



TRINITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Liturgy for Home Worship

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
— September 27, 2020 —

Words for Reflection

Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him.

-Proverbs 14:31

God requires us to worship Him as He describes Himself. We don't have the right to construct our own picture of Him. We must make Him as He is. And He clearly wants us to know that a central, irreducible component of His self-identity is His love for the poor.

-Amy Sherman

Selective love of neighbor is not love at all; it is a cover for the attempt to gain advantage or benefit.

-Dan McCartney

There is a direct relationship between a person's grasp and experience of God's grace, and his or her heart for justice and the poor.

-Tim Keller

The Call to Worship

God invites and calls us into His presence to worship Him. He enters into our busy lives to speak to us.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,
who was and is and is to come!
Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.

—Revelation 4:8, 11 ESV

Hymn of Praise | Holy, Holy, Holy

We sing praises to God and proclaim through song the good news of what He has done in Jesus' death and resurrection. Some songs might be initially unfamiliar, but we believe the rich, true, beautiful words of these hymns will make their way into your heart.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to
Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around
the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before
Thee,
Who wert and art and ever more shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide
Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may
not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside
Thee,
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth,
and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Words: Reginald Heber; Music: John Dykesh

Opening Prayer & Lord's Prayer

We ask for God to be present among us and conclude with the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray.

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, forever. Amen.

Doxology

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. Amen.

Confession of Sin

We fight the temptation to hide our sin and instead acknowledge it openly to God, but we do so in light of the grace offered in Jesus.

Most Merciful Father,

We thank You for the mercy that You've shown us through Jesus. You've called us to be a community characterized by justice and mercy. Yet, Lord, we confess our tendency to show favoritism towards people and relationships that can obviously benefit us and to neglect those who cannot. Forgive us for the ways we disregard and dishonor the poor. Please show us mercy through Your Son who though he was rich, yet for our sake became poor. Enable us by Your Spirit to share Your heart for those in need. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

God reminds our forgetful hearts of the grace that is ours in Jesus.

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

—2 Corinthians 8:9 ESV

Hymn of Response | Help My Unbelief

We respond in thanks and praise for God's redemptive work in Christ.

I know the Lord is nigh,
And would but cannot pray,
For Satan meets me when I try,
And frights my soul away;
And frights my soul away.

I would but can't repent,
Though I endeavor oft;
This stony heart can ne'er relent
Till Jesus makes it soft;
Till Jesus make it soft.

*Help my unbelief. Help my unbelief.
Help my unbelief.
My help must come from Thee.*

I would but cannot love,
Though wooed by love divine;
No arguments have power to move
A soul as base as mine;
A soul so base as mine.

I would but cannot rest,
In God's most holy will;
I know what He appoints is best,
And murmur at it still;
I murmur at it still.
(Chorus 2x)

Words: John Newton; Music: Clint Wells

Confession of Faith | The Apostles' Creed

We join the church in history by confessing this basic statement of what Christians believe.

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.*
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**While Jesus didn't literally descend to hell, he did endure the torment of hell on the cross and remained under the power of death until his resurrection.*

***universal*

The Offering

In gratitude, we offer our gifts to God. You may give online at www.trinitypresfw.org/give or through the Church Center App.

The Prayers of the People

We lift up our requests to God knowing that He hears us when we pray.

Youth Ministry @ Trinity

John Porter

RYM Intern

The Reading of the Word

James 2:1-13

God speaks to us through His Word.

2:1 My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. **2** For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, **3** and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," **4** have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? **5** Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? **6** But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? **7** Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

8 If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. **9** But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. **10** For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. **11** For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. **12** So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. **13** For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Preaching of the Word

Pastor Brian Davis

A Faith for Real Life

"The Propensity and Peril of Partiality"

Sermon Notes

The Celebration of Holy Communion

Communion (also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist) is the family meal of baptized Christians. It's not a meal for good people. It's a meal for desperate people who trust in Jesus alone for salvation, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength and grace to live more faithfully with Jesus. You will be invited to come forward. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal today, we encourage you to spend this time in reflection or prayer.

Children who have not received their first communion are welcome to come forward with their families. We invite children who are ready to make a public profession of faith in Christ to arrange a meeting with the elders, and thus become "communicants" at the Lord's Table.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Pastor: Lift up your hearts!
People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:
People: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Hallelujah!**
Pastor: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us. Hallelujah!
People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast.**
Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Hymn for Communion | Heal Us, Emmanuel

*Heal us, Emmanuel, here we are
We long to feel Thy touch
Deep wounded souls to Thee we fly
Oh Savior, hear our cry*

Our faith is feeble, we confess
We faintly trust Thy word;
But will You pity us the less?
Be that far from You Lord!
(Chorus)

Remember him who once applied
With trembling for relief;
"Lord, I believe," with tears he cried;
"O help my unbelief!"
(Chorus)

She, too, who touched You in the press
And healing virtue stole,
Was answered, "Daughter, go in peace;
Thy faith has made thee whole."
(Chorus)

Like her, with hopes and fears we come
To touch You if we may;
O send us not despairing home;
Send none unhealed away.

(Chorus)

Words: William Cowper; Music: Kevin Twit

Life at Trinity

Departing Hymn | Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

We respond in faith and song.

Let us love and sing and wonder
Let us praise the Savior's name
He has hushed the law's loud thunder
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord Who bought us
Pitied us when enemies
Called us by His grace and taught us
Gave us ears and gave us eyes
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He has washed us with His blood
He presents our souls to God.

Let us wonder grace and justice
Join and point to mercy's store
When through grace in Christ our trust is
Justice smiles and asks no more
He Who washed us with His blood
He Who washed us with His blood
He Who washed us with His blood
Has secured our way to God.

Let us praise and join the chorus
Of the saints enthroned on high
Here they trusted Him before us
Now their praises fill the sky
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou art worthy Lamb of God.

Words: John Newton; Music: Laura Taylor

The Benediction

God sends us out with his blessing. A benediction is not a prayer. We don't bow our heads. We lift them up and even lift up our hands to receive his blessing as we are sent out as participants in His mission to Fort Worth.

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

—Jude 24-25 ESV

The Sending

The people of God are sent into the world to love God, love people, and love Fort Worth.

Pastor: Let us go forth to serve Fort Worth and the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God!

* CCLI #5043663 – all songs used by permission

Announcements

Volunteers Needed

It takes many hands to make our service run as smoothly as possible, especially during this season of extra safety measures and we are in need of volunteers for various teams. Teams needing help are: Usher Team, Welcome Team, Nursery, and Set-up/Take-Down Team. If you can help in any area, please let Courtney (admin@trinitypresfw.org) know.

The NET Training

Please consider this opportunity with our local ministry partner the Net. **Their fall Trafficking Training is happening on October 17 with option for virtual attendance as well as a limited number of in-person seats!** The Net hosts this *Trafficking Training* twice a year to educate the community and train volunteers on the reality of the sex industry in Fort Worth. Whether you are just interested in understanding the issue of trafficking better or you want to take the next steps to become involved with the Net's *Purchased* or *M.A.S.E.* programs, this training is for you! You can register on www.thenetfw.com.

Nursery Is Back!

The nursery is open for children ages 0-4 years old! **Our parent letter and policies and procedures are linked in our weekly emails. They include a new registration method and reduced class sizes. We will be taking the first 20 children that register each week. We look forward to seeing your children's faces again!** If you have any questions, please contact Amy (nursery@trinitypresfw.org).

Women's Fall Bible Study

This fall (September-November) we will study *Genesis: The Savior Behind the Stories* and meet using various small group formats to fit your covid comfort level and schedule. Our bible study groups have begun and books are available for pick up at the church office (3750 S. University) Tuesdays/Thursdays 12-4, Susan's front door (4000 W 6th St), or at Connell on Sundays. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Susan (susan@trinitypresfw.org).

Youth Group Events

Here are dates of upcoming youth events. Many of the details are still to come and will be in the weekly emails from Trinity and Phillip Maxwell. **If you do not receive the youth emails and would like to, please request such from Phillip (phillip@fortworthpca.org).**

9/28 High School 9th Grade, 730-9pm @ Joneses' Backyard (2620 Brea Canyon Rd)

9/30 High School 10th Grade, 730-9pm @ Maxwells' Backyard (4237 Whifield Ave)

10/7 High School Outdoor Large Group @ FWPC

10/24 Middle School and High School Fall Mini-Retreat (Denton, TX 9am-9pm)