

# *Trinity Church Welcomes You*

## **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

September 20, 2025

Reverend Priscilla Hukki

\*Indicates standing as you are able.

### **PRELUDE**

### **LIGHTING THE CANDLES**

### **WELCOME**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS**

### **PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Beautiful are the works of God!

**Beautiful also are the skins of God's people!**

Beautiful is the mind of God!

**Beautiful also are the hopes of God's people!**

Beautiful is the heart of God!

**Beautiful also are the souls of God's people!**

God made the heavens and the earth!

**To God be the glory for the things God has done.**

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### **\*OPENING HYMN**     *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*     UMH #175

1. Jesus, the very thought of thee  
with sweetness fills the breast;  
but sweeter far thy face to see,  
and in thy presence rest.

2. O hope of every contrite heart,  
O joy of all the meek,  
to those who fall, how kind thou art!  
How good to those who seek!

4. Jesus, our only joy be thou,  
as thou our prize wilt be;  
Jesus, be thou our glory now,  
and through eternity.

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## OPENING PRAYER

**O God of the morning and of the evening hours, let Your Spirit come on us here gathered. This is the holy place where we, Your people, call on You in faith, joining heart and voice in thanksgiving and praise to Your name. Amen.**

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## FIRST READING

*Amos 8: 4-7*

<sup>4</sup> Hear this, you who trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, <sup>5</sup> saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier and practice deceit with false balances, <sup>6</sup> buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat.” <sup>7</sup> The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

God’s Word for God’s People

## PSALM

*Psalm 113*

(read responsively)

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD; praise the name of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup> **Let the name of the LORD be blessed, from this time forth forevermore.**

<sup>3</sup> From the rising of the sun to its going down let the name of the LORD be praised.

<sup>4</sup> **The LORD is high above all nations; God’s glory above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup> Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high,

**<sup>6</sup> but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?**

<sup>7</sup> The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

**<sup>8</sup> enthroning them with the rulers, with the rulers of the people.**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD makes the woman of a childless house to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

## **SECOND READING**

*1 Timothy 2: 1-7*

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, <sup>6</sup> who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup> For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

God's Word for God's People

## **\*GOSPEL READING**

*Luke 16: 1-13*

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup> So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' <sup>3</sup> Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup> I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.'

<sup>5</sup> So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup> He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' <sup>7</sup> Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' <sup>8</sup> And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by

means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup> “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup> If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup> No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The Gospel of the Lord

## SERMON

Pastor Priscilla

## HYMN

*Grace Alone*

TFWS #2162

1. Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith,  
every difference we will make is only by his grace.

Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine,  
every blessing left behind is only by his grace.

### *Refrain*

Grace alone which God supplies, strength unknown he will provide.  
Christ in us our Cornerstone; we will go forth in grace alone.

2. Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach,  
everywhere we share his peace, is only by his grace.

Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away,  
every sorrow turned to praise is only by his grace. [*Refrain*]

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## \*APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived  
by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He  
ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Let us examine our lives in the presence of God, humbly confessing our sins and opening our hearts, so that we do not deceive even ourselves, and exclude ourselves from your presence.

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### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of love and justice,

**we long for peace within and peace without. We long for harmony in our families, for serenity in the midst of struggle, and for commitment to each other's growth. Yet we confess that we are often anxious; we do not trust each other, and we harbor resentment and fear. We are not willing to take the risks and make the hard choices that love requires. Look upon us with kindness and grace. Forgive us and show us how to walk in Your paths, through the mercy of our Saviour. Amen.**

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### **WORD OF ASSURANCE**

The Almighty and Merciful God grant us pardon and remission of all our sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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### **OFFERING**

We appreciate your support of the work of the church through your tithes and offerings. Please place all offerings in the plate by the entrance to the sanctuary.

**\*OFFERING** *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH #95

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.

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## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**All good gifts around us come from You, O God. You have given us life, and made us new creations in Christ. We offer ourselves and our gifts to your service, in Jesus, Amen.**

## **\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **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 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.**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

The table is spread. All are welcome to receive the good gifts of God for God's beloved. The Body & Blood of Christ given for you. **Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Gracious and loving God, You have made us one in the body of Christ, and nourished us at Your table with holy food and drink. Now send us forth to be Your people in the world. Grant us strength to persevere in resisting evil, and to proclaim in all we say and do Your Good News in Christ Jesus our Saviour. Amen.**

### **\*HYMN**

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

UMH #375

*Refrain*

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,  
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

1. Sometimes I feel discouraged,  
and think my work's in vain.  
But then the Holy Spirit  
revives my soul again. [*Refrain*]

2. Don't ever feel discouraged,  
for Jesus is your friend,  
and if you look for knowledge  
he'll ne'er refuse to lend. [*Refrain*]

3. If you can't preach like Peter,  
if you can't pray like Paul,  
just tell the love of Jesus,  
and say he died for all. [*Refrain*]

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## **BENEDICTION**

May you love God so much that you love nothing else too much. May  
you fear God enough that you need fear nothing else at all. May  
Almighty God + Father, Son, and Spirit bless you with grace and mercy.  
**Amen.**

At last, O God, the sun's heat has given way to the cool evening.  
Take, we pray, the heat out of our desires and our tempers,  
and in this evening hour calm us,  
that we may experience the peace and serenity which come from You.  
At last, O God, the sun's brightness has given way  
to the rich colors of the evening.  
Prevent us, we pray, from being dazzled by the apparent brilliance  
of human achievement.  
And, in this evening hour, help us to rediscover the varied beauty of  
Your Creation, and appreciate afresh, in the stillness, the value of Your  
abiding presence.  
For the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.