

# TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 29, 2024

## GATHERING AND PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed!**

PRELUDE: "Rejoice, the Lord Is King"

*arr. Anna Laura Page*

Readying Our Hearts (A time of silent prayer and reflection in preparation for worshipping God together.)

### CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Isaiah 43:19-21)

Leader: Let us worship God, Who has done great things.

**People: We rejoice in our God, Who made a way through the desert of this world.**

Leader: Let us worship God, Who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

**People: We are the people God has formed through Christ; we worship Him, and we rejoice!**

Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

**People: We praise God for the grace that has saved us. Alleluia! We rejoice!**

### INVOCATION

\*OPENING SONG: #6 "Let the Whole Creation Cry"

**Let the whole creation cry, "Glory to the Lord on high!"**

**Heaven and earth, awake and sing, "Praise to our almighty King!"**

**Praise Him, angel hosts above, ever bright and fair in love;**

**Sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God rejoice!**

**Christians striving for the Lord, prophets burning with His Word,**

**Those to whom the arts belong, add their voices to the song.**

**Those of knowledge and of law, to the glorious circle draw;**

**All who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"**

**Men and women, young and old, raise the anthem loud and bold,**

**And let children's happy hearts in this worship bear their parts;**

**From the north to southern pole let the mighty chorus roll:**

**"Holy, Holy, Holy One! Glory be to God alone!"**

SCRIPTURE READING: Colossians 3:1-3 (Pew Bible p. 1834)

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

Leader: This is the word of the LORD.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (Unison prayer after a time of silent personal confession.)

**Gracious God, have mercy upon us and take away the awful stain of our transgressions. For we admit our shameful thoughts, words, and deeds. They haunt us day and night. We profess faith in You but then we refuse to surrender our lives to You -- desiring instead to be our own lords. We profess our love for You but then we turn away from neighbors in need because the cost of truly loving them is too high. We profess that our hope is in You but then we fortify our lives with the securities of this world. In all too many ways, our actions nullify our confession and expose instead our selfish hearts and self-centered lives. Lord in Your mercy wash us with the life giving blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Cleanse us from the guilt of our sins and create in us minds filled with honorable thoughts and right desires. Restore to us the joy of new and abundant life in Christ. And, through Your Holy Spirit, make us willing and able to obey You. We pray in Jesus' name.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Our God hears our prayers and intervenes in our lives. The light of His law shows us our sins and the light of His Gospel shows us our Savior. The pardon of God is yours in Christ Jesus. God has released you from the guilt of your sin. He has covered your shame. Know that by the love of, through the sacrifice of, and in the name of Jesus you are forgiven.

**\*All:** (*Gloria Patri*)

**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.**

### **ENCOUNTERING GOD THROUGH GOD'S WORD**

SCRIPTURE READING: Philippians 4:4-10 (Pew Bible p. 1830)

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable -- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy -- think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me - - put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

Leader: This is the word of the LORD.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANTHEM:

“Hal-la-lelujah”

*Pepper Choplin*

*Choir*

SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 8:5-8 (focus vv. 5-6) (Pew Bible p. 1756)

*Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.*

Leader: This is the word of the LORD.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: “Conflicting Desires, Contrasting Destinies, Fulfilling the Law – Part 1”

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD THROUGH AFFIRMATION, OFFERING, AND PRAYER**

\*SONG OF REFLECTION AND RESPONSE: #371 “Our Father, We Have Wandered”

**Our Father, we have wandered and hidden from Your face;**

**In foolishness have squandered Your legacy of grace.**

**But now, in exile dwelling, we rise with fear and shame,**

**As, distant but compelling, we hear You call our name.**

**And now at length discerning the evil that we do,**

**Behold us, Lord, returning with hope and trust to You.**

**In haste You come to meet us and home rejoicing bring,**

**In gladness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.**

**O Lord of all the living, both banished and restored,**

**Compassionate, forgiving and ever caring Lord,**

**Grant now that our transgressing, our faithlessness may cease.**

**Stretch out Your hand in blessing, in pardon, and in peace.**

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AND OFFERING

Invitation

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator 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 to hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended to 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.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Partaking of the Elements and the Giving of Our Offering

“Near to the Heart of God”

*arr. Roger House*

(For those joining with us in the Sanctuary this morning, you are invited, as you come forward to receive the Communion Elements, and as you feel so led, to place your offering in one of the plates up front. For those unable to be with us physically, you are encouraged to partake of the elements in your home at this time. Also, as you are able, we invite you to set aside your offering as an act of personal dedication at this time, either to be mailed in, dropped off at the church, or brought in when you are able to join us in worship. Let this time be one of receiving from and offering yourself up to our Lord -- to the praise of His holy name.)

Prayer of Commitment

\*Sung Response (Doxology)

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

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

### **BRINGING OUR WORSHIP INTO OUR WORLD**

\*CLOSING SONG: #464 “May the Mind of Christ, My Savior”

**May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day,  
by His love and power controlling all I do and say.**

**May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,  
so that all may see I triumph only through His power.**

**May the peace of God, my Father, rule my life in everything,  
that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing,**

**May the love of Jesus fill me, as the waters fill the sea,  
Him exalting, self abasing -- this is victory.**

**May I run the race before me, strong and brave to face the foe,  
looking only unto Jesus as I onward go.**

BENEDICTION (Numbers 6:24-26)

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His countenance toward you and give you peace. **Amen.**

\*POSTLUDE:

“Thanksgiving and Praise”

*Cyrus S. Mallard*

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FOR MEMORIZATION AND REFLECTION: Colossians 3:1-3

**“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.”**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. If you would like to help support the work of Hope 7 in our local community, we encourage you to drop off **non-perishable food items, toiletries and other hygiene items** either at Trinity Church, or at Hope 7 directly (M-F 9:30-11:45), or call Sue Laz (518-892-4042) to arrange for a pick-up.
2. **We are receiving new or gently used clothes for the Capital City Rescue Mission (CCRM).** There is a box in the narthex for donations. You may bring your items to the church or call Sue Laz to arrange for a pick-up.
3. **Adult Bible Study** meets on Sundays before worship (9:15-10:00am). The current study is a survey of the Old Testament. This coming Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, we will continue our study of “Royal Poetry & Wisdom” looking in particular at the Old Testament books: Job and the Psalms. All are welcomed and encouraged to participate. (Note: There will be no Sunday morning Bible study on October 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.)
4. **Wednesday Evening Bible study** (via Zoom) meets at 7:00pm. The passage we will be studying on October 2<sup>nd</sup> is Romans 8:6-8. (Note: There will be no Wednesday Bible study on October 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.)
5. Note: the church’s new email address is – **office@trinitychurchtroy.org** (so just replace “third” with “trinity” from the old email address). The new website address is – **www.trinitychurchtroy.org** (same simple word swap).
6. **A Congregational Meeting** of Trinity Presbyterian Church of Troy, NY will be held today following the morning worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the report of the Nominating Committee, to elect officers to begin serving in 2025 and to conduct any other business to come before the congregation.
7. **Potluck Luncheon** – next Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> is World Communion Sunday and is a global celebration observed by several Christian denominations, taking place on the first Sunday of October, that promotes Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation. In spirit...and stomach with our brothers and sisters around the world we are planning an *international* themed potluck luncheon after worship. So, if you are able, please bring a dish to share. But whether or not you are able to bring a dish to share, bring yourself to the fellowship hall following worship to continue our celebration of World Communion Sunday. Please see Kelly Valerio or Natalia Multunas if you have any questions.
8. Church “business-style” cards are available in the narthex. You are encouraged to take some to hand out as you invite others to join us in worship.