

September 6, 2020



Trinity Presbyterian Church
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www.trinityucity.org

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FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude

“This Is Thy Hour, O Soul” from *Four Songs in Wistfulness*
by Christian Hendricks

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: God has blessed each and every one of us.

People: We want to serve God.

Leader: Each talent, each skill can be used for peace and justice.

People: Holy God, help us be part of ministries that promote hope and peace.

Leader: Come, let us praise God for the diversity present here.

People: Enable us, O God, to discern what you would have us do.

Gathering Song

Sacred the Body
Glory to God #27, v. 1-4

Invitation to Confession

Leader: When we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
But when we confess our sin, God who is faithful and just, forgives us our sin.
Let us join together in confessing our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

It is so easy for us, Gracious God, to diminish the gifts you have given us. We have come to believe that either we are experts in some areas or we know nothing. Each of us has been given special talents and gifts that can be used to help others, but for some reason we have chosen not to use these gifts, deciding that they are unimportant or not needed. Forgive us when we make

decisions not to act. Help us look at the blessings that you have poured into our lives and to discover the special talents that we have. Open the doorways of service and let the gates swing wide on the “grease of grace,” that we may go forth to serve you in this world. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of God’s Forgiveness

Leader: Each one of us has been blessed with unique talents.
God has need of our talents, our energies, our spirits in the world in which we live.
Place your trust in our Creator’s loving guidance and open your hearts to serve God.
Friends, believe the Good News:

People: 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

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Glory to God #582, v. 1-2

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: Loving God, call us together as your people; transform us with your love. Transform our hearts, that we may love generously. Transform our eyes, that we may see your grace. Transform our hands, that we may serve others. Transform our spirits, that we may be the body of Christ, gathered to worship and sent out to serve. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 51:1-6

“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness
and who seek the Lord:

Look to the rock from which you were cut
and to the quarry from which you were hewn;

Look to Abraham, your father,
and to Sarah, who gave you birth.

When I called him he was only one man,
and I blessed him and made him many.

The Lord will surely comfort Zion
and will look with compassion on all her ruins;

he will make her deserts like Eden,
her wastelands like the garden of the Lord.

Joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the sound of singing.

“Listen to me, my people;

hear me, my nation:

Instruction will go out from me;

my justice will become a light to the nations.

My righteousness draws near speedily,
my salvation is on the way,
and my arm will bring justice to the nations.
The islands will look to me
and wait in hope for my arm.
Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
look at the earth beneath;
the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment
and its inhabitants die like flies.
But my salvation will last forever,
my righteousness will never fail.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Give Praise to the Lord
Glory to God #550, v. 1-4

Second Scripture Reading

Romans 12:1-8 read by Rev. Brian Ellison

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Message: **"Beyond Best in Show"**

Rev. Brian Ellison

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Song of Response

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me
Glory to God #700, v 1-4

Affirmation of Faith

adapted from A Brief Statement of Faith

Leader: In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.

People: **We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

Leader: The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

**People: In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Leader: In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

**People: With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.**

Litany Prayers of the People

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

Leader: Holy God, before time you named us. Through time you redeem us.
You call us, precious in your sight.

People: May we love as you love.

Leader: Holy One, through the turbulent waters make us steady,
your hands holding strong the fragile and weak.

People: May we love as you love.

Leader: Gracious God, may the fruits of our lives
be food for the hungry, bread, clothing, shelter, fire, water, Word.

People: May we love as you love.

Leader: God of justice, remove the chaff of our lives
that keep us from hearing, following, your call.

People: May we love as you love.

Leader: Loving God, take this day our fears, our worries, our distractions,
and turn them into wheat, heart food.

People: May we love as you love.

Leader: 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

Thank you, Loving God, for hearing all these our prayers.
Through Jesus Christ Jesus, who has revealed your love most fully,
and the Spirit, who pours it into our hearts,
and who taught disciples when we pray to say:

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

Leader: The earth and all it contains belong to God, the world and those who live in it.
With gladness let us now offer from our life and labor our gifts to God.
We continue to welcome your financial gifts to Trinity Presbyterian Church,
and the ways to share are being shown in the live stream.

Doxology

Oh Lord, Our Lord
Glory to God #613, v. 1

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Generous God, you have given us many gifts and drawn us together into Christ's body, the church. You have blessed us with generous and cheerful spirits. May the gifts of our money, time, and talents support the ministry of your church. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

Song of Service

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout
Glory to God #100, v 1-4

Commission and Blessing

Postlude

"A Jubilee" from *From the Southland*
by Henry T. Burleigh

Participants in Today's Worship

Pastor – Marilyn Gamm

Guest Preacher - Brian Ellison

Director of Music & Pianist/Organist – Christian Hendricks

Liturgist – Bob Wagoner

Children & Youth Minister – Hannah Peters

Communications Coordinator – Katie Gibbons

Technical Support – Dylan Voss and John Roman

Soloist – Janelle Pierce

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 SEPTEMBER 6TH, 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

Pastor Marilyn is on vacation through September 7.

About This Sunday's Preacher:

The Reverend Brian Ellison has served as the Executive Director of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians since 2012. He also serves as Stated Clerk of both the Synod of Mid-America and of Heartland Presbytery. Brian is a regular host/contributor at NPR affiliate KCUR-FM. Previously, Brian served as pastor of Parkville Presbyterian Church near Kansas City, Missouri for 13 years. His writing on matters of faith and theology have appeared in numerous church and independent publications. Brian is a graduate of Harvard University and Princeton Theological Seminary. He and his partner, Troy Lillebo, live in Kansas City.

Save the Date: Next Adult Ed September 13

Stay tuned for more information about our next Zoom-based adult education program, scheduled for Sunday, September 13 at 7 p.m. It will be based on the work of a St. Louis-area not-for-profit The Unpaid Labor Project that takes a unique, non-confrontational, unifying and proactive approach to building a new national mindset focused on racial reconciliation.

Save the Date: Adult Ed starting September 20

Is Christ just the second part of Jesus' name? Bringing together thinking about Jesus the historical person with Christ as savior, "The Universal Christ" by Richard Rohr will be the basis for the next adult education study, led by Trinity members Diane O'Brien and Jim Person. The six-week series will begin Sunday, September 20, from 7 to 8 p.m

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. 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