

Trinity Presbyterian Church
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 1, 2024

Responsive Call to Worship

Holy God, you call us to worship.

In your presence, we seek truth and forgiveness.

Holy God, you call us to worship you.

In your presence, we seek the grace to forgive one another.

Holy God, you call us to worship you, heart, body, mind and soul.

So, we gather to offer you our prayer and praise with joyful thanks.

Prayer of Praise *(minister)*

Hymn 434 For the beauty of the earth

**1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.**

**2. For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.**

**3. For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.**

**4. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.**

**5. For each perfect gift of thine,
to the earth so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.**

Prayer of Confession (congregation)

O God, we know you are endlessly faithful to us, but we confess we can turn our backs on you. You are endlessly loyal to us, but we hardly demonstrate loyalty to you with some of the things we say, do, and think. We hurt others for our own gain or for no reason at all. We ignore the needs around us, including our own. In your mercy, restore our relationships to you, to others, and ourselves. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (minister)

Hymn 672 Jesus calls us, o'er the tumult

- 1. Jesus calls us o'er the tumult
of our life's wild restless sea;
day by day his voice still calls us
saying, "Christian, follow me."**
- 2. As of old Saint Andrew heard it
by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and work and kindred,
leaving all for Jesus' sake.**
- 3. Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."**
- 4. In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
Jesus calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."**
- 5. Jesus calls us: by your mercies,
Saviour, may we hear your call,
give our hearts in glad obedience,
serve and love you best of all.**

Prayer for illumination

Responsive Reading Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9

¹ Beautiful words stir my heart.

I will recite a lovely poem about the king,
for my tongue is like the pen of a skillful poet.

² You are the most handsome of all.

Gracious words stream from your lips.

God himself has blessed you forever.

⁶ Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever.

You rule with a scepter of justice.

⁷ You love justice and hate evil.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you,

pouring out the oil of joy on you more than on anyone else.

⁸ Myrrh, aloes, and cassia perfume your robes.

In ivory palaces the music of strings entertains you.

⁹ Kings' daughters are among your noble women.

At your right side stands the queen,

wearing jewelry of finest gold from Ophir!

Scripture Lessons

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon What is religion anyway?

Hymn 569 O Jesus, I have promised

**1. O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me,
my Saviour and my friend:
I shall not fear the struggle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.**

**2. Oh let me feel thee near me:
the world is ever near;**

**I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me,
around me and within,
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.**

**3. Oh let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
oh speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
oh speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.**

**4. O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee,
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be,
and, Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
oh give me grace to follow
my Saviour and my friend.**

Prayers of the People *(minister)*

Offering & Offertory

***Doxology** **830 Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Prayer of Dedication *(congregation)*

The 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, the power, and the glory. For ever
and ever. Amen.**

Hymn 706 Come, let us sing

**1. Come, let us sing of a wonderful love,
tender and true, tender and true;
out of the heart of the Father above,
streaming to me and to you:
wonderful love, wonderful love
dwells in the heart of the Father above.**

**2. Jesus the Saviour this gospel to tell
joyfully came, joyfully came,
came with the helpless and hopeless to dwell,
sharing their sorrow and shame:
seeking the lost, seeking the lost,
saving, redeeming at measureless cost.**

**3. Jesus is seeking the wanderers yet;
why do they roam? why do they roam?
Love only waits to forgive and forget;
home, weary wanderers, home:
wonderful love, wonderful love
dwells in the heart of the Father above.**

**4. Come to my heart, O thou wonderful love;
come and abide, come and abide,
lifting my life till it rises above
envy and falsehood and pride:
seeking to be, seeking to be
lowly and humble, a learner of thee.**

Benediction

Choral Blessing

**Go now in peace, never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see---.
God will be there, watching from above.**

**Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen, Amen, Amen.**