

Trinity Church Welcomes You

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday, July 25, 2026

Pastor Priscilla Hukki

*Indicates standing as you are able.

Bold indicates “in unison”.

PRELUDE

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

God sends us into the world to journey by faith, believing that God’s blessings are greater than anything we can imagine.

Whether the path is straight or winding, God blesses us that we may be a blessing.

God gathers us today with trusted companions, those who also follow God’s call, even when it does not make sense to the world around us.

Whether we journey with friends or feel all alone, God blesses us that we may be a blessing.

As we gather to worship, may we remember that we are God’s people, blessed by God to be a blessing to our world that is hurting and desperately in need of good news.

God, form us today as a family of faith, that your blessings might flow out of us and into our world, drawing all people into your promise of abundant life and flourishing. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, December 2025.

***OPENING HYMN *To God Be the Glory* UMH #98 vs. 1 & 3**

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher, and greater will be our wonder,
our transport, when Jesus we see. [*Refrain*]

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OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people, and kindle in us the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/resources/leading-worship/methodist-liturgies/holy-communion-services/>

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3: 5-12

⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” ⁶ And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?”

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, “Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.”

God's Word for God's People

PSALM

Psalm 119:129-136

(read responsively)

¹²⁹ Your decrees are wonderful; therefore I obey them with all my heart.

¹³⁰ **When your word is opened it gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.**

¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant because I long for your commandments.

¹³² **Turn to me and be gracious to me, as you always do to those who love your name.**

¹³³ Order my footsteps in your word; let no iniquity have dominion over me.

¹³⁴ **Rescue me from those who oppress me, and I will keep your commandments.**

¹³⁵ Let your face shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes.

¹³⁶ **My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your teaching.**

SECOND READING

Romans 8: 26-39

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height,

nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God's Word for God's People

***GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

³¹ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." ³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

The Gospel of the Lord

SERMON

Pastor Priscilla

HYMN

O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee

UMH #430 vs. 1-3

1. O Master, let me walk with thee
in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.
2. Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.

3. Teach me thy patience;
still with thee in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong;

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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 PARDON

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God.

Amen.

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 or you may use the QR code found on the back of the bulletin.

***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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OFFERTORY PRAYER (amended from Discipleship Ministries)

Gracious God, we offer these gifts not for our greatness, but so that your promise might be fulfilled through us: to bless the world. Use these offerings to build relationships, to mend the broken, and to draw all families of the earth toward your heart. May our giving reflect our trust, and may our trust lead us to go where you send, step by step, stage by stage, into your future. Amen. (Genesis 12:1-9)

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The table is set for you. If you are hungry, tired, weary, or worn, or joyful or full, or care free, there is space for you here. Come, the bread of life and the cup of blessing await you. The body and blood of Christ given for you. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

**God of power, may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us, and may the gifts of your
Spirit equip us to serve and worship you now and always. Amen.**

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/resources/leading-worship/methodist-liturgies/holy-communion-services/>

***HYMN**

Sent Out in Jesus' Name (2x)

TFWS #2184

Sent out in Jesus' name, our hands are ready now
to make the earth the place in which the kingdom comes.

Sent out in Jesus' name, our hands are ready now
to make the earth the place in which the kingdom comes.

The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain
into a world of love, of justice and of peace.

The task is ours to do, to set it really free.
O help us to obey and carry out your will.

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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 fear nothing else at all. May Almighty
God bless you + in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy
Spirit. Amen.

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