

**Trinity Presbyterian Church
November 12, 2023 A.D.
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

Rev. Dr. Murray Joseph Thompson - Pastor

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

L: We gather today to celebrate the gifts that we have received and to reflect on the ways in which we can give back to our community.

P: As we come together in worship, let us remember that we are called to be good stewards of all that we have been given.

L: Let us be mindful of the needs of others and seek to serve them with generosity and compassion.

P: May our hearts be open to the Spirit's leading as we gladly offer our time, talents, and resources to make a difference in the world, and in your church, O Lord. Amen.

The Morning Anthem

Call to Confession

L: Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weaknesses, since in every respect He was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Therefore, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

In Unison: ***Holy God, Creator and Lover of all that is, we confess to you that we have sinned. We have failed in our care for the land and its creatures, we have been greedy, destructive, and wasteful of the resources you entrusted to us. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us. You have given us the gift of time. You give us time to serve, time to learn,***

time to grow, time to share. We spend our time serving self. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us. You provide us with opportunity to serve in numerous ways using the talents and abilities we have been given. We tend to hide our gifts. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us. You have provided even the least among us with more resources than most of the world. We resist sharing because of fear for the future. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us. You have provided us with a beautiful creation to enjoy. We take it for granted and abuse this incredible earth. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

Pastor: Friends, the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*Our Response

What a Friend We have in Jesus

***What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what
peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, all because
we do not carry everything to God in prayer!***

Sharing Our Faith with Our Children

Stewardship Moment – Sandy Peoples

*Hymn - ***Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise #263***

The Morning Scripture Lesson: Matthew 25:14-30

The Parable of the Bags of Gold

¹⁴ “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag,^[a] each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸ But the

man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

¹⁹ "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.'

²¹ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

²² "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.'

²³ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

²⁴ "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

²⁶ "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned, I would have received it back with interest.'

²⁸ "So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Sermon: ***Part II: Spirituality in Stewardship:
Multiplying the Gift of the Church***

*Hymn - ***O Jesus, I Have Promised #388***

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology (Hymn #592)

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.

Recognition of America's Finest - Our Church's Veterans

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

*Sending forth and Benediction

*Choral response ***God be with You Till We Meet Again***

God be with you till we meet again, by His counsel guide, uphold you, with His sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again. Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet; till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude

Liturgist: Barbara Rinker

Soloist: Jessica Starcher

Head Deacons: Beth Davis & Nancy Thomas

Rev. Dr. Murray Joseph Thompson

Music Director: Pamela Carroll

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"Called to Serve and to Witness"
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