



**Seventeenth Sunday
after Pentecost**
September 19, 2021
Trinity Presbyterian Church,
Topeka, KS

Pre-Service Music

“The Servant Song”
Richard Gillard
Jaron Marcus, Piano

GATHERING

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

Prelude

“Be Thou My Vision”
Charles Callahan
Brad Stipcak, Organ

CENTERING WORDS

What are the characteristics of a Vital Congregation? How does Jesus call us to vitality?

Welcome and Announcements

Janis Holiwell

Introit

“As the Deer”
Marty Nystrom
Trinity Heritage Choir
Jaron Marcus, Piano

Responsive Call to Worship

Make a joyful noise, a noise of love and care!

Praise God with generosity and compassion!

Sing to the Lord with acts of kindness!

Give God glory with missions of mercy!

Make a joyful noise, a noise of love and care!

Praise God with justice and righteousness

Unison Prayer of the Day

**Glorious God, shine upon us with your Spirit of wisdom and truth.
Enlighten our hearts. Help us to know the hope to which we are called.
Reveal your ways, that we might share hope and joy in all that we do,
and all that we say. In the light of Christ's love, we pray. Amen.**

*Hymn No.754

“Help Us Accept Each Other”
Jaron Marcus, Piano

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Congregation

**God of glory, we do not always see your glory in the world around us.
When we see a person in need, it is not easy to look him in the eye.
When we hear a cry for help, it is not easy to offer her quick assurance.
When we know of a lonely prisoner, it is not easy to make that
unannounced visit. Forgive us when we fail to see you in our everyday
lives. Forgive us when we are afraid to act, afraid to care. Encourage us,
God of glory. Help us to see others with the eyes of compassion, that we
might be your loving presence in the world. Amen.**

“Kyrie” (Lord Have Mercy) GTG 576

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

Congregation
Jaron Marcus, Piano

Assurance of Forgiveness

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

*Gloria Patri GTG 581

**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.**

Congregation
Brad Stipcak, Organ

THE WORD

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

All children and youth are invited to come forward and join the worship leader on the chancel steps.

Prayer of Illumination

First Lesson

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

A good reputation is better than much wealth;
high esteem is better than silver and gold.
The rich and the poor have this in common:
the Lord made them both.
Those who sow injustice will harvest evil;
the rod of their fury will come to an end.
Happy are generous people,
because they give some of their food to the poor.
Don't steal from the poor, because they are poor.
Don't oppress the needy in the gate.
The Lord will take up their case
and press the life out of those who oppress them.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

"In This Very Room"
Ron & Carol Harris
Trinity Heritage Choir
Jaron Marcus, Piano

Second Lesson

Matthew 25: 31-46

"Now when the Human One comes in his majesty and all his angels are with him, he will sit on his majestic throne. All the nations will be gathered in front of him. He will separate them from each other, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right side. But the goats he will put on his left.

"Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who will receive good things from my Father. Inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world began. I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.'

“Then those who are righteous will reply to him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’

“Then the king will reply to them, ‘I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.’

“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Get away from me, you who will receive terrible things. Go into the unending fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels. I was hungry and you didn’t give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you didn’t give me anything to drink. I was a stranger and you didn’t welcome me. I was naked and you didn’t give me clothes to wear. I was sick and in prison, and you didn’t visit me.’

“Then they will reply, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and didn’t do anything to help you?’ Then he will answer, ‘I assure you that when you haven’t done it for one of the least of these, you haven’t done it for me.’ And they will go away into eternal punishment. But the righteous ones will go into eternal life.”

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

Video “What Does Poverty Look Like in America?”

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”

The reconciliation of [humankind] through Jesus Christ makes it plain that enslaving poverty in a world of abundance is an intolerable violation of God’s good creation. Because Jesus identified himself with the needy and exploited, the cause of the world’s poor is the cause of his disciples. The church cannot condone poverty, whether it is the product of unjust social structures, exploitation of the defenseless, lack of national resources, absence of technological understanding, or rapid expansion of populations. The church calls [all people] to use [their] abilities, [their] possessions, and the fruits of technology as gifts entrusted to [them] by God for the maintenance of [their] family and the

advancement of the common welfare. It encourages those forces in human society that raise [people]’s hopes for better conditions and provide them with opportunity for a decent living. A church that is indifferent to poverty, or evades responsibility in economic affairs, or is open to one social class only, or expects gratitude for its beneficence makes a mockery of reconciliation and offers no acceptable worship to God.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

“Blessed Assurance”
arr. 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

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.

* Sending Hymn No. 203

“Jesu, Jesu”
Brad Stipcak, Organ

*Responsive Charge and Blessing

Go to seek the lost and bind up the injured.

We will strengthen the weak, and encourage the fainthearted.

Go to seek justice and love mercy.

**We will help the world know the feast of God's justice and the
grace of God's mercy.**

*Sung Response

“When You Walk From Here” (Screens)
Brad Stipcak, Organ

*Postlude

“Better is One Day”
Matt Redman
Jaron Marcus, Piano

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Participating in Worship Leadership:

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan, Presider

Janis Holiwell, Liturgist

Brad Stipcak, Director of Music, Organ

Jaron Marcus, Piano

Peter Sandquist, Audio/Visual

Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual

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