



# Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 22, 2021

Trinity Presbyterian Church,  
Topeka, KS

Pre-Service Music

“I Love You Lord”  
Laurie Klein  
Jaron Marcus, Piano

## GATHERING

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

Prelude

“Come Now is the Time to Worship”  
Brian Doerkson  
Jaron Marcus, Piano

## CENTERING WORDS

*May our hearts become a place where God’s Spirit lives. May our words become bold words of love and grace. And may our worship be worthy of the Lord.*

Welcome and Announcements

Carol Shannahan

Responsive Call to Worship

Welcome to this holy space where God’s Spirit dwells among us!

**We come longing to feel the presence of God.**

Open your hearts, for this is a place of prayer and healing.

**This is a place of joy and faith.**

This is the place for you.

**Thanks be to God!**

Unison Prayer of the Day

**Holy One, you have called us to this place, a place where we find your Spirit. We have gathered here to pray and to be forgiven, to love and be loved, and to hear the word boldly proclaimed as we apply it to our lives. Open our hearts to the mystery of your Word. Remind us that your Word**

**is proclaimed in the life of Jesus, the Christ. Help us believe in you and in your love for us. In the holy name of Christ we pray. Amen.**

\*Hymn No. 409

“God is Here!”

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Congregation

**Gracious God, we often forget that you dwell in our hearts. We fail to notice that your Holy Spirit is present in our lives at all times. In our forgetfulness, we stumble and fall, we turn away from you, we believe in worldly goods instead of your truth. Remind us again that you are Spirit and life; you are all we need. Help us turn toward your love, your healing, and your truth. In the name of the one who brings life, we pray. Amen.**

Kyrie (Lord Have Mercy) GTG 576

Congregation

**Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy on us.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

\*Gloria Patri GTG 581

Congregation

**Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen, amen.**

THE WORD

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

Prayer of Illumination

## First Lesson

Ephesians 6: 10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Lesson

John 6: 56-59

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” Simon

Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

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

Sermon

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

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

\*Affirmation of Faith

*Adapted from "A Brief Statement of Faith"*

**In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

"Come Now is the Time to Worship"

Brian Doerkson

Jaron Marcus, Piano

\*Doxology GTG 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

**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 No.725 vv. 1, 3, 4

“O Jesus, I have Promised”

\*Responsive Charge and Blessing

To whom should we go, Holy God, now that worship is done?

**We will go to nurture others with grace.**

Where should we go, Holy One of God, now that the songs have been sung?

**We will go to serve those around us,  
for you are the Word of hope all need.**

Why should we go from this space, gracious Spirit, where we find life?

**We will go to gather who are lonely,  
all who hunger for community.**

\*Sung Response Hymn No. 542, v. 1

“God Be with You Till we Meet Again”

\*Postlude

“Great is The Lord”  
arr. Fred Bock  
Jaron Marcus, Piano

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

Participating in Worship Leadership:

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan, Presider

Carol Shannahan, Liturgist

Brad Stipcak, Director of Music, Organ

Jaron Marcus, Piano

Peter Sandquist, Audio/Visual

Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual

Words to hymns reprinted with permission under Onelicense.net # A-715286  
CCLI Songs - 1205798; CCLI Streaming-20738157

Scripture ©2011 Common English Bible. Used by permission.