



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2021

Trinity Presbyterian Church,
Topeka, KS

Pre-Service Music

“I Need Thee Every Hour”

Robert Lowry

Jaron Marcus, Piano

GATHERING

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

Prelude

“Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus”

arr. Cindy Berry

Jaron Marcus, Piano

CENTERING WORDS

Remember God’s gracious abundance and give thanks.

Remember Christ’s call upon our lives to be faithful.

Open yourself to the Holy Spirit. For this is the time to worship.

Responsive Call to Worship

Susan Burris

We gather here to worship God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

We gather surrounded by God’s Holy Spirit, who encourages us to walk faithfully with Christ.

Praise be to God, whose goodness and mercy fill our days.

Praise be to God, whose ways lead to peace and justice.

Unison Prayer of the Day

God of abundant life, you want the best for your people around the globe. You bring healing, wholeness, and new life to all your children.

On this day, may our eyes be open to the presence of Christ in one another. May our ears be open to the needs of our community. May our hands be open to serve the forgotten. And may our hearts be open to

receive your Holy Spirit along this journey of faith. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

*Hymn No. 744

“Arise, Your Light is Come!”

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Congregation

How glibly we say we trust you, Holy One, and how quickly our fears silence our words. We find you at the side of the poor, while we cozy up to the rich and famous. You stand behind the counter serving the hungry at the soup kitchen, while we are stocking our freezers and pantries till they overflow. We look down at those whose hands are dirty, but your hand of mercy pulls them into your embracing love.

Forgive us, O Lord, and do good to us when we have trouble doing good for others. Surround us with your love; surround us with your grace; surround us with your peace; surround us with the Spirit of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

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

God comes, for no other reason than to save us. This is indeed good news. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*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

James 2: 1-10

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson

Mark 7: 24-37

From there he 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." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And

immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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

"Change My Heart, O God"

Eddie Espinosa

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

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*This morning we will celebrate communion as we worship.
If you are worshiping remotely and wish to partake of this sacrament,
please have elements (juice, bread, etc.) ready.*

Invitation to the Lord's 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 Meditation

Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion

SENDING FORTH

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

* Sending Hymn No.515 vv. 1, 3, 5

"I Come With Joy"

*Responsive Charge and Blessing

God sends us forth to love all people, no strings attached.

We will share grace and hope with everyone.

Jesus sends us forth to forgive our sisters and brothers.

We will offer mercy, not judgment, to those around us.

The Spirit sends us forth to trust God in every moment.

We will live in faith, not in fear, sharing our hearts with all we meet.

*Sung Response Hymn No. 542, v. 1

"God Be with You Till we Meet Again"

*Postlude

"O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Carl Glaser

Jaron Marcus, Piano

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Participating in Worship Leadership:

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan, Presider

Susan Burris, 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.