



# 18th Sunday after Pentecost

September 26, 2021

Trinity Presbyterian Church,  
Topeka, KS

Pre-Service Music

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Joseph M. Scriven  
Jaron Marcus, Piano

GATHERING

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

Prelude

“Reflection”

Kevin Uppercue  
Brad Stipcak, Organ

CENTERING WORDS

*When have you seen racism and called it out? Or not called it out? What was going through your mind and heart?*

Welcome and Announcements

Melissa Ansberry

Introit

“O Lord, Hear My Prayer”

Jacques Berthier  
Trinity Heritage Choir  
Jaron Marcus, Piano

Responsive Call to Worship

We come to God this day,  
the One who names each of us as a beloved child.

**Here in these moments together,  
we would recognize God dwelling in us.**

We come to Christ this day,

the One whose love is the bedrock of our lives.

**Here in this place of glory and grace,  
we would understand the One who calls us to faith.**

We come to the Spirit this day,

the One who would calm our fears with peace and hope.

**Here with those who are our sisters and brothers,  
we would seize the opportunities to serve**

Unison Prayer of the Day

**O God, you created all people in your image.**

**We thank you for the astonishing variety  
of races and cultures in this world.**

**Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of friendship,  
and show us your presence**

**in those who differ most from us,**

**until our knowledge of your love is made perfect**

**in our love for all your children;**

**through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*Hymn No. 69

“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”

Jaron Marcus, Piano

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Congregation

**O God, who created and loves all people,**

**We come before you today confessing the sin of racism in our country, our church  
and in ourselves. Forgive us for our part in it, for the ways we have contributed to  
the oppression of others whether knowingly or unknowingly.**

**We want to be different and for our nation to be different, but it is hard when we  
face the injustice of institutions as well as the prejudice in ourselves.**

**Help us to see the reality of racism and bigotry wherever it exists and to have the  
courage to challenge it. Through your Holy Spirit, may we be given the grace and  
power to change within ourselves and also, to join with others to do the work of  
love and justice in the world; to move toward the goal of bringing an end to racism.**

**Through the name of your son, Jesus, who came for all people, Amen.**

“Kyrie” (Lord Have Mercy) GTG 576

Congregation  
Jaron Marcus, Piano

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

Assurance of Forgiveness

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

\*Gloria Patri GTG 581

Congregation  
Brad Stipcak, Organ

**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.*

Sermon on the Steps

Racism In Wington

Janis Holiwell

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

Prayer of Illumination

First Lesson

Psalms 104: 24-35

Lord, you have done so many things!  
You made them all so wisely!  
The earth is full of your creations!  
And then there's the sea, wide and deep,  
with its countless creatures—  
living things both small and large.  
There go the ships on it,  
and Leviathan, which you made, plays in it!

All your creations wait for you  
to give them their food on time.  
When you give it to them, they gather it up;  
when you open your hand, they are filled completely full!  
But when you hide your face, they are terrified;  
when you take away their breath,  
they die and return to dust.  
When you let loose your breath, they are created,  
and you make the surface of the ground brand-new again.  
Let the Lord's glory last forever!  
Let the Lord rejoice in all he has made!  
He has only to look at the earth, and it shakes.  
God just touches the mountains, and they erupt in smoke.  
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;  
I will sing praises to my God while I'm still alive.  
Let my praise be pleasing to him;  
I'm rejoicing in the Lord!  
Let sinners be wiped clean from the earth;  
let the wicked be no more.  
But let my whole being bless the Lord!  
Praise the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

"A Song of Joy"  
Allen Pote  
Trinity Heritage Choir  
Jaron Marcus, Piano

Second Lesson

Matthew 25: 31-46

**31-33** "When he finally arrives, blazing in beauty and all his angels with him, the Son of Man will take his place on his glorious throne. Then all the nations will be arranged before him and he will sort the people out, much as a shepherd sorts out sheep and goats, putting sheep to his right and goats to his left.

**34-36** "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Enter, you who are blessed by my Father! Take what's coming to you in this kingdom. It's been ready for you since the world's foundation. And here's why:

I was hungry and you fed me,  
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,  
I was homeless and you gave me a room,  
I was shivering and you gave me clothes,  
I was sick and you stopped to visit,  
I was in prison and you came to me.'

**37-40** "Then those 'sheep' are going to say, 'Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?' Then the King will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.'

**41-43** "Then he will turn to the 'goats,' the ones on his left, and say, 'Get out, worthless goats! You're good for nothing but the fires of hell. And why? Because—

I was hungry and you gave me no meal,  
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,  
I was homeless and you gave me no bed,  
I was shivering and you gave me no clothes,  
Sick and in prison, and you never visited.'

**44** "Then those 'goats' are going to say, 'Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or homeless or shivering or sick or in prison and didn't help?'

**45** "He will answer them, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you failed to do one of these things to someone who was being overlooked or ignored, that was me—you failed to do it to me.'

**46** "Then those 'goats' will be herded to their eternal doom, but the 'sheep' to their eternal reward."

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

Video

"What Does Racism Look Like in America?"

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 "The Confession of 1967"*

*One:* Jesus Christ is God with humankind. Christ is the eternal only-begotten of God who became human and lived among us to fulfill the work of reconciliation. Christ is present in the church, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to continue and complete his mission. Therefore the church calls all people to be reconciled to God and to one another.

**All: God has created the peoples of the earth to be one universal family. In reconciling love, God overcomes the barriers between sisters and brothers and breaks down every form of discrimination based on racial or ethnic differences, real or imaginary. The church is called to bring all people to receive and uphold one another as persons in all relationships of life: in employment, housing, education, leisure, marriage, family, church, and the exercise of political rights. Therefore, the church labors for the abolition of all racial discrimination and ministers to those injured by it.**

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

"Interlude"  
Kevin Uppercue  
Brad Stipcak, Organ

\*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. 762 (vs. 1, 2, 4)

“When the Poor Ones”  
Brad Stipcak, Organ

\*Responsive Charge and Blessing

\*Sung Response

“When You Walk From Here” (Screens)

\*Postlude

“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”  
Martin Luther  
Jaron Marcus, Piano

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

Participating in Worship Leadership:

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan, Presider

Melissa Ansberry, Liturgist

Brad Stipcak, Director of Music, Organ

Jaron Marcus, Piano

Peter Sandquist, Audio/Visual

Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual

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