



Trinity United Church of Christ

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**Trinity United Church of Christ
September 3, 2023
8AM and 10:30AM Worship
Communion Sunday**

Awakening joyful service guided by our still speaking God!

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*Congregational responses in **bold print**.
* Denotes standing as you are able.*

TIME OF SHARING

GREETING

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
You are welcome here!

PRELUDE – Reflection on “Nearer My God to Thee” – *H. Sorenson*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We who dwell in the shelter of the Most High;
Seek God here.

We who come to be inspired and changed;
Seek God's Spirit here.

We who know how little we know;
Seek God's Word here.

***HYMN “Let Us with a Gladsome Mind” (Insert)**

***PRAYER**

**God, you are made known to us in the rustling wind that blows,
in the blazing fire that does not consume,
in the face of good, in the depth of the unknown.**

**We meet you here. We accept your greeting. We welcome your inspiration.
We await the change you have in store for us.**

Draw us in to you. Inhabit our spirits. Focus our attention.

**Bring us to you – you who are already with us. Help us to be as you would have us be.
Through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
here and everywhere, now and always. Amen.**

***RESPONSE TO PRAYER – “Sanctuary”**

*Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true;
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for you.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of mercy and forgiveness, we confess that:
our love isn't always genuine.**

We see evil and wring our hands instead of resisting it.

We forget to consider more ways to serve you.

We turn our back on strangers who could benefit from our hospitality.

We do not pray enough for our enemies.

We associate with our own kind, fearing the “other.”

We relish in fantasies of revenge.

Have mercy on us and hear our prayers...

(Moment of Silent Prayer)

KYRIE #750

Lord, have mercy upon me.

Lord, have mercy upon me.

Christ, have mercy upon me.

Christ, have mercy upon me.

Lord, have mercy upon me.

Lord, have mercy upon me.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

SCRIPTURES

Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for

evil but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads."
²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16:21-28

²¹From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? ²⁷For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.

SERMON

Grace Winakor, Seminary Student

HYMN #565 "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

PRAYER/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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #885 United Church of Christ Statement of Faith
We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:**

**You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image,
and set before each one the ways of life and death.**

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

**You judge people and nations by your righteous will
declared through prophets and apostles.**

**In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior,
you have come to us and shared our common lot,
conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.**

**You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.**

**You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,
to be your servants in the service of others,
to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil,
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,
to join him in his passion and victory.**

**You promise to all who trust your forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,
your presence in trial and rejoicing,
and eternal life in your realm which has no end.**

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

***CELEBRATION OF OUR GIFTS**

Having received new life through the generosity of God and the hope Christ brings,
let us give thankfully and abundantly that we may be called God's generous people.

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE #785**

*We give you but your own, what-e'er the gift may be;
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Everything we have comes from you, gift giving God.

You have given us life, and new life in Christ.

**As you have given us gifts, so we offer you our
gifts that we may be generous givers, too. Amen.**

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

*(Trinity's Table is open to all. We use gluten-free bread and grape juice.
Welcome to the Table!)*

CALL TO COMMUNE

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift our hearts to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you, O God.
From the rising of the sun to its setting your name is praised among us.

**God in us and around us,
we are not alone, you meet us right where we are.**

COMMUNION PRAYER

We are a community of love. Bound in service and ministry,
living lives of connectivity, members of the body of Christ.
When one member is honored, all rejoice together joining our hearts in celebration.
God has given great honor to the body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free –
all are made to drink of one spirit. May the gifts of Christ:
teaching, healing, welcoming, reaching, feeding,
abound among us today and always. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Jesus, your ministry fed those around you
nourishing the bodies of your friends and followers.

On hillsides and sea shores, at lavish banquets
and simple celebrations, you provided.

On the last night with your friends
you took bread, blessed it, broke it,
and gave it to your disciples and said,
**“This is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”**

You did the same with the cup after the supper, saying,
**“This cup that is poured out is the new covenant in my blood.
As often as you drink it, do it in remembrance of me.”**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Bless these gifts of grain and grapes.
Bless us, the many members of your body.
Send your Holy Spirit upon this meal
that it may nourish us for countless days. Amen.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(Please come forward as the Usher directs you up the center aisle. We will form a semi-circle around the Communion Table. You will be individually served the bread first and then the cup. After we commune, the pastor will offer a benediction and you will leave the chancel area placing your cups in the receptacles provided, then return to your seat.)

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**Gracious and loving God,
you feed us with the living bread and fill our cup to overflowing.
Thank you for your generous gifts that sustain us through uncertain times,
that strengthen us as we strive to be guides for your people.
Praises to you, living God, until we gather at your table once more. Amen.**

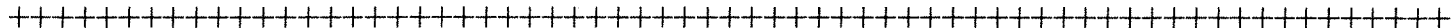
***HYMN #170 “Your Ways Are Not Our Own”**

***FINAL BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE**

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Portions of today's worship have come from:

The New Century Hymnal. The Pilgrim Press. Cleveland. 1995.

And from:

Service Prayers written by the Rev. Kaji S. Douša, Senior Minister of Park Avenue Christian Church (DOC), New York City. Service adapted for online use by the Rev. Susan A. Blain
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And the Communion Liturgy is from

Kara L. Young

Prelude: *Reflection on "Nearer My God to Thee"* - Heather Sorenson © 2019 Lorenz Corp. (admin. Music Services) ASCAP.

Hymns: *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*. Words: Robert Edwards © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Co.) Music: AUSTRIAN HYMN, Franz Joseph Haydn (1797).

Your Ways Are Not Our Own. Words: Lavon Baylor © 1988 The Pilgrim Press. Music: SCHUMANN, Cantica Laudis (1850).

Response: *Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary*. Words and music: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs ©1982 Whole Armor Music / Final Armor Music (admin. The Kruger Organization, Inc.) Used with permission.

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Today's Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Frederick A. Young		Pastor
Grace Winakor		Seminary Student
Jane Eiker	10:30AM	Organist
Sara Shank	8:00AM	Assistant Organist
John McKay	10:30AM	Senior Choir Director
Mark Luckenbaugh	8:00AM	Percussion
Roberta Weiant	8:00AM	Ushers
Janet & Steve Sheely	10:30AM	
Mary Jane & Harry Hilbert		Greeters
Buck Harvey		Acolyte
Georgia Hollabaugh, Kara Young, Luke Milhimes, Sue Churchill,		Tech Team
Russell Bailey, Carl Barrick, Stacey Rushwald, George Steckert, Garrison Redding, Mike Chase		

*Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

MONKLAND 7.7.7.7.

Ps. 136
John Milton, 1624

Hymn Tunes of the United Brethren, 1824
Arr. by John B. Wilkes, 1861



- 1. Let us with a glad - some mind, Praise the Lord, for he is kind:
- 2. Let us blaze his name a - broad, For of gods he is the God:
- 3. He, with all - com - mand - ing might, Filled the new - made world with light:
- 4. All things liv - ing he doth feed; His full hand sup - plies their need:
- 5. Let us, then, with glad - some mind, Praise the Lord, for he is kind:



For his mer - cies shall en - dure, Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er sure.



God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

565

Robert L. Edwards, 1961; alt.

1. God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing,
from your rich and end-less store,
Na-ture's won-der, Je-sus' wis-dom,
cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door:
Gift-ed by you, we turn to you
of-fering up our-selves in praise;
Thank-ful song shall rise for-ev-er,
gra-cious do-nor of our days.

2. Skills and time are ours for serv-ing,
that your will on earth be done:
All at peace in health and free-dom,
rac-es joined, the Church made one.
Now di-rect our dai-ly la-bor,
lest we strive for self a-lone;
born with tal-ents, make us ser-vants
fit to an-swer at your throne.

3. Trea-sure, too, you have en-trust-ed,
gain through powers your grace con-ferred;
Ours to use for home and kin-dred,
and to spread the gos-pel Word.
O-pen wide our hands in shar-ing
as we heed Christ's age-less call,
Heal-ing, teach-ing, and re-claim-ing,
hon-oring you by lov-ing all.

STEWARDSHIP AND CREATION

4. Lend your joy to all our giv-ing,
let it light our pil-grim way;
From the night of anx-ious keep-ing,
loose us in-to gen-erous day.
Then when years on earth are o-ver,
and we've lived our hu-man span,
God, ful-fill be-yond our dream-ing,
all our stew-ard-ship be-gan.

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Lavon Bayler, 1988, rev. 1993

1. Your ways are not our own, O gra-cious God most high,
Yet we would fol-low in your paths and on your love re-ly.
2. Christ teach-es us to bless the ones who curse and harm,
To turn the oth-er cheek when struck, at-tack-ers to dis-arm.
3. Yet, we can-not ex-cuse a-buse in an-y form,
For all are chil-dren of your care, and love must be our norm.
4. How shall we show your love, your par-don to be-lieve?
You bid us share as we are blessed and give as we re-ceive.
5. For-give-ness is our joy, re-ceiv-ing, giv-ing, too.
Keep us from judg-ments hard and cruel, that we may dwell
with you.

Luke 6:17–38; Rom. 12:9–21