



**August 27, 2023**  
**Trinity Presbyterian Church**  
**Topeka, Kansas**

Pre-Service

“Step by Step”  
David Strasser  
Jaron Marcus, Piano

**GATHERING**

*We gather as the Body of Christ to encounter God in worship.*

Prelude

“Shine Jesus Shine”  
Graham Kendrick  
Jaron Marcus, Piano

**CENTERING WORDS**

*When we give ourselves fully to God, God transforms our lives. In this transformation, God connects us to others whose lives are being transformed, as they too give themselves fully to God.*

Welcome and Announcements

Beverley Lutz

Introit

Jaron Marcus, Piano

Responsive Call to Worship

Congregation

Our help is in God,

**who calls us to worship.**

Our hope is in love,

**that calls us to care.**

Come, let us bring our full selves to worship.

**Let us bring our full love and care.**

Prayer of the Day

\*Hymn No. 701 (sing three times)

“Lord, Prepare Me”

Call to Confession

### Unison Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God,  
When faced with earthly powers that seem overwhelming,  
we crumble.  
We fear this world.  
We fear losing our status, our stability, our station  
more than we fear you.  
Forgive our shortcomings  
and teach us to trust in you  
when we take a risk for what we know is right.  
(silent confession) Amen**

### Responsive Assurance of Forgiveness

If God was not on our side,  
we could not stand in the judgment.  
But God is with us, steadfast and faithful,  
as we seek to live in peace.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God!**

### Sung Response (Hymn No. 447)

“We Are Forgiven”

#### THE WORD

*The Word of God in scripture and interpreted in proclamation is the center of worship.*

### Prayer of Illumination

#### First Lesson

Romans 12: 1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God’s mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, 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 encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

This is the Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God***

Second Lesson

Matthew 16: 13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the Gospel of Our Lord.

***Praise to you, O Christ.***

Sermon

"Hold On Loosely"

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*We respond to the Word of God in prayer and by offering ourselves and our substance.*

Hymn No. 353 (vv. 1, 3, 4)

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

Affirmation of Faith (From a Brief Statement of Faith)

**We trust in Jesus Christ,**

**Fully human, fully God.**

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:**

**preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,**

**teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,**

**healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,**

**eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,**

**and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,**

**Jesus was crucified,**

**suffering the depths of human pain**

**and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised this Jesus from the dead,**

**vindicating his sinless life,**

**breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

**"Amazing Grace"**  
arr. Michael Burkhardt  
Brad Stipcak, Organ

\*Doxology (Hymn No. 607)

Congregation

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow**  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
**Praise Holy Spirit evermore;**  
**Praise Triune God whom we adore.**  
**Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

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.**

**SENDING FORTH**

*Worship equips us to go forth to serve God in the world.*

\*Sending Hymn TFWS No. 2162

**"Grace Alone"**

\*Charge and Blessing

\*Sung Response (Hymn No. 600)

**"Amen"**

\*Postlude

**"Festal Song"**  
William H. Walter  
Brad Stipcak, Organ

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

Participating in Worship Leadership:  
Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan, Presider  
Beverley Lutz, Liturgist  
Brad Stipcak, Dir. of Music  
Jaron Marcus, Piano  
Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual  
Peter Sandquist, Audio/Visual  
Matt Blum, Audio/Visual

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