



**TRINITY**  
UNITED CHURCH  
*Smiths Falls, Ontario, Canada*

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost - C  
September 11, 2022

"I have found my sheep that was lost"

*Luke 15:6b*

### **Welcome and Announcements**

- † Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.
  - Trinity is an Affirming Congregation
- † Our building is open 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday through Thursday

**Smiths Falls Community Food Bank** appreciates donations, please fill our wagon at the back of the Sanctuary, it will be delivered monthly.

### **Children's Programming and Activities -**

We need help and would love a helper...  
Ideas too ...

The Spiritual Leadership Team is creating a Labyrinth in our backyard. We are using bricks for the outline. **We would welcome any surplus / used Bricks for this purpose.** Our budget consists of our Gratitude for your generosity.

Spiritual Leadership and Communications are most grateful for the work of Bill Dickson who faithfully streams and records our services. This is a lot of work for one person. Please pray that assistance will be found for this important Ministry.

**Interlude**      381 "Spirit Of Life"

*(Lighting of Christ Candle)*

### **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

### **Call to Worship**

You have searched us and known us.

**You know when we sit down and when we rise up.**

You discern our thoughts from far away.

**Before a word is on our tongues you know it completely.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful for us, and so we humble ourselves in worship.

**Search us and know our hearts and lead us in the way everlasting.**

### **Opening Prayer**

We gather in your presence this day,  
called by the stories of your people over the centuries.  
You are the source of wisdom we seek,  
Your mercy eases the troubles that stir our hearts.

And we come to praise you,  
for your stories have the power to challenge us and change us.  
Draw near to us as we draw near to you this day.  
Tell us the stories that will change our lives,  
through the grace of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Hymn 307 "Touch The Earth Lightly"**

Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently,  
Nourish the life of the world in our care:  
Gift of great wonder, ours to surrender,  
Trust for the children tomorrow will bear.

We who endanger, who create hunger,  
Agents of death for all creatures that live,  
We who would foster clouds of disaster,  
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!

Let there be greening, birth from the burning,  
Water that blesses and air that is sweet,  
Health in God's garden, hope in God's children,  
Regeneration that peace will complete.

God of all living, God of all loving,  
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,  
Teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us,  
Using us gently and making us one.

**Time With Children**  
**Children's Prayer**

## **Prayer of Confession**

**We gather in Jesus' name to hear the stories he told,  
to gain wisdom and to know your Spirit's guidance.  
Yet we confess that we resist the power of your Word to change us.  
Forgive where we stray,  
help us amend our way and  
set us free to be who you have called us to be.**

## **Words of Assurance**

St Paul asked, "Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us".

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus, we are forgiven and set free by God's most generous grace.

**Scripture**            Exodus 32:7-14  
                              Psalm 51:1-10  
                              1 Timothy 1:12-17  
                              Luke 15:1-10

Exodus 32:7-14

The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Psalm 51:1-10

*Refrain -*

*God, I call to you for help;  
in your mercy hear my prayer.*

Have mercy on me, O God, in your great kindness,  
**in the fullness of your mercy blot out my offences.**

Wash away all my guilt, and cleanse me from my sin.

**For I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is always before me.**

*Refrain -*

*God, I call to you for help;  
in your mercy hear my prayer.*

Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done evil in your sight,  
**so that you are justified in your sentence,  
and blameless in your judgement.**

Guilty I have been from my birth,  
a sinner from the time of my conception.

**But you desire truth in our inward being,  
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.**  
Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean,  
**wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.**  
Let me hear the sounds of joy and gladness,  
**let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.**  
Turn away your face from my sins,  
**and blot out all my iniquities.**

*Refrain -*

*God, I call to you for help;  
in your mercy hear my prayer.*

Put a new heart in me, O God.  
**and give me again a constant spirit.**  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
**do not take your holy spirit from me.**  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and strengthen me with a willing spirit.  
**Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
and sinners will return to you.**  
O God, open my lips,  
**and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Refrain -*

*God, I call to you for help;  
in your mercy hear my prayer.*

You desire no sacrifice, or I would give it;  
**you take no delight in burnt offerings.**  
The sacrifice you accept, O God, is a broken spirit;  
**a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

***Refrain -***

***God, I call to you for help;***

***in your mercy hear my prayer.***

1 Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Luke 15:1-10

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

**Meditation** "Prayer" from "Hansel and Gretel" (Humperdinck)

**Reflection** Someone is Looking for You

**Hymn** 665 "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Saviour"

Pass me not, O gentle Saviour,  
hear my humble cry;  
while on others thou art calling,  
do not pass me by.

*Refrain -*

*Saviour, Saviour,  
hear my humble cry;  
while on others thou art calling,  
do not pass me by.*

Let me at thy throne of mercy  
find a sweet relief,  
kneeling there in deep contrition;  
help my unbelief.

*Refrain -*

*Saviour, Saviour,  
hear my humble cry;  
while on others thou art calling,  
do not pass me by.*

Trusting only in thy merit,  
would I seek thy face;  
heal my wounded, broken spirit,  
save me by thy grace.

***Refrain -***  
***Saviour, Saviour,***  
***hear my humble cry;***  
***while on others thou art calling,***  
***do not pass me by.***

Thou the spring of all my comfort,  
more than life to me,  
whom have I on earth beside thee?  
Whom in heaven but thee.

***Refrain -***  
***Saviour, Saviour,***  
***hear my humble cry;***  
***while on others thou art calling,***  
***do not pass me by.***

### **Invitation to the Offering**

In Jesus' parable, the woman who found the lost coin rejoiced over something precious. What we offer to God is precious to us. When we present it to God, God rejoices in our gifts. Let us bless God with our offering.

**Offering Options** Offerings can be made several ways -

- E-transfers through the bank to [secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca](mailto:secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca)
- by mail OR by delivery to church office by prearranged time
- through Trinity website DONATE button
- PAR

## **Offering Prayer**

Lord God, receive our gifts offered in a spirit of generosity and humility. Bless and use them for the work that you long to do in the world in Jesus name. Amen.

## **Hymn 341 "Fairest Lord Jesus"**

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,  
O thou of God to earth come down:  
thee will I cherish, thee will I honour,  
thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,  
robed in the blooming garb of spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fairer still the moonlight,  
and fair the twinkling, starry host;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
than all the angels heaven can boast.

All fairest beauty heavenly and earthly,  
wondrously, Jesus, is found in thee;  
none can be nearer, fairer or dearer  
than thou, my Saviour, art to me.

## **Prayers of the People**

Ever seeking God,  
we come before you in prayer,  
for you have sought us out and claimed us as your own.

Thank you showing us how we are precious to you  
through the life and love of Jesus.

In our prayers we name before you other precious souls and  
situations.

With your Spirit, seek them out:

God of mercy,

**Draw near to all who need you.**

We pray for those who feel lost in life:

those who are frightened or anxious,  
those who are struggling with addiction or mental illness,  
and those who are lonely or despairing:

May your reassurance and comfort find them.

God of mercy,

**Draw near to all who need you.**

We pray for those who have wandered away:

for those separated from their families by conflict or distance;  
for those whose relationship with the church is broken or  
forgotten;  
and for those who have given up on the future in despair.

May your healing and mercy find them.

God of mercy,

**Draw near to all who need you.**

We pray for those who feel forgotten:

for those who think that they are worthless or unloved;  
for those who believe that their sins are too great to forgive;  
and for those who are convinced that not even God can love  
them.

May your love and grace find them.

God of mercy,

**Draw near to all who need you.**

Ever watchful God,

you keep seeking out wandering sheep and lost coins,  
lives of all who are precious to you.

Thank you for your attentive love  
and your patient compassion for us all.

May we rejoice with you when any lost soul is embraced,  
and never substitute our judgement of them for yours.

Make us servants of the mercy we meet in Jesus Christ  
Who taught us to pray together -

### **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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

EOORC Prayer Cycle

**Golden Lake Pastoral Charge** St. John's United Church

The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

Ghana, Nigeria

**We Depart to Serve with Joy**

**Hymn** 626 "I Heard The Voice of Jesus Say"

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one, lay down  
your head upon my breast."

I came to Jesus as I was,  
weary and worn and sad;  
I found in him a resting-place,  
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Behold, I freely give  
the living water; thirsty one,  
stoop down, and drink, and live."

I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
    "I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise;  
    and all your day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
    in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk  
    till travelling days are done.

### **Benediction**

Go in joy, knowing God rejoices over you;  
    And care for others, knowing God rejoices over them, too!

May the blessing of the God who made us,  
    the Christ who mends us,  
    and the Spirit who gives us life  
        be with you now and always. Amen.

### **Choral Amen**

**Postlude**      "Sheep May Safely Graze" (Bach)