

September 26, 2021



Trinity Presbyterian Church  
6800 Washington Avenue  
314.725.3840  
University City, Missouri 63130  
[www.trinityucity.org](http://www.trinityucity.org)

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## EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

#### Prelude

**Pavane**  
*by Gabriel Fauré*

#### 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.*

#### Introit

**Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying**  
*Glory to God #469, v. 1*

#### Call to Worship

Leader: We have walked with you, Jesus,  
from many parts of the world to this time and place.  
**People: And we will walk with you, Jesus, into the world to serve all people.**  
Leader: We leave behind our old insecurities;  
we leave behind our reliance on worldly goods.  
**People: And we will walk with you, Jesus, into the world to live with all people.**  
Leader: We leave behind all which holds us back;  
we leave behind all which keeps us from following you.  
**People: And we will walk with you, Jesus, into the world to serve with all people.**  
Leader: We leave behind the fears which bind us;  
we leave behind the hurts and judgments which harm us and our witness.  
**People: And we will walk with you, Jesus, into the peace you offer to all people.**

#### Gathering Song

**All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly**  
*Glory to God #509, v. 1-3*

## Invitation to Confession

Leader: We don't mean to, but all too often our words, our actions, our ignorance, become stumbling blocks for those around us, discouraging them from being able to live and serve as God intends for them. Hear us as we confess judging and criticizing the ways others follow Jesus, as we pray together, saying,

## Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Gracious God, Scripture teaches that anyone who extends a helping hand, who shelters the homeless, who cares for the earth, who feeds the hungry, teaches the ignorant, stands for justice, gives a cup of water in Jesus' name is all for us, and belongs to the Christ.**

**Jesus, all we want is to belong to you. Forgive us when our actions, or lack of action, have contributed to continuing powerlessness in people's lives. Forgive us when our actions, or lack of action, have contributed to whether people feel welcomed into, or excluded from, our fellowship. Forgive us when our actions, or lack of action, have contributed to whether we are "salty" followers of Jesus or not.**

**Forgive us for the times when we have judged and criticized how others follow and serve you when we think they should be doing so only the ways we do. Help us to recognize that even when we are following and serving along the Christian course, we may not yet all be in the same place on that path.**

**Strengthen us all to witness to our Christian faith with a freshness that attracts, a sincerity that convinces, and an integrity which confirms our own allegiance to Jesus in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Leader: The good news is this:  
God loves the world so much as to make it a fit place to live;  
God loves us so much as to reshape us into people of faith.

**People: Like a cup of cold water, forgiveness revives us, restores us, gives us new life.  
Thanks be to God, we are forgiven!**

## 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

**Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty**  
*Glory to God #35, v. 3*

## WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

## Children's Message

**Hannah Peters**

## Anthem

**Our Help Is in the Name of God**  
*Glory to God #330, v. 1-3*

## Scripture Reading

**Mark 9:38-50**

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

**Message**

**"Exercising Empathetic Imagination"**

**Rev. Marilyn Gamm**

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

**Song of Response**

**Spirit, Open My Heart**  
*Glory to God #692, v. 1-3*

**Minute for Mission**

**"Advent Bags"**

**Sandy Norkaitus**

**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**

**God, We Honor You**  
*Glory to God #709, v. 1*

**Prayer of Dedication** (Unison)

**Giving God, we can never match your generosity. Receive our offerings, though they are as small as a drink for someone who thirsts. Transform them into the mystery of your Reign here and now on earth, in the name of Jesus, your greatest gift. Amen.**

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

**Song of Service**

**God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us**

*Glory to God #436, v. 1-3*

**Commission and Blessing**

**Postlude**

**Nocturne in E-flat major**

*by Frédéric Chopin*

### Participants in Today's Worship

**Pastor** – Marilyn Gamm

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

**Liturgist** – Cathy Smith

**Soloist** – Madeline Black

**Children & Youth Minister** – Hannah Peters

**Communications Coordinator** – Katie Gibbons

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

**Ushers** – Jan Schulte-Glad, Sandy Norkaitis, Mary Klingensmith

### **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](mailto:admin@trinityucity.org) or contacting the church office.

**TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**NEWS AND NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER 26, 2021**

*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.*

**Adult Education – SHED on September 26, 2021 at 7pm**

As part of our Matthew 25 initiative, Trinity's adult education session on Sunday 26th at 7pm will be devoted to a presentation by the UCity based non-profit, Safe Homes for the Elderly and the Disabled (SHED). The speakers will be Adam Brown, Executive Director of SHED, and Mimi Taylor-Hendrix, SHED board member. They will be presenting their findings on housing inequality in UCity and the steps being taken to address the problem.

On June 12, 2021, a team of volunteers from Trinity cleared the overgrown garden of an elderly resident in UCity.

Trinity plans to participate in another SHED volunteer event on October 9 or 10. To those members of Trinity who would like to take part, please email Katie in the office ([communications@trinityucity.org](mailto:communications@trinityucity.org)) and she will connect you to the right people!

**Please join us for a discussion with the author of a new book on poverty on Sunday October 3 at 7pm.**

As part of our commitment to the tenets of Matthew 25, Trinity UCity is organizing a discussion via zoom on SUNDAY OCTOBER 3rd at 7p.m.

The speaker will be Mark Rank\*, Herbert Hadley Professor of Social Welfare at Washington University.

Mark will be talking about a new book he has co-authored, *Poorly Understood: What America gets Wrong About Poverty*. There will be time for Q&A.

All are welcome, whether or not they read the book.

We have invited all the Matthew 25 churches in our Presbytery to join in the first of what we hope will be more opportunities to get together.

Please contact Katie for the Zoom login information, or find it in our E-Newsletter

**Advent Bags 2021**

It is time to sign up to create and deliver an Advent Bag this year. Because of COVID, we will continue to follow last year's guidelines. If you wish to participate, you will be given the name of someone and in turn you will purchase and wrap 4 small gifts, one to be opened each Sunday in Advent. The gifts will be placed in a bag and delivered by you. Advent begins this year on Sunday, November 28. If you wish to participate, please contact Sandy Norkaitis, 314-863-7699 or [slnork@charter.net](mailto:slnork@charter.net)

**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 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!

**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 Corie Merker, 314-434-8286, 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](mailto: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 Onrealm account ([onrealm.org](http://onrealm.org)) and click on the "Giving" tab.

#### **Session**

Gordon Brown, Diana Gray, Kevin Harkins, Nigel Holloway, Mary Klingensmith, Sarah New Mayer, Mary McKown, Brian Muegge (Clerk), Bob Parks, Rachel Presti, Tim Rand, Jan Schulte-Glad

#### **Deacons**

DeAnne Brown, Bill Cahoon, Stacey Carman, Anna Gardner-Andrews, Corie Merker, John Merker, Jim Person, Art Platt, Diana Regan, Joanne Roman, Cathy Smith, Spirit Sorensen