



Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost - A
October 4, 2020

Philippians 3:5

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.

Theme

Paul was Bound by Privilege - Grace Set Him Free

We Welcome All

- † Special requests may be made through Facebook or our WebPage
- † Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.
 - Trinity is an Affirming Congregation and is inclusive of folk who find themselves a part of what is described as “LGBTQ+”
 - Our Congregation is Active in a Ministry of Prayer, Service and Care.

Welcome and Announcements

This week's Phone Tree Message - 30 September 2020



World Communion Sunday

World Communion Sunday was first celebrated at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA, in 1933 where Dr. Hugh Thompson Kerr served as pastor.

“The concept spread very slowly at the start. People did not give it a whole lot of thought. It was during the Second World War that the spirit caught hold, because we were trying to hold the world together. World Wide Communion symbolized the effort to hold things together, in a

spiritual sense. It emphasized that we are one in the Spirit and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

From the Presbyterian Church (USA) [World Communion Sunday WebPage](#)

The Table will be set and we will celebrate but will not share the Bread and the Cup. Although we cannot receive the physical elements, the Grace that we celebrate remains real. COVID-19 may limit us materially but it can never remove us from the meaning and purpose of Communion - Thanksgiving for and Commemoration of God's Gift of Grace in Jesus.

Prayer for World Communion Sunday

Thank you, Jesus, for the opportunity to remember you
in the ordinary things of our lives.

When we eat our daily bread, rice, tortilla, or potato,
we remember how you shared what you had with your friends,
breaking yourself open.

When we drink from the fruits of our harvest,
we are reminded of how you continually bless us
with your teachings;
our chipped and well-used cups overflow.

Thank you, Jesus. Amen.

- *a prayer for World Communion Sunday from Parables, Prayers, and Promises: Daily Devotions on Jesus (UCPH, 2016)*

Trinity United Church COVID-19 Worship Protocols -

● Capacity and Support

- The sanctuary can accommodate 30 “Bubbles.”
 - 30 individuals or
 - family units to a maximum of 50 individuals
- The church “lift” is available
- One washroom at the sanctuary level will be available
- Fellowship Hall and other facilities are out of bounds

● Suspended Activities

- Communion
- Fellowship Time
- Children's programming
- Congregational singing
- “Passing the Plate” for Collection

- **Minimizing Exposure**
 - Risk assessment information will be available prior to worship
 - Health screening station will be set up outside
 - Entry, Exit and Movement within the sanctuary will be managed by Ushers
 - Post Service Cleaning and Disinfecting will be completed ASAP

- **Communication**
 - Posters will be prominently displayed in all critical areas as reminders regarding physical distancing, mandatory mask wearing and hand washing

- **Trinity United Church News and Updates -**
 - **Worship Services are broadcast on COGECO**
 - Services are available on Trinity's Web Page and FaceBook
 - **Sunday's Scripture speaks to Privilege and Grace -**
 - **Key Scripture - Philippians 3:5**
 - **Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.**
 - **Theme - The Bondage of Privilege - The Freedom of Grace**
 - **Paul was exceptionally privileged - "circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee." He was also born a Roman Citizen.**
 - **This privilege left him blind and bound...**
 - **... Until he was touched by a Grace that is free and freeing.**
 - **This Sunday is World Communion Sunday - We cannot share in the Bread and the Cup, however, the Grace that we celebrate remains.**

- If a lunch delivered to your home would be helpful, we will serve as we are able. Contact the Office.
- **If you would like to help or receive a lunch, let Betty Lou know - 613 291 0701**
- A note from the Stewardship Team
 - Please consider Pre-Authorized Payments (PAR) as a consistent way to support the congregation
 - Grocery / Gift Cards are still available for sale - Contact the Church Office at - 613 283 4444

○ Care

- Please remember your mask when you leave your home.
- **Masks are available at the church Tuesday and Saturday 11:30 am - 12:30 pm and Sunday morning prior to worship.**
- Of course, masks are not a replacement for 2 metres of separation



We are grateful for the Town of Smiths Falls and Lanark County. Take Away Meals are subsidized through the generosity of the Community Grant Program and COVID-19 emergency funds.

Two Guys for Lunch are active partners with us in this community service.

Congregational Notes

- If you would like to return your geranium pots, you may leave them at the church on Sunday, Tuesday or Saturday. A box for collecting them will be available.

Christmas Wreath

Trinity United Church Women Fundraiser

18" Fresh Balsam Wreath

Pre-order by October 30th
by emailing
trinitysffundraising@gmail.com
or by calling
Sharon at 613-283-6923

More details on dropping off money or pick-up will be given when you call or by return email
Pick-up date is December 1st.

\$25.00

- Gift Cards are still for sale though the office and can be ready for pickup on Sundays or by arrangement with the Office.

Upcoming

- Thanksgiving is next week.
 - Thanksgiving is festive. If you would like to make a donation toward making our Thanksgiving Saturday Lunch (10 October)

more festive, you may do so by contacting Betty Lou Kempt or the Office.

Acknowledging Traditional Territory

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of Reconciliation

Introit 318 "Christ Be With Me"

Call to Worship

The banqueting table is prepared and God calls us to the feast.

We have come from east and west, from north and south, to sit at Christ's table.

Compassion, love and grace pour out like fine wine.

We taste the bread of life, bread for our journey.

There are gifts of God for all the people of God.

Let us table and see that the Lord is good!

Prayer of Gathering

Holy God, Creator, Christ, and Spirit;

When we hunger for fulfillment, you meet all our needs.

You give us the bread of Life.

When we thirst for your presence,

you draw near to us in every place, at any time.

You fill our cup to overflowing.

You are truth,

You are love,

for you are the One who was, who is, and who ever shall be.

You are our hunger filled, and our thirst quenched,

you are our deepest desire fulfilled,

So to you, we give praise with all your people,

here and everywhere, now and always.

Amen.

Hymn 642 "Be Thou My Vision" vs. 1,2,4

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;

naught be all else to me, save that thou art -

thou my best thought, by day or by night,

waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

Learning with Children

Children's Prayer

Scripture Psalm 80:7-15 (VU 794 Part Two); Philippians 3:4b-14

Psalm 80:7-15 (VU 794 Part Two)

Refrain - Your face, God, shine on us and give us peace.

Shepherd of Israel, hear us,
you who lead Joseph like a flock,
you who are enthroned amidst the cherubim.
Shine forth before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh;
stir up your might, come and save us.

Refrain - Your face, God, shine on us and give us peace.

You brought a vine out of Egypt,
you drove out the nations and planted it.
You cleared the ground for it;
it sank deep roots, and filled the land.
The mountains were covered with its shade,
the mighty cedars with its branches.
It stretched out its branches as far as the Sea,
and its shoots as far as the River.
Why then have you broken down its enclosure,
so that all who go by pluck its grapes?
The boar from the forest roots it up,
and the beasts of the field devour it.

Refrain - Your face, God, shine on us and give us peace.

Turn to us again, God of hosts, look down from heaven and see.

**Bestow your care on this vine,
on the stock which your right hand planted.**

As for those who set it on fire, who cut it down,
may they perish at the frown of your face.

**Let your hand rest on the one by your side,
on the one you have made strong for yourself.**

Then we will never forsake you;

give us life, and we will call on your name.

Refrain - Your face, God, shine on us and give us peace.

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Hymn 282 "Long Before The Night" vs. 1,2,4

Long before the night was born from darkness
Long before the dawn rolled unsteady from fire
Long before she wrapped her scarlet arms around the hills
there was a love this ancient love was born

Long before the grass spotted green the bare hillside
Long before a wing unfolded to wind
Long before she wrapped her long blue arm round the sea
there was a love this ancient love was born

Long before the name of God was spoken
Long before a cross was nailed from a tree
Long before she laid her arm of colours 'cross the sky
there was a love this ancient love was born

Invitation to Offering

World Communion Sunday celebrates God's gift of relationship around the world and throughout creation. Let us share our gifts with God, so this day will be marked by an outpouring of generosity in Jesus' name.

During these trying times, Trinity's life and work continues in many ways. While our Sunday services and many other things in our lives are on hold until further notice, and our building is closed, our staff and members are still active and operational costs continue.

There will be no opportunity for the regular collection of offerings each week, so Trinity needs you to share your gifts in a different way. We have 4 options:

1. Please visit the www.trinityunitedsf.ca and use the "DONATE" button. It takes you to CanadaHelps.org where you can make a safe and secure, one time or monthly donation as often as you want.
2. This may also be a good time to start using Pre-authorized Payments. The form for that is attached to this post and can be printed off and mailed to the church office at 41 Market Street / PO Box 28, Smiths Falls, K7A 2E7
3. We have also set up an e-transfer account to accept your donation. Please use secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca. Password not required. Please note your envelope number and amount allocated to general church expenses, M&S. and/or capital projects.
4. Of course you can always mail a donation to the church office at 41/ PO Box 28 Market Street, Smiths Falls, ON K7A 2E7

If you require assistance or have any questions about making donations, please do not hesitate to contact the church office at 613-283-4444 or by email at secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca.

Thank you.

Offering Prayer

Generous and gracious God, we have received so much from you in Christ and in creation. Bless the gifts we offer this day so they will speak of your love for the world in all its detail, and for people in all our diversity. May our gifts touch the need around us in the name of Christ who makes us one. Amen.

Hymn 458 "Christ Let Us Come With You"

Christ, let us come with you
to the upper room where the feast is laid,

to the bread and wine where our peace is made:
Christ, let us come with you!

Teach us your serving love:

to become as friends, to become as one
that the world believe what your life has done:
teach us your serving love.

Jesus, forgive us all

that we use your name though we stand apart,
we refuse your prayer to be one at heart:

Jesus, forgive us all.

Christ of the open hands,

you have brought us close to be loved and fed,
you have touched our life, now you walk ahead:

Christ, let us come with you!

Prayers of the People

We are thankful that we can experience God in a relationship from which we draw strength, courage and encouragement.

The ways of knowing God - Mother, Father, Friend -
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer;

may be expressed in the prayer Jesus taught us -

Reflection - Privilege that Binds
Grace that Sets Free

Call to Reconciliation

Out of a desire to be free of past mistakes and start again with you and with one another, we join our voices in confession -

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy,

We confess that we have often failed to speak and act with kindness.

We have not always cared for others as you care for us.

We have not welcomed others as we have been welcomed to your table,

nor have we forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

We remember the good not done, kind words not spoken, and things we regret.

If only we could make these things right!

Hear our silent confession -

Assurance of Pardon

Believe the good news! Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation; the old life is fading, the new life has started to emerge—in us. Know that you are forgiven, and so have the courage to forgive one another.

Meditation "There is a Balm In Gilead"

A Communion Liturgy for the Whole People of God

by Alydia Smith

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God is with us!

We are not alone!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love,

you are beyond complete knowledge,
above perfect description.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;

Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love,
you are creative and self-giving,
generously moving.

In all the near and distant corners of the universe.

nothing exists that does not find its source in you.

Even if we turn from you, you are with us;

your presence never fails us,

your gifts of hope and new life transform us.

We praise you for Jesus Christ,

eternal as your love, our bond to one another.

We rejoice with all your people of every time and place,

and with angels and archangels,
to proclaim the glory of your name -

Sanctus and Benedictus (MV 203)

O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space,
All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.
Hosanna in the highest heaven, creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name always!

Holy, holy, holy are you.
Holy, holy, blessed are you.

It is Jesus, God incarnate, the Risen Christ,
who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful
believers:

loving what he loved
living what he taught, and
striving to be his faithful servants
in our time and place.

In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises,
and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did.

On the night before Jesus died,
he took a loaf of bread,
gave thanks, broke it, and said,
“Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup, and poured, saying,
“This is the new covenant, remember me.”

We do remember.

We remember his life of love, his friendship, his teaching, his dying,
and his rising to life again.

In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith -

Christ has died
Christ will arise
Christ will come to us again

Holy Mystery, God the Spirit,
we call on you to transform these familiar things,
as you continually transform the world around us.

Bless this bread and this cup,
the wheat and the grape,
the farmer and the harvest,
the seed and the sower.

So that in the sharing of these simple elements in community,
we may taste and see your goodness,
so that we might catch a glimpse of what it is to be in
communion with you and with one another.

Through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, God most holy,
now and forever.

Communion Hymn - T'was on That Night When Doomed to Know

**T'was on that night when doomed to know
The eager rage of every foe
That night in which he was betrayed
The Saviour of the world took bread.**

**And after thanks and glory given
To him that rules in earth and heaven
That symbol of his flesh he broke,
And thus to all his followers spoke:**

**“My broken body thus I give
For you, for all; take, eat, and live
“And oft the sacred rite renew
That brings my wondrous love to view.”**

**Then in his hands the cup he raised,
And God anew he thanked and praised,
While kindness in his bosom glowed,
And from his lips salvation flowed.**

**“My blood I thus pour forth” he cries,
“To cleanse the soul in sin that lies;
In this the covenant is sealed,
And Heaven's eternal grace revealed.**

**“With love to man this cup is fraught’
Let all partake the sacred draught;
Through latest ages let it pour,
In memory of my dying hour”**

Breaking the Bread, Pouring the Cup

The body of Christ,
the bread of life.
The lifeblood of Christ,
the cup of blessing.
The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

Sharing the Grace

We Depart to Serve with Joy

Hymn 232 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" vs. 1,2,3

Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, life and love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive our fear and doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All your works with joy surround you, earth and heaven reflect your rays,
stars and angels sing around you, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, sound their praise eternally.

You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Source of grace and fount of blessing, let your light upon us shine;
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Prayer after Communion

**Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life.
We are fed by your love;
we are strengthened by your life.
We are sent forth into this world to live into the visions God has
laid on our hearts.
We are now commissioned to:
feed as we have been fed,**

**forgive as we have been forgiven,
love as we have been loved.
Thanks be to God.
Amen.**

Choral Amen

Postlude "Be Thou My Vision"