



Trinity Presbyterian Church Worship Service  
September 1, 2024  
15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Pre-Service

Jaron Marcus, piano

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Jaron Marcus, piano

CENTERING WORDS

*What does it mean to be wise? How does the Bible teach us uncommon wisdom?*

Welcome and Announcements

Beverley Lutz

Call to Worship

Welcome, Beloved of God! For truly, you are deeply, wonderfully, beautifully loved by the God of all creation!

**Come, let us worship God who loves us!**

Whether your week was filled with mountain-high joys or valley-low sorrows, peace like a gently flowing river, or stress like a stormy gale, this is the time to rise and come away to worship God who sustains and tends to you.

**Come, let us worship God who loves us and tends to us!**

In a world that pulls us this way and that, God's love is our True North, guiding us with an uncommon wisdom through all that life brings us.

**Come, let us worship God who loves us and guides us!**

Beloved, the time for singing has come, because God's love, care, and wisdom sustain and guide us wherever we go.

**Come, let us worship and sing to the God who loves, tends, guides, and sustains us! Amen!**

Prayer of the Day

\*Hymn No. 32

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Congregation

**Holy God,  
we do not deserve to be in your dwelling place.  
We have not led a blameless life.  
We have not done what is right in your sight  
or spoken the truth that you have sealed in our hearts.  
We have done evil to both those we love  
and to those we refuse to love as we should.  
We have not been faithful stewards of that which we have been  
blessed  
and have hoarded that which should be shared  
with the least of these.  
Hear our cry, God of our hope,  
as we confess that which weighs us down...**

**(silent confession)**

**Redeeming God,  
save us from our foolishness and guide us to your wisdom.  
Gather us in your righteousness and redemption.  
Forgive us for we are seeking your light and your salvation.  
Cleanse us of our brokenness that we might do justice,  
love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Amen.**

Sung Response Hymn No. 578 (v. 1)

"O Lord, Have Mercy"

Assurance of Forgiveness

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

\*Sung Response Hymn No. 59, Refrain only

"The Steadfast Love of the Lord"

## THE WORD

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

### Prayer for Illumination

#### First Scripture Reading

Mark 7: 1-8; 14-15; 21-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders, and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash, and there are also many other traditions that they observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

"You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

### **Praise to You, O Christ.**

#### Second Scripture Reading

Song of Solomon 2: 8-13

The voice of my beloved!  
Look, he comes,  
leaping upon the mountains,  
bounding over the hills.  
My beloved is like a gazelle  
or a young stag.  
Look, there he stands  
behind our wall,

gazing in at the windows,  
looking through the lattice.  
My beloved speaks and says to me:  
“Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away,  
for now the winter is past,  
the rain is over and gone.  
The flowers appear on the earth;  
the time of singing has come,  
and the voice of the turtledove  
is heard in our land.  
The fig tree puts forth its figs,  
and the vines are in blossom;  
they give forth fragrance.  
Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“The Time of Singing Has Come”  
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. 729

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

\*Affirmation of Faith

Adapted from Romans 8

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God’s purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Jaron Marcus, piano

\*Doxology (Hymn No. 609)

“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”  
(TUNE: LASST UNS ERFRUEN)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures high and low.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise God, in Jesus fully known;  
Creator, Word and Spirit one;  
Alleluia!**

\*Prayer of Dedication

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*By sharing the cup and the loaf, we recall God's everlasting covenant with us.*

Invitation to the Table

Great Thanksgiving

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Music During Communion

Brad Stipcak, organ

Prayer After Communion

SENDING FORTH

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

\*Hymn No. 738

"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

\*Charge and Blessing **Mere**

\*Sung Response Hymn No. 700 v. 1

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

\*Postlude

Jaron Marcus, piano

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

Participants in worship:

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan, Presider

Liturgist: Beverley Lutz

Brad Stipcak, organ & Dir. Of Music

Jaron Marcus, piano

Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual

Peter Blum, Audio/Visual

Matt Blum, Audio/Visual

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