

***Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
June 20, 2021***

Leading in Worship Today

Pastor: *John D. Jordan*
Pianist: *Laurie Knapp*

AV Assistant: *K. C. Warble*
Time Together: *Dee Senn; Gale Frady*

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Laurie Knapp

Centering Words

Call To Worship *“Lead Me, Lord”* Mary Louise Robinson

Opening Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer 895

*Affirmation of Faith *“The Apostles’ Creed”* 881

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Laurie Knapp

*Doxology *“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

Prayer of Illumination

Psalm 9 479 (O.T.)

Epistle Reading 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13 171-172 (N.T.)

Gospel Reading Mark 4: 35-41 41 (N.T.)

Old Testament Reading 1 Samuel 17: 4-11, 19-23, 32-49 255-257 (O.T.)

Sermon *The Weapons We Use* 4 John D. Jordan

*Hymn *“God of Grace and God of Glory”* 577

*Dismissal With Benediction

*Benediction Response *“God Be with You till We Meet Again”* Mary Louise Robinson

*Postlude Laurie Knapp

*The Congregation May Stand

VISITORS ARE WELCOME in the service of worship! Please make use of the visitor’s tags (located in the pew backs) to help us better welcome you as a visitor to Trinity this morning. We ask that you also please fill in the pew pad as it passes to register your attendance with us. **Large print hymnals** are available from the ushers.

You may join as a member into the life and work of this congregation by Confession of Faith or by Transfer of Membership from another church. If you would be interested in becoming a member, please speak to the pastor.

Today’s Lovely Flowers are given to the Glory of God.

“AS MEMBERS OF THIS CONGREGATION, WE WILL FAITHFULLY PARTICIPATE IN ITS MINISTRIES BY OUR PRAYERS...

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Ruth Frady | Tom Lloyd | Daphne Branham | Patsy Shuler | Kathy Aiello | George Taylor |
| Ted Frady | Oren Edwards | Latson Lewis | Steve Aiello | Steve White | |

Shut-Ins: Shirley Butler; Esther Carter; Carolyn Hardee; Francis & Gillett Hipp; June Hutto; Georgeann Pace; Shirley Padgett; Jean Raynor; Claudia Sineath; Wayne Tallon; Irvin Wells

Family and Friends: **Aubrey Wall** (daughter-in-law of Tom Wall); **Ghent Brewer** (brother-in-law of Jeanette Hornsby); **Beverly Graves** (friend of Becky Derrick); **Mitch Kelly** (Dale Wells' nephew); **Chip Hooker** (Wayne Hooker's father); **Robert Bradley** (Business Associate of Simon Ross); **Dave Burrell** (Business Associate of Tommy Gleaton); **Gene Odom** (grandfather of Mark Branham); **Gary Becton** (friend of Mark Branham); **Audrey Cassidy** (sister-in-law of Mary Louise Robinson); **Rusty Browning** (friend of Erin Derrick); **Monnie Tiller, Mrs. Miles** (friends of Chris Derrick); **Donna Walker** (coworker of Jack Stevens); **Ruby Pennington** (friend of Laurie Knapp); **Judy Bauer** (cousin of Marty Johnson); **Betty Jean Newton** (sister-in-law of Mary Kamoroff); **Beth Ann Feimster** (sister of Christopher McCroskey); **Adrin & Linda Hargett** (stepfather and stepmom of Christopher McCroskey); **Danielle Spotts** (co-worker of Kathy White); **Vickie Edwards** (neighbor of Kathy White); **George Duke, Brenda Grier** (friends of Lynn Martin); **Heather Stevens, Ty Moore, George Dorn** (friends of Kay Jordan); **Teddy Derrick** (uncle of Arvan Derrick); **Haidee Baehr** (friends of Ruth Frady); **Dianne Schmotzer** (sister-in-law of Gale Frady); **Denise Paul** (cousin of Gale Frady); **Dan Conner, Max Johnson** (friends of Gale Frady); **Ray Culbreth's Group House; Nellie Gantt** (mother of friend of Ray Culbreth); **Amelia Zinski** (great-niece of Linda Maloch); **Wayne Blair** (son of Dot Johnson); **Xavier Crane** (grandnephew of John Ballentine); **Vera Von Glahn** (sister-in-law of Jo Ann Heiting); **Janet Beck, Nill Strhr** (friend of Jo Ann Heiting); **Adam Lavender** (son of Phil Lavender)

If you have a friend or family member on the Prayer List, we ask you to please keep us updated. If no word is received, we will trust that our prayers have been answered and remove the name. To update us, please call the office or e-mail us at trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com.

OUR PRESENCE ...

In-Person Attendance 06/13 Worship: 30

OUR GIFTS ...

General Fund 06/13 \$ 2,585.00

OUR SERVICE ...

OUR WITNESS."

Upcoming Events

TODAY Father's Day
6/21 Exercise, 10:30 a.m.
6/23 GLIA Articles Due
6/24 Exercise, 10:30 a.m.
6/25 Office Closed



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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Ministers | The Congregation |
| Pastor | John D. Jordan |
| Resident Bishop | Jonathan Holston |
| District Superintendent | Rev. Dr. Cathy Jamieson |

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our vision is to Connect, Nurture, Inspire and Transform



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1 Samuel 17: 4-11, 19-23, 32-49

This story is probably the most familiar of all Biblical Stories. It has become a cultural cliché. Whenever a small college team defeats a larger college team, we refer to it as David defeating Goliath. When a less well-known, underfunded candidate defeats a better known, highly funded candidate, we say David defeated Goliath. This story has become a metaphor for the little guy beating the big guy. That is one way that the culture reads this story.

Another way that culture, particularly Judeo-Christian culture, reads this story is that of a story of true faith in overcoming adversities. David had faith in God so he knew he could defeat Goliath. If we have faith, we can defeat any adversity we may face no matter how big it may seem.

But this story is more than just a story of the little guy beating the big guy. It is more than just a story of having faith to overcome adversities. If that is the way we read it, we miss the theological messages in the story. We miss the real message that this story has for us today.

While this story does seem to be a story of having faith to overcome adversities no matter how large, the story goes beyond faith. I say it goes beyond faith because David goes beyond having complete trust and confidence that God was with him. David acknowledged that it was the LORD who saved him from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear. David knew that he did not kill the lion or the bear for he was just a young boy. He knew that it was the LORD that killed the lion and the bear. He was just the means through which the LORD killed the lion and the bear to protect the sheep. David knew that he could not kill Goliath, but the LORD could. He could be the means by which the LORD would kill Goliath. He knew that the LORD would defeat Goliath, but he could not.

As we face our adversities we must remember that we cannot overcome them. As we look at the problems in the world, too many to enumerate, it seems that there is so much evil that we cannot overcome. We have had situations in our lives that we could not overcome. Some of us may be facing situations that seem insurmountable-financial troubles, family discord, job difficulties, grief. No matter what we do we can not overcome these problems. But we must remember that God can. God can overcome the problems in the world. God can overcome the evil in the world. God can overcome any problems we may face, giving us the strength to face the adversities in our lives.

When I was working a full-time job that involved traveling statewide, serving a church part-time, and going to seminary, there were many mornings when my prayer was simply, give me strength. And God gave me the strength to get through that day.

God can overcome the evil in the world, using us as the means as God used David as the means, to defeat Goliath and the Philistines. God can overcome all the conflicts in the world and our lives, if we use the right weapons.

Goliath was armed for battle. He had a helmet, coat of mail, greaves, a javelin, spear, and sword. Goliath had all the weapons of war that the world of his day said a warrior must have. Saul gave David all the weapons of war: a helmet, a coat of mail, and a sword. Saul armed David for battle in the weapons the world said a warrior must have. David must have all these weapons if he is going to battle the Philistine champion. Saul was preparing David to fight with the weapons of the world.

But with these weapons, David could not even walk, much less fight Goliath. To send David out armed with the weapons the world claimed he needed would have been sending him to slaughter. Fortunately, David knew that this was not a fight between him and Goliath, but a fight between God, who shepherded Israel, and the foes of God.

Therefore, David threw off the weapons of war of the world. He took off the helmet, the coat of mail, and the sword. He did not go to face Goliath with the weapons of a warrior, but with the weapons of a shepherd. Since the LORD was his shepherd, David went to face Goliath with the weapons of a shepherd, the weapons of the LORD.

With the weapons of the LORD, David overcame Goliath.

As we try to overcome many of the problems in the world and our lives with the weapons of the world, a warrior, we are doomed to failure. But if we acknowledge that God can overcome these problems and we use the weapons of God, the shepherd, the problems we face will be overcome.

The weapons of the world today are not swords and coats of mail. The weapons of the world include self-centeredness, looking out for me first, and getting all I can while I can. Self-centeredness can lead to envy and lust. The desire for what someone else has simply because we don't. To get what we want we may use deception and misinformation. Deceit is said to be one of Satan's (the ruler of the world) greatest weapons. Related to deceit is divisiveness, for deceit usually leads to division. A divided good will not overcome evil. Division leads to suspicion and mistrust. We cannot trust the one who is different from us, they mean to do us harm. This of course leads to conflict and violence.

These weapons of the world cannot overcome evil. We cannot overcome the Goliaths we face in the world and our lives using the weapons of Goliath. These weapons are burdensome, keeping us from being able to overcome evil just as Saul's armor was a burden to David.

The weapons of the LORD, our shepherd, are not a sling and five smooth stones. The weapons of the LORD include, first and foremost, love. Love, which is outward-focused and seeks the benefit of others over the benefit of self. This leads to contentment and being satisfied with what one has. With this there is no need for deception, the Lord's weapon is honesty and transparency. By working for the benefit of all people and being honest and transparent we bring people together. We build community. We no longer see our differences but our commonalities. We see all people as children of God, our brothers and sisters.

But we cannot overcome evil simply by using these weapons. We overcome evil, the Goliaths in the world and our lives, by letting God use them through us. It is not we who defeat evil but God working through us, using the weapons of our shepherd.

The Goliaths in our lives and the world will be overcome when we acknowledge that God is the one that can overcome them, not us. And we do not use the weapons of the world, a warrior's, but the weapons of a shepherd, God's. We go out into the world to fight the Goliaths with the weapons of love, contentment, honesty and community, along with forgiveness, reconciliation, humility, patience, self-control, and generosity, so God may overcome the Goliaths in the world and our lives.