

Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 19, 2022

Welcome and Announcements		
Prelude		Christopher A. McCroskey
Call To Worship	<i>“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”</i>	Choir
Centering Words		
*Hymn	<i>“In Christ There Is No East or West”</i>	548
Opening Prayer For Fathers		
The Lord’s Prayer		895
Proclamation of the Word		
Prayer of Illumination		
Old Testament Reading	1 Kings 19:1-15a	Page 321 (O.T.)
Psalter	Psalm 42	777-778
*Hymn	<i>“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”</i>	361
Gospel Reading	Luke 8:26-39	Page 67 (N.T.)
Anthem	<i>“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”</i>	Choir
New Testament Reading	Galatians 3:23-29	Page 179 (N.T.)
Sermon	<i>“Justified by Faith”</i>	Rev. John D. Jordan
Response to the Word	<i>“The Apostles’ Creed”</i>	881
Pastoral Prayer		
Presentation of Tithes & Offerings		
Offertory		Christopher A. McCroskey
*Doxology	<i>“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”</i>	95
*Hymn	<i>“We Walk by Faith”</i>	TFWS 2196
*Dismissal With Benediction		
*Benediction Response	<i>“May the Lord, Mighty God, Bless and Keep You”</i>	Choir
	May the Lord, Mighty God bless and keep you forever, Grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor. Lift up your eyes and see God’s face and God’s grace forever, May the Lord, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever.	
*Postlude		Christopher A. McCroskey

*The Congregation May Stand

Leading in Worship Today

Pastor:	<i>John D. Jordan</i>	AV Director:	<i>Marie Stiles</i>
Choir Director:	<i>Christopher A. McCroskey</i>	AV Assistant:	<i>Chris Derrick</i>
Church Musician		Time Together:	<i>Ruth Frady; Linda Maloch</i>

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...

Jackie McNeill	Charles McNeill	Charlie Hooker	Patsy Zeigler	Kenny Long	Christopher McCroskey
Jimmy Grahl	Oren Edwards	Hilda Edwards	Steve Aiello	Patsy Shuler	George Taylor
John Ballentine	Boots Morgan	Dale Wells	Latson Lewis	Becky Derrick	

Shut-Ins: Shirley Butler; Esther Carter; Nell Cooke; Gillett Hipp; June Hutto; Georgeann Pace; Shirley Padgett; Jean Raynor; Claudia Sineath; Irvin Wells

Family and Friends: **Mary Collard** (daughter of Jackie McNeill); **Howard Stephens** (former church member); **James Boggs** (father of Claire Boggs); **Stacy Coggins** (daughter of Steve Aiello); **Dan & Leslie White** (brother & sister-in-law of Steve White); **Cindy Bassett, Alva Humphries** (friends of Marty Johnson); **Judy Bauer** (cousin of Marty Johnson); **Neal Hart** (uncle of Dee Senn); **Bill Areheart** (friend of Bonnie Ramsey); **Jane & Bob Bryant** (sister and brother-in-law of Patsy Zeigler); **Max Nova** (son of friend of Edwa Meek); **Addie Kinard** (cousin of coworker of Edwa Meek); **Stuart & Penny Lloyd** (son & daughter-in-law of Tom & Marilyn Lloyd); **Cindy Ellenberg** (friend of Ray Frady); **Megan Corby** (daughter of Carlis Edwards); **Chip Hooker** (Wayne Hooker's father); **Robert Bradley** (Business Associate of Simon Ross); **Gary Becton** (friend of Mark Branham); **Wade Albert Payne** (friend of Mary Louise Robinson); **Florence Lee Carter, Monnie Tiller** (friends of Chris Derrick); **Adrin & Linda Hargett** (stepfather and stepmom of Christopher McCroskey); **Alexa Lookingbill** (wife of coworker of Kathy White); **Katelyn Rose** (daughter of co-worker of Kathy White); **Vickie Edwards** (neighbor of Kathy White); **Beverly Jordan** (sister-in-law of John Jordan); **Teddy Derrick** (uncle of Arvan Derrick); **Haidee Baehr** (friends of Ruth Frady); **Dianne Schmotzer** (sister-in-law of Gale Frady); **Denise Paul, Scott & Karen Nelson** (cousins 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); **Walt & Janet Beck** (friends of Jo Ann Heiting); **Earle Watson** (father of 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 06/12 SS: 11 Worship: 32

OUR GIFTS ...

General Fund 06/12 \$ 1,266.69

OUR SERVICE ...

OUR WITNESS."

Upcoming Events

06/22 Class Meeting, 7 p.m.
06/24 Office Closed

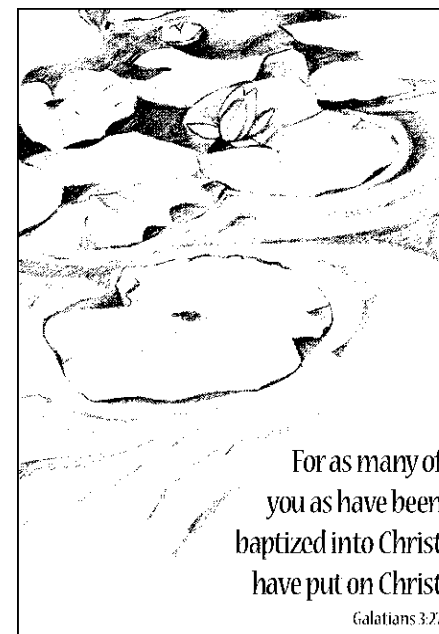


Ministers
Pastor
Resident Bishop
District Superintendent

The Congregation
John D. Jordan
Jonathan Holston
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

“Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so we might be justified by faith.”

Justification by faith is one of the prime doctrines of the Protestant movement. This doctrine was put forth by Martin Luther; we are justified by faith and not works. Article IX of the Methodist Articles of Religion, which was established by John Wesley, states “We are accounted righteous before God only for the merit of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, by faith, and not for our own works or deservings. Wherefore, that we are justified by faith only, is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort.”¹ This doctrine of the church is one of the basics of our religion.

What do we mean when we say we are justified by faith? Most of us would say something to the effect that being justified by faith means our sins are forgiven by our faith in Jesus. On the surface that hits the target, but barely. To hit the bullseye we must look deeper into the meaning of faith and justification and by whose faith are we justified.

First, let’s look at the meaning of faith. The writer of Hebrews says, “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”² Faith implies belief without concrete evidence or proof. To have faith in something, one must believe in that thing. Having faith in God means that you believe in God. However, faith goes beyond mere belief. Faith is also trust, complete trust. For us, having faith means we believe and have complete trust that God will keep promises. As we believe and trust we remain loyal. We remain grounded in God’s promises even as the world encourages us to reject God’s promises. We remain loyal to God and do not turn from God. We trust God completely and follow God’s guidance even when it seems impossible. We believe in God whom we can trust completely and remain completely loyal.

Faith may be better understood as a verb instead of a noun. It is more a process that we undergo rather than the confidence we possess. Frederich Buechner writes, “Faith is not being sure where you are going but going anyway. A journey without maps.”³ Faith is a journey without maps, except for the guidance of an unseen God, the God that created us in the divine image. Faith is loyalty, trust, and belief that God will guide us out of sin and restore us in the divine image.

Then what do we mean by justification? There are two aspects to justification that we need to address. The first is the forensic aspect of justification. In a court of law when one is justified they are acquitted of the charges against them. When we say one is justified in their behavior, we are saying that they are in their rights. In the theological sense, this forensic aspect of justification is the forgiveness of sin. Wesley notes, “The plain scriptural notion of justification is pardon, the forgiveness of sins.”⁴

Wesley believed that justification was the beginning of sanctification which brings us to the second aspect of justification. This second aspect is therapeutic. In printers’ jargon to justify means to align the lines on the page. As I write this sermon it is justified left, all the lines are aligned on the left side of the page. When a bone is broken, the surgeon aligns the two broken parts of the bone properly so the bone fits together and can heal.

Justification is the forgiveness of our sins so our will may be aligned to God’s will so the healing of our hearts, minds, and souls can begin. We are brought into the right relationship with God.

So, we are justified by faith. Our sins are forgiven and our lives are aligned with God’s by loyalty, trust, and belief. Journeying without a map.

But there is one other issue that must be addressed as we consider this doctrine of Justification by Faith. By whose faith are we justified? Ours? I am afraid not. Our faith, no matter how much we feel we have, is not enough to pull us out of the hold of sin.

1 United Methodist Book of Discipline, 2016. (Nashville, The United Methodist Publishing House: 2016) 67.

2 Hebrews 11: 1, NRSV.

3 Frederich Buecher, *Wishful Thinking: A Theological ACB*. (New York: Harper & Row. 1973) 25.

4 John Wesley, “Justification by Faith. in *The Sermons of John Wesley: A Collectin for the Christian Journey*, ed by Kenneth J. Collins and Jason E. Vickers,(Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2013) 139.

To see by whose faith we are justified, we must drop back one verse to verse 22. “But the scripture has imprisoned all things under the power of sin, so that what was promised through faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. (NRSV)” Now that does seem to say that justification comes from our faith in Jesus Christ. However, this is an inaccurate and simplified translation of the phrase, “faith in Jesus Christ”. A more accurate translation of the Greek (which is noted in the footnote of the NRSV) is “the faith **of** Jesus Christ”. It is not through our faith that we are justified but the faith of Jesus.

Jesus remained loyal and completely trusted the Father. Jesus completely trusted the promise of God even though it meant suffering a painful death on a cross. Jesus did not shirk from his duty. He gave himself up as an atoning sacrifice for our sins and the sin of the world. Jesus willingly and faithfully went to the cross to accomplish his mission: to redeem and restore the world.

It is through the faith of Jesus that the hold that sin has upon us is broken. It is through the faith of Jesus that our sins are forgiven. It is through the faith of Jesus that our lives become aligned with his life. It is through the faith of Jesus that God’s will becomes our will. It is through the faith of Jesus that we can be healed from our sin and restored into a relationship with God.

Our faith is that we can completely trust the faith of Jesus. Therefore, we can remain loyal to God and turn from the hold sin has upon us. We can live in relationship with God through our faith in the faith of Jesus.