



**Fourteenth Sunday
after Pentecost**
August 29, 2021
Trinity Presbyterian Church,
Topeka, KS

Pre-Service Music

“O Praise The Name (Anatasis)”
Marty Sampson
Jaron Marcus, Piano

GATHERING

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

Prelude

“Nothing but the Blood”
Robert Lowry
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

Jon Farrell-Higgins

Responsive Call to Worship

We gather to worship in the presence of God,
as if we stood on God’s holy hill.

We gather to worship as children of God,
as if we were standing in the waters of grace.

We gather to worship the living God,
for God is here among us.

Unison Prayer of the Day

**Unchanging God, you have blessed us forever
through the Beloved One, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Born again by your word of truth,
let us live out your love, doing your word,**

**caring for the weak and vulnerable in their distress,
and ever pursuing your reign of justice,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Hymn No. 14 (vv. 1, 2, 5)

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Congregation

Life-giving God, you know us better than we know ourselves. While we long to meet the demands of your justice, we often settle for a touch of righteous indignation. And though we long to resist evil with every fiber of our being, it is easy to confuse our anger over petty wrongs with your anger over real misuse of power.

Teach us the difference between human precepts, that bloom and fade like the grass, and your life-giving ways, that are eternal. Help us be doers of your word, and not hearers only, that our lives may bear the fruit of eternal life.

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

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore, rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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 thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So, the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live 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: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

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 **Jon**

Offertory

“O Stor Gud”
Margaret Goldston
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.697, vv. 1, 5, 6

“Take My Life”

*Responsive Charge and Blessing

Arise, and let us go forth as God's people.

Look! God sends us forth with songs of love on our lips.

Arise, and let us go forth to serve beside Jesus.

Look! He stands, waiting for us to help tear down the barriers of injustice.

Arise, and let us go forth to join the generous Spirit.

Look! We will be doers as well as givers with our gifts.

*Sung Response Hymn No. 542, v. 1

“God Be with You Till we Meet Again”

*Postlude

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Margaret Goldston
Jaron Marcus, Piano

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Participating in Worship Leadership:

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan, Presider

Jon Farrell-Higgins, Liturgist

Brad Stipcak, Director of Music, Organ

Jaron Marcus, Piano

Peter Sandquist, Audio/Visual

Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual

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