



Trinity Presbyterian Church
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TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude

Prelude in E Minor
by Frederic Chopin

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, each moral and ethical value
can be employed in seeking peace and justice,
in lifting and encouraging disheartened people.

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

Leader: Let us praise God for the diversity of not only our talents and skills,
but of our humanity – beautifully rich in colors and ages and stages of life.

People: Inspire us, O God, to discern the ways you call us to share our gifts.

Gathering Song

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight
Glory to God #817, v. 1-4

Invitation to Confession

Leader: We who look with horror at the oppression of the pharaohs of Egypt
need to view our own privileged positions.
We, like the ancient rulers, enjoy the fruits of others' hard labor,
the benefits of their slave-like toil.
We eat food picked by migrant laborers and wear clothing sewn in sweatshops.
Our insensitivity separates us from God,
but we have the opportunity to ask the Merciful One's forgiveness
as we pray together:

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Holy God, we did not realize that we are among the rich oppressors of this world. We think we are poor when we cannot have everything we want. Keep us from misusing the power we have. We confess our fear of those who are unlike us. We set up barriers against them when we are afraid. Keep us from acting in ways that alienate and divide. When we are tempted to conform to the world's standards, set before us the higher model of sacrifice and service that is given to us in Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Leader: God gives us grace to think with sober judgment and to act with confident faith.
By that grace, we have unique gifts to use within the body of Christ.
God forgives and heals and empowers us
with new insights and expanded capacity to serve.
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

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

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: God of Love, open our hearts to each other. Give us the courage to resist oppression. Help us protect the world from evil. Give us the wisdom to see ourselves as we truly are. Give us the vision to see you and hear your voice. Give us the courage to answer your call. Grant us the endurance to use our gifts for the purpose of your Realm. Work your transforming love within us that we may know your will and serve you with joy. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Responsorial Psalm

With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring

Glory to God #334, v. 1-4

Second Scripture Reading

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Message: **"Living by Faith: Shiphrah and Puah"**

Rev. Marilyn Gamm

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Song of Response

Live into Hope
Glory to God #772, v 1-4

Blessing Learning During a Pandemic

Hannah Peters and Baker Symes

Leader: God who is always teaching us through reading and interpreting your Word,
through the people and circumstances we encounter and experience,
through the opportunities to serve one another you give us,
at this the beginning of a new school year during a global pandemic
in which professors, teachers, students and parents
are dealing with extraordinary challenges:

People: **We pray your blessing upon those who will teach and learn in person,
for their continued health and safety in a new and uncharted environment
of wearing masks and practicing physical distancing.**

Leader: For those who will teach and learn through a combination of in person and online:

People: **We pray your blessing upon them,
for their continued health and safety in a new and uncharted environment
of wearing masks and practicing physical distancing when in person,
coupled with juggling technology and schedules
and the need for mutual patience and understanding
by professors and teachers, their students, and parents as they together
balance the unique challenges of this combined learning experience.**

Leader: For those who will teach and learn only online:

People: **We pray your blessing upon them and upon the uneven mixture of technologies,
for mutual patience and understanding by professors and teachers,
their students, and parents as they together juggle
the challenges of this extraordinary learning season and environment.**

Leader: Despite this mixture of teaching and learning environments:

People: **May the professors' and teachers' guidance and instruction
bring stability and blessing into the lives
of the children, youth and adult learners in our communities.**

Leader: For the gifts of minds and bodies and hearts and souls, we give you thanks.

People: **For the ability to share the blessings we have received, we give you thanks.**

Leader: For the assurance of things hoped for and the convictions of things not seen,
we give you thanks.

People: **Call us into deeper faith that we may ever be your servants in this world,
bringing your Realm to earth. Amen.**

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)

Receive our offering, Gracious God, as an expression of our thankfulness. Through your church, we are privileged to cultivate the dimensions of our lives that give meaning and purpose to all we do. Through your church we become aware that the greatest gifts we receive are not material, and we learn how best to use the particular gifts you give us. At the same time, you show us how our material advantages can help others. May many be blessed through our sharing of these offerings and our sharing of ourselves. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

Song of Service

Will You Come and Follow Me
Glory to God #726, v. 1-5

Commission and Blessing

Postlude

Thou Art Worthy
by Pauline Michael Mills arr by Fred Bock

Participants in Today's Worship

Pastor – Marilyn Gamm

Director of Music & Pianist/Organist – Christian Hendricks

Guest Pianist – Rachel Presti

Liturgist – Brian and Cricket Gordon

Children & Youth Minister – Hannah Peters

Communications Coordinator – Katie Gibbons

Technical Support – Dylan Voss and John Roman

Soloist – Madeline Black

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 or contacting the church office.

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWS AND NOTES FOR AUGUST 23RD, 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

Trinity to roll out new website! A team has been working on a complete redesign of the Trinity web site at <https://trinityucity.org> and is nearing the time for the go-live for the new site. The project, approved by the session in June, will provide Trinity members and visitors a better understanding and appreciation for Trinity. The team, Cathy Smith, Jan Schulte-Glad, Katie Gibbons, Marilyn Gamm and John Roman, have been working for several months to design and implement a more dynamic and responsive site for both desktop and mobile devices. They have been working with a web design and hosting company, IQComputing. The engagement with IQComputing was funded by a group of generous anonymous Trinity members. Our thanks to them for their support.

“Seeking God’s New Thing: From Where Have We Come?”
Trinity Presbyterian Church’s August Sunday Symposium
Next Sunday, August 30 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

“I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?”

Isaiah 43:19c

In this first, now series of virtual “events,” of our transitional adventure, join us via Zoom and help us identify important events and highlights from what is now the Trinity Presbyterian Church history.

Help us remember roles this church and its predecessor churches have played in the nearer and wider community, the values they represent, their influence on events, and their impact on the church’s identity.

Come and help us identify the core beliefs or values expressed through the histories, your memories and stories, and their influence on our present ministry.

We will particularly respond to the following 4 questions during our small group discussions via the Zoom breakout rooms:

1. What activities have we done really well in the past 3 years?
2. What is a favorite story of when someone in the local community was blessed by our congregation?
3. What is the most creative thing we have done in the last 18 months?
4. What was a challenging moment for the congregation in the last five years? And what did we do to overcome and move on from that challenge?

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.

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