of Midland and Delmar, holding signs acknowledging that Black Lives Matter and demanding Justice for those who have been murdered.

They welcome us to join them each week. Currently they meet from 5:30-6:30pm each Wednesday, but will probably switch to 5-6pm once we have the time change. Please contact Liz Nelson for more details (314-359-2478; leithskye@gmail.com), or show up on the front lawn if First Pres with a sign and a desire for justice!

Trinity is “broadcasting” our Sunday morning 10 a.m. worship service via our Facebook page or you can watch the recording on YouTube later on Sundays. Those who participate in this way on home computers or mobile devices can even type messages to one another during the live service, such as doing a virtual passing of the peace. Also, Facebook has captions! While watching the service, find the gear icon at the bottom of the video and click on it. When you do, an option pops up to turn on closed captioning!

Kids and parents probably already know about this, but if you are not a parent of a young person and have **wondered what goes on in “Children’s Church,” now you can experience it!** Hannah Peters has taped a YouTube video, and updated links will be posted regularly on the “Sundays at Trinity” section of our website homepage.

As we live in this challenging time, Trinity continues to be available to all those who need us.

Members desiring pastoral care are encouraged to call the church office at 314-725-3840 or to reach out to Deacons Margy Brown, 314-452-7241, or Cathy Smith, 314-725-0586. Your need will be shared confidentially with our Transitional Pastor the Reverend Marilyn Gamm. You also can email her directly at Marilyn.Gamm@TrinityUCity.org

Supporting the church through your financial gifts continues to be encouraged! Please mail your contributions to Trinity Presbyterian Church, Att’n: Linde, 6800 Washington Ave., University City, MO 63130, or check out the online giving instructions below.

1) Text the code TPCDONATE \$[your gift] to 73256. You'll receive a text back with a link that lets you complete your online donation.

2) Log in to your Realm account and click on the "Giving" tab.

Session

Gordon Brown, Dayna Early, Nigel Holloway, Kris Kerr, Mary Klingensmith, Mike Krivonak, Mary McKown,
Brian Muegge (Clerk), Rachel Presti, John Roman, Jan Schulte-Glad, George Van Hare

Deacons

Margy Brown, Bill Cahoon, Kathie Cahoon, Anna Gardner-Andrews, Jennifer Higginbotham, Corie Merker,
Jim Person, Art Platt, Diana Regan, Joanne Roman, Cathy Smith, Spirit Sorensen