

July 17, 2022



Trinity Presbyterian Church
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[Facebook.com/trinityucity](https://www.facebook.com/trinityucity)
trinityucity.org/worship

Christ in the House of Martha and Mary
By Carol C. Caruso

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude

“Loveliest of trees”
by *George Butterworth*

*** Please rise in body or in spirit.**

Welcome & Announcements

Leader: The Lord be with you
All: **And also with you**

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: The Psalmist declares;
People: **I am like a green olive tree
in the house of God.
I trust in the steadfast love of God
forever and ever.
I will thank you, O God,
because of what you have done.**

Leader: In the presence of the faithful,
let us proclaim God’s name

All: **The Lord’s name be praised!**

*** Gathering Song**

Come, Great God of All the Ages
Glory to God #309, v. 1-4

*** Invitation to Confession**

*** Prayer of Confession** (Unison)

Prayer of Confession

**Saving One,
we hear your Spirit calling us to come,
to lay down our burdens,
to sit, listen, and find rest in you.**

**But we confess, that we often neglect your call.
Listening to our worries,
we lose sleep attempting to fix
what is often beyond our control.
Lost in anxiety,
we feel hopeless that the world
will ever become the beloved community you promise.
Confronted with everything that needs to be done,
we lose sight of the purpose you have called us to.**

**Forgive us.
Call to us again,
and by the power of your Spirit,
enable us to find at your feet
the rest, joy, hope, and purpose
promised through Jesus Christ.
Amen**

*** Assurance of God's Forgiveness**

Leader: Do not fear, says the Lord,
for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name;
you are mine.

God is doing a new thing;
now it springs forth!

People: **By the grace of Jesus Christ,
We are forgiven!
Thanks be to God!**

*** Passing The Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you
People: **and also with you.**

Please share the peace of Christ with those around you

*** Song of Praise**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me
Glory to God #582, v. 1-2

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Time with Children

Rev. Mel Smith

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Genesis 18.1-10a

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, 'My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.' So they said, 'Do as you have said.' And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, 'Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.' Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, 'Where is your wife Sarah?' And he said, 'There, in the tent.' Then one said, 'I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.'

Anthem

Seek Ye First
Glory to God # 175, v. 1-3

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 10.38-42

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

Leader: The word of the Lord
All: **Thanks be to God**

Message

Rev. Mel Smith

Affirmation of Faith

**Jesus Christ is God with humankind.
He is the eternal Son of the Father,
who became human and lived among us
to fulfill the work of reconciliation.
He is present in the church
by the power of the Holy Spirit
to continue and complete his mission.**

**This work of God,
the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
is the foundation of all confessional statements
about God, humanity, and the world.
Therefore, the church calls all people
to be reconciled to God and to one another.**

*** Song of Response**

For All the Faithful Women
Glory to God #324, v. 1-4

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 glory forever. Amen.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Offering

Invitation

Offertory

Lord, Who May Dwell within Your House
Glory to God #419, v. 1-4

*** Doxology**

We Are an Offering
Glory to God #710, v. 1

Prayer of Dedication

God of Abundance,
we bring what we have; the work of our hands, the creativity of our minds, the time we give, the financial resource we can offer. Receive these gifts – weave them into good news so that people in our community can find their way to your presence and experience the rest, joy, hope and purpose you offer. Through Christ we pray, Amen.

*** Song of Service**

I Will Come to You
Glory to God #177, v. 1-4

*** Commission and Blessing**

Postlude

Gavotte
by Pauline Viardot

Please join us in the Chapel for Fellowship after the service

Participants in Today's Worship

Children & Youth Minister – Hannah Peters

Communications Coordinator – Katie Gibbons

Director of Music & Pianist/Organist – Christian Hendricks

Guest Preacher – Liz Kanerva

Liturgist – Katie Klein

Pastor – Mel Smith

Soloist – Madeline Black

Technical Support – Dylan Voss and Jim Person

Ushers – Cathy Smith, George Philips, Lynn Reid

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

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS AND NOTES FOR July 17, 2022

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.

Color Has Meaning

It's hard to miss the colorful, new flag hanging in the front of the church, and that is intentional! As a More Light church, Trinity has proclaimed its commitment to welcome and affirm the LGBTQIA+ community. More Light Presbyterian churches work for **“the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, intersex, and asexual/ally (LGBTQIA+) people in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in society.”** This flag is one of our visible signs of welcome to anyone passing by.

You may be more familiar with the original rainbow pride flag, created in the 1970's at the beginning of the gay rights/gay pride movement. That flag included the 6 traditional rainbow colors that signify: life, healing, sunlight, nature, harmony/peace, spirit. Our flag is the new “progress pride” flag, created in 2018 by queer designer Daniel Quasar to highlight the more recent conversations within the LGBTQIA+ and wider communities about inclusion and movement forward, as well as progress that is still needed.

Added to the original flag, the new chevron on the left/top of the flag contains white, pink, and light blue, which are the colors of the transgender flag, and brown and black stripes to represent people of color and also those lost to AIDS. The arrow shape evokes movement forward, but also the need for ongoing progress, especially for marginalized LGBTQIA+ people of color and transgender people. (Check out the links below for more information on the new flag and on the importance of transgender people of color in the birth of the gay rights movement at the Stonewall riots of June 1969 and beyond.)

When you pass Trinity's pride flag, know that we are sending a message to the wider world that our theology aligns with the loving, welcoming and justice-minded theology of all More Light churches and that we wish to be a part of conversations about inclusion and progress.

Trinity Presbyterian Church Negro Spirituals Initiative Nugget: The Coded Lyrics of Spirituals

Just as they did in Africa, singing was a way for enslaved Africans to communicate and share information with each other. Once on plantations, they were forbidden to speak with each other, so they communicated through song, in styles they brought with them. Enslaved people were also taken to church by enslavers and they wisely picked up on the fact that their enslavers were moved by Christian theology, so the enslaved

decided to use that language to pass messages to each other in their lyrics without the enslavers having a clue what they were really speaking about. These types of spirituals were called "coded spirituals," because on the surface the lyrics appeared to be about God, Jesus, everlasting life, and salvation from the struggles of the world, but the coded messages were actually used to share information about freedom and to coordinate escapes on the underground railroad.

Take the lyrics of "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," for example. When we sing it in church, you may be thinking the lyrics speak to that heavenly chariot coming down from the sky to take true believers up to God in heaven once they die. You may imagine looking over the Biblical River Jordan for the band of angels coming for you. But to enslaved people, they were speaking of looking over the Ohio or Mississippi Rivers, watching for members of the Underground Railroad, coming to lead them to free states up north or Canada on their very own version of a "sweet chariot." While spirituals also gave enslaved Africans a way to express messages of hope and shared struggle, many of their songs had double meaning that allowed them to communicate and coordinate right in front of their enslavers, with them none the wiser. Feel free to take a look at the video links below for more in depth discussions of coded spirituals, and stay tuned for education sessions this fall, interactive singing opportunities this fall and winter, and concerts and more education next spring, as Trinity continues its yearlong focus on the history and power of spirituals.

The Food Pantry uses the local Schnucks store to purchase canned goods and other non-perishables for the pantry. We are taking part in the Schnucks reward program and receive award credits to use as credit against our food pantry purchases. If you shop at Schnucks, you too can add to this by using Trinity's phone number 725-3840 when checking out. The credit will go against future food pantry purchases. The small amounts add up!

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. 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!

While 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 Deacon Corie Merker, 314-434-8286. Your need will be shared confidentially with our Pastor the Reverend Mel Smith. You also can email her directly at melanie.smith@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 Onrealm account (onrealm.org) and click on the "Giving" tab.

Session

Diana Gray, Kevin Harkins, Diane Hemphill, Jayne Howard, Jane Kaiser, Mary Klingensmith, Sarah New Mayer (Clerk), Mary McKown, Bob Parks, Jan Schulte-Glad

Deacons

Anna Gardner-Andrews, DeAnne Brown, Stacey Carman, Cricket Gordon, Jennifer Higginbotham, Corie Merker, John Merker, Jim Person, Art Platt, Christy Schindler