

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 8, 2021

Leading in Worship Today

Pastor: *John D. Jordan* AV Assistant: *K. C. Warble*
Choir Director: *Christopher A. McCroskey* Soloist: *Dan Greshel*
Church Musician Time Together: *Ruth Frady*

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Christopher A. McCroskey

Centering Words

Call To Worship *“Surely the Presence of the Lord”* Dan Greshel

Opening Prayer
The Lord’s Prayer 895

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

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Christopher A. McCroskey

*Doxology *“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”* 95

Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Reading 2 Samuel 18: 5-9, 15, 31-33 287-289 (O.T.)

*Hymn *“Abide with Me” v. 1, 3, 4* 700

Psalter Psalm 130 848

*Hymn *“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”* 474

Epistle Reading Ephesians 4:25 - 5:2 184 (N.T.)

*Hymn *“Take My Life, and Let It Be”* 399

Gospel Reading John 6:35, 41-51 95 (N.T.)

Sermon *The Real Bread from Heaven* Rev. John Jordan

*Hymn *“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”* 127

*Dismissal With Benediction

*Benediction Response *“God Be with You till We Meet Again”* Dan Greshel

*Postlude Christopher A. McCroskey

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.

*The Congregation May Stand

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

Patsy Shuler Kathy Aiello George Taylor Steve Aiello
Ted Frady Oren Edwards Latson Lewis Cristen Hipp

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: **Gene Pike** (father of Krystal Laughead); **Matthews McCormick** (brother of Kelsey Tolliver); **Bert & Marie McCrackin** (friends of Oren & Hilda Edwards); **Stuart & Penny Lloyd** (son & daughter-in-law of Tom & Marilyn Lloyd); **Cindy Ellenberg** (friend of Ray Frady); **Mary Collard** (daughter of Jackie McNeill); **Megan Corby** (daughter of Carlis Edwards); **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); **Gary Becton** (friend of Mark Branham); **Wade Albert Payne** (friend of Mary Louise Robinson); **Audrey Cassady** (sister-in-law of Mary Louise Robinson); **Rusty Browning** (friend of Erin Derrick); **Monnie Tiller** (friend of Chris Derrick); **Ruby Pennington** (friend of Laurie Knapp); **John Bassett** (friend of Marty Johnson); **Shannon Bassett** (daughter-in-law of John Bassett); **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); **Walt & Janet Beck** (friends 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 08/01 SS: 17 Worship: 29

OUR GIFTS ...

General Fund 08/01 \$ 3,460.00

OUR SERVICE ...

OUR WITNESS."

Upcoming Events

TODAY Birthday Celebration

8/09 Exercise, 10:30 a.m.

8/12 Exercise, 10:30 a.m.

Church Council

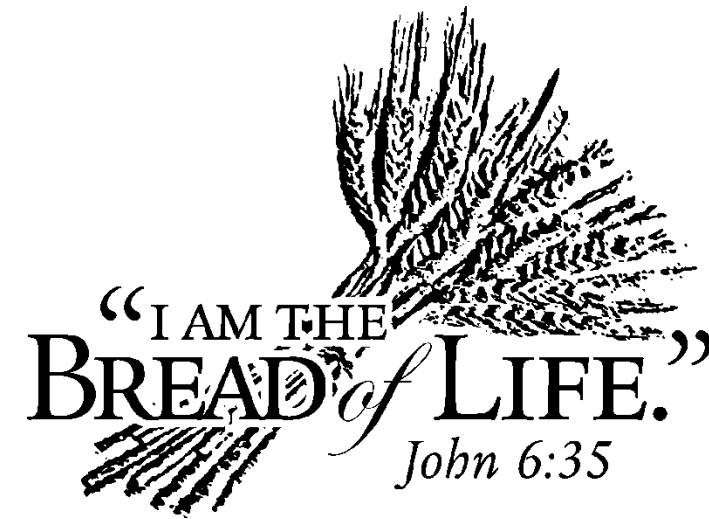
Church Council will meet on Sunday, August 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



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



1201 Mohawk Drive
West Columbia, SC 29169

Telephone: 803.794.7777

E-mail: trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com

Website: www.trinityumcwc.org

John 6: 35, 41-51

Mom had prepared a meal for the extended family. I do not remember the exact circumstances, but it was not a holiday. Mom had meat, vegetables, rice or potatoes, fruit, and salad spread over the table. We sat at the table for the blessing. Uncle John looked over the table and said, "Louise, where is the bread?"

There was a plethora of food on the table but there was no bread. To Uncle John, the meal was not a meal without bread. Many people may feel the same way. A meal is not complete without bread. Bread is one of the basic staple foods. We ask for our daily bread, not our daily steak or seafood. In the world of Jesus, bread would be the only food for many. Bread was the food that sustained most people.

This sixth chapter of John is all about bread. It begins with the feeding of the five thousand. The crowd that was fed has now found Jesus in Capernaum. Jesus perceives that the crowd came searching for him because he gave them food. Jesus tells them he is the food that gives eternal life. The crowd wants a sign. They want evidence that Jesus is the food that gives eternal life like God gave the Israelites manna in the wilderness.

There are many ways in which Jesus' sayings in this chapter connect with the story of the manna in the wilderness. There are points in both stories which converge and diverge.

In both stories, people grumbled. The Israelites grumbled about being in the wilderness with nothing to eat. In the gospel story, the Jews grumbled because Jesus said he was the bread that came down from heaven. (A quick aside, in the Gospel of John, the writer uses the term "the Jews" to designate those who failed to see the revelation of God through Jesus. The usage of this term does not refer to Judaism as a whole. Unfortunately, this usage has led to anti-semitism which is not in line with Jesus' teaching.)

The grumbings came because of a lack of insight and faith. The Israelites saw the vast wilderness with no apparent source of food. The Jews saw Jesus as the son of Joseph. The Israelites failed to see and have faith that God would provide for them, even in the wilderness. The Jews failed to see that Jesus was more than the son of Joseph. They failed to see that Jesus was the Son of God.

How often do we grumble because we do not see how God is working and we lack faith? We want to see God working in the way we think God should work, through some miracle to end the pandemic, racism, war, conflict, or fill in the blank. We fail to see how God is working and how God wants to use us to achieve God's ends.

God did provide bread to the Israelites, the bread from heaven. God gave exactly what each household needed, no more or less. God provided the manna that sustained them throughout the wilderness. Through Jesus, God gives bread from heaven that sustains. But while the manna was given to the Israelites in response to their grumbling, Jesus is given as a free gift of God.

While the manna sustained and gave life to the Israelites in the wilderness, it was temporary. Even though they ate the manna, all the Israelites eventually died. The manna only gave physical sustenance. But the bread from heaven that is Jesus does much more than provide physical sustenance, Jesus reveals God. God is being revealed through Jesus. Those that understand the Word and learn from the Word are drawn closer to God. Remember that Jesus is the Word made flesh.

Bread nourishes and sustains the body so one can live. But bread, even bread from heaven (manna), cannot give eternal life. Jesus is the real bread that comes down from heaven. Jesus nourishes and sustains more than the body. Jesus nourishes and sustains totally: body, mind, and soul. Jesus is the bread that gives eternal life.

How do we get this bread that gives eternal life? I haven't seen it on the shelves at Food Lion or Publix. I even looked on Amazon, and they don't have it. I even asked the Google and all I got was a bunch of Bible verses. I couldn't find it anywhere.

This bread, the real bread from heaven that gives eternal life, cannot be found anywhere. To find this bread one must be drawn by the Father. Does God draw a picture of us? Then we can get the bread? No, God draws by grace. God surrounds all with prevenient grace. This grace is given to all at the time of birth. This grace draws us, attracts us to God.

Prevenient grace attracts us to God like the smell of freshly baked bread attracts us to the kitchen. We come to God to receive the true bread from heaven which nourishes and sustains us physically, spiritually, mentally, and emotionally. We receive the bread that gives us eternal life.

We receive this bread from God as we hear and learn. Hearing is not just auditory hearing but perceiving the meaning and intent of the word. We learn of God, not about God, so we enter into a relationship with God. The more we learn of God the closer our relationship with God becomes.

In John's Gospel, Jesus is the revelation of God to the world. Jesus is the bread that comes down from heaven to reveal God's sustaining and nourishing nature to the world. This is the bread we eat, the bread from heaven that gives eternal life.