



Trinity Presbyterian Church Worship Service  
**WELCOME BACK SUNDAY**  
September 8, 2024  
16<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

Welcome and Announcements

Bev Thompson

Introit

“Fanfare Intrada”  
John A. Behnke  
Trinity Handbell Choir

Responsive Call to Worship

Welcome, Beloved! Why have you gathered today?

**We have come to worship God, who is the maker of us all!**

What do you seek from God, our Creator?

**We seek God’s wisdom to guide us and show us how to live.**

Are you ready to follow when God’s wisdom leads down unexpected paths?

**We will trust, and we will follow wherever God’s wisdom leads us.**

Well then, Beloved of God, what are you waiting for?

**Come! Let us worship and seek God’s uncommon wisdom together! Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

\*Hymn No. 392

“Jesus, We Are Here”

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Congregation

**Gracious God, we come before you today knowing that we often fall short of your call to love one another well. We prioritize wealth and power. We ignore those around us who suffer injustice, poverty, and rejection.**

**We tune out the cries of the poor and those on the edges of our communities. Help us to see your great generosity, hear your word of mercy, and feel your great love for all who need your redemptive grace. Strengthen us to reach out in service to those who are in need.**

**Make us aware of those outside our own communities, that we may see them as your precious children and serve them in humility and joy.**

*Time for silent confession.*

Sung Response Hymn No. 578 (v. 1)

“O Lord, Have Mercy”

Assurance of Forgiveness

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

\*Sung Response Hymn No. 59

“The Steadfast Love of the Lord”

THE WORD

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

Sermon on the Steps

“Celebrate Christian Education”

Rev. Meredith

Commissioning of Trinity’s Christian Education Teachers

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Mark 7: 24-30

From there Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the

demon has left your daughter.” And when she went home, she found the child lying on the bed and the demon gone.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

Anthem

“Carry the Light”  
Stan Pethel  
Trinity Heritage Choir

CENTERING WORDS

*What does Wisdom teach us about caring for the poor?  
Do these ancient sayings about the relationship between rich and poor still  
resonate today?*

Second Scripture Reading

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold. The rich and the poor have this in common: the LORD is the maker of them all. Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail. Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor. Do not rob the poor because they are poor or crush the afflicted at the gate, for the LORD pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Choosing How We Shall Live”  
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 (screens)

“O Source of All Knowledge”  
TUNE: ST. DENIO (“IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE”)

**1) O Source of all knowledge passed down age to age,  
a holy tradition we humbly engage:  
we thank you for sages whose work still displays  
a lifetime of wonder beginning in praise.**

**2) O Rabbi of Nazareth, wandering guide,  
who lived the tradition in forms not yet tried;  
we thank you for teachers who show us new ways  
to seek out your wonder and sing out your praise.**

**3) O Wisdom untamable, learning's true goal,  
the flame of tradition beyond our control:  
we thank you for prophets who set hearts ablaze  
to burn with your wonder in unending praise.**

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\*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

Brad Stipcak, organ

\*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

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.*

\*Hymn No. 547 (vv. 1 & 2)

“Go, My Children, With My Blessing”

\*Charge and Blessing

\*Sung Response Hymn No. 700 v. 1

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

\*Postlude

Brad Stipcak, organ

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

Participants in worship:

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan, Presider

Bev Thompson, Liturgist

Brad Stipcak, organ & Dir. Of Music

Jaron Marcus, piano

Heritage Choir

Trinity Handbell Choir

Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual

Peter Blum, Audio/Visual

Matt Blum, Audio/Visual

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