



August 9, 2020

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

Trinity Presbyterian Church  
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## TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

#### Prelude

“Peer Gynt’s Return Home” from *Peer Gynt*  
by Edvard Grieg

#### 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: As we gather together virtually from our many settings,  
God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:

**People: wherever you are, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.**

Leader: During this time, we are invited to remember all the ways God has graced us:

**People: during these moments we are reminded that God is with us, always!**

Leader: We gather as those daring enough to step out of comfort into the unknown:

**People: in this faith space we can find the courage to cry out,  
“God save us!” in every situation.**

#### Gathering Song

**Eternal God, Strong to Save**  
*Glory to God #8, v. 1-4*

#### Invitation to Confession

Leader: Too often when life threatens us, we trust the world to save us,  
finding it easy to believe the empty promises of seduction and doubt.  
But our God offers us forgiveness and healing when we will but trust and follow.  
Let us begin by confessing our sin together:

### **Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

It seems so easy to get into the boat and set sail on our journey, God of Promises. But when the winds of change begin to blow, we want to turn around and head back to the past's safe harbor. When sin's waves crash over the side, we try to wrap ourselves in the cloak of pride thinking we will not get wet. When Jesus calls to us to get out and follow in faith, we look around, hoping he is not speaking to us.

Swamped by our fears, and sinking in doubt, we long for someone to help us – so save us, Holy One, save us! Stretch out your hand, so we might be lifted from our despair to hope, from our worries to trust, from our foolishness to faithful living. Then, we will dare to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior, even when it means getting out of the “boats” of sheltered lives we have built for ourselves. It is through the One who reaches out and pulls us from the stormy waters of our lives that we pray. Amen.

### **Assurance of God's Forgiveness**

**Leader:** The gift of Divine grace through Jesus as the Christ empowers us to let go of the past and to embrace God's future. The gift of Divine grace empowers us to step out of our fears, and walk into the light and life God offers.

**People:** **Trusting in God's promises we let the Spirit work in and through us, healing and making us whole.**  
**Thanks be to God that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**  
**Alleluia!**

### **Passing of 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**

**Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!**  
*Glory to God #591, refrain*

## **WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

**Leader:** God you do not ask us for too many leaps of faith, but for small steps that help us stay with you every day. As our Scripture readings touch on the familiar themes of fear, betrayal, lies, jealousy, and envy may they also remind us of your amazing faithfulness. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

### **First Scripture Reading**

**Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28**

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**The Steadfast Love of the Lord**  
*Glory to God #59*

### **Second Scripture Reading**

**Matthew 14:22-33**

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** "Going into Uncharted Waters"

**Rev. Marilyn Gamm**

### **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**Song of Response**

**Precious Lord, Take My Hand**  
*Glory to God #834, v 1-2*

**I refuse to believe  
that we are unable to influence the events which surround us.**

**I refuse to believe  
that we are so bound to racism and war that peace,  
brotherhood and sisterhood are not possible.**

**I believe there is an urgent need  
for people to overcome oppression and violence,  
without resorting to violence and oppression.**

**I believe that we need to discover a way to live together in peace,  
a way which rejects revenge, aggression, and retaliation.  
The foundation of this way is love.**

**I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love  
will have the final word in reality.  
I believe that right temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant.**

**I believe that peoples everywhere  
can have three meals a day for their bodies,  
education and culture for their minds,  
and dignity, equality, and freedom for their spirits.**

**I believe that what self-centered people have torn down,  
other-centered people can build up.**

**By the goodness of God at work within people,  
I believe that brokenness can be healed.  
“And the lion and the lamb shall lie down together,  
and everyone will sit under their own vine and fig tree,  
and none shall be afraid.”**

### **Prayers of the People**

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

### **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**

**Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow  
*Glory to God #609, v. 1***

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison)**

**God of sea and storm, of sunshine and meadow, we present these offerings as tokens of our lives in grateful praise for your love for us. Use these gifts as part of our contributions to ministries of hope and justice in this, your broken world. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**WE GO FORTH TO SERVE IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST**

**Song of Service**

**Dear Lord and Father of Mankind (Dear Lord, Creator Good and Kind)**

*Glory to God #169, v. 1-5*

**Commission and Blessing**

**Postlude**

***Danzas españolas, No. 2, "Oriental"***

*by Enrique Granados*

Participants in Today's Worship

**Pastor** – Marilyn Gamm

**Director of Music & Pianist/Organist** – Christian Hendricks

**Liturgist** – Jim Person

**Children & Youth Minister** – Hannah Peters

**Communications Coordinator** – Katie Gibbons

**Technical Support** – Dylan Voss and John Roman

**Featured Soloist** – Aleksandar Dragojevic

**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, Aleksandar Dragojevic (Section Leader)*

Contact Trinity's staff and leadership by emailing [admin@trinityucity.org](mailto:admin@trinityucity.org) or contacting the church office.

**TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**NEWS AND NOTES FOR AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup>, 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.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Due to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic and restrictions on public gatherings at the time St. Louis Pride postponed PrideFest 2020 from June to mid-August. Then due to the ongoing restrictions on large crowds St. Louis Pride made the decision to hold a virtual PrideFest 2020 celebration on August 15. As a regular participant in the St. Louis PrideFest Parades with plans in place to participate this year along with being a new member of More Light Presbyterians, Trinity is now participating in this PrideFest weekend via a special worship service on Sunday, August 16.**

Therefore, our live stream worship team of Pastor Marilyn, Music Director Christian Hendricks, Liturgist George Van Hare, and tech gurus Dylan Voss and John Roman will be joined virtually by guest preacher and More Light Presbyterians Program and Communications Manager, The Rev. Jess Cook (Gender pronouns: they/them/theirs). Rev. Cook is a lifelong Presbyterian and was the first openly non-binary person to be ordained as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Prior to joining MLP, Rev. Cook was the Youth Programs Director at Side by Side, an organization in Richmond, VA serving LGBTQIA+ youth. While at Side by Side, Rev. Cook worked with hundreds of young people through support groups, a leadership program, and various programs in the community. They also created a parent support group and a meals program, and trained a wide variety of faith community leaders and service providers on best practices for working with LGBTQIA+ youth.

To learn more you can check out Jess's TEDxTalk on what faith communities can learn from LGBTQIA+ youth.

Rev. Cook has a Master of Divinity from Union Presbyterian Seminary, a Master of Fine Arts in Photography from the University of North Texas, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art from Baylor.

Rev. Cook is a native of East Texas now living with their child and dog in Richmond, VA.

**We are always seeking a variety of musical guests for our services, especially from our own congregation.** If you would like to participate, or know of someone who would, please reach out to Director of Music Christian Hendricks. These musical gifts can be shared in person or recorded (video or audio only), and we welcome all varieties of styles and levels of ability.

**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.

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