

**Trinity Presbyterian Church
September 10, 2023 A.D.
The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Rev. Dr. Murray Joseph Thompson - Pastor

Gathering Music
Welcome & Announcements
Prelude

L: Incline your ear and hear my words, and apply your mind to my teaching.

P: It will be pleasant if you keep them within you, if all of them are ready on your lips.

L: So that your trust may be in the Lord. I have made them known to you today.

P: The rich and the poor have this in common: the Lord is the maker of them all.

L: Therefore, let us worship God together on this day. Amen.
(Proverbs 22)

Call to Confession

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.
Let us pray . . .

In Unison: ***Oh God, author of mercy, in Christ's name hear us as we confess our sin. We speak when we should listen; we hesitate when we should act. Anger prevents us from working and living in your righteousness; selfishness inhibits our responding in faith. We are called to proclaim boldly the dawn of your Kingdom, but our shouts turn out to be mere whispers. Cleanse us of wickedness and fill us***

with your spirit of meekness. Redeem us in Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Pastor: Remember that “As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus” (Gal. 3:27-28). So live as free people, abounding in the hope of the Gospel, for in Jesus Christ you are forgiven. Amen.

*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

*Hymn - ***When Morning Gilds the Skies #487***

The Morning Scripture Lesson: Mark 9:14-29

Jesus Heals a Boy Possessed by an Impure Spirit

¹⁴ When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. ¹⁵ As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him.

¹⁶ “What are you arguing with them about?” he asked.

¹⁷ A man in the crowd answered, “Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. ¹⁸ Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not.”

¹⁹ “You unbelieving generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me.”

²⁰ So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

²¹ Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?" "From childhood," he answered. ²² "It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us."

²³ "If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes."

²⁴ Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

²⁵ When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. "You deaf and mute spirit," he said, "I command you, come out of him and never enter him again."

²⁶ The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, "He's dead." ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up.

²⁸ After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"

²⁹ He replied, "This kind can come out only by prayer."

Sermon: ***God Bless the Teacher(s)***

*Hymn - ***Open My Eyes That I May See #324***

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.

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 counsels 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

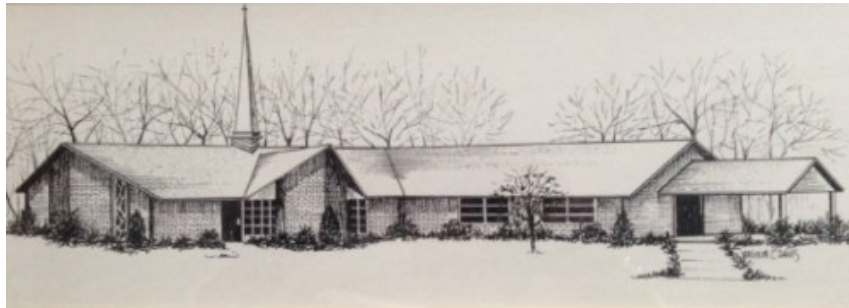
Liturgist: Barb Rinker

Head Deacons: Deb Cooper & Chuck Borland

Rev. Dr. Murray Joseph Thompson

Music Director: Pamela Carroll

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The flowers today are dedicated to the glory of God in honor of our Nain and Taid (Meryl and Windsor Davis) in honor of Grandparents Day. Given with all our love Sarah and Derek.
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“Called to Serve and to Witness”
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