

***Fifth Sunday after Pentecost***  
**July 10, 2022**

Welcome and Announcements  
 Birthday Celebration

Prelude Christopher A. McCroskey  
 Call To Worship "Spirit Song" Choir  
 Centering Words

\*Hymn "God of Grace and God of Glory" 577

Opening Prayer  
 The Lord's Prayer 895

**Proclamation of the Word**  
 Prayer of Illumination

Old Testament Reading Amos 7:7-17 Page 810 (O.T.)  
 Psalter Psalm 82 804  
 \*Hymn "This Is My Song" 437

New Testament Reading Colossians 1:1-14 Page 190 (N.T.)

Anthem "Something Beautiful" Dan Greshel; Mary Louise Robinson

Gospel Reading Luke 10:25-37 Page 70 (N.T.)  
 Sermon "Who Am I to Love?" Rev. John D. Jordan

**Response to the Word** "The Apostles' Creed" 881  
 Pastoral Prayer

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings  
 Offertory Christopher A. McCroskey  
 \*Doxology "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" 95

\*Hymn "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior" 351

\*Dismissal With Benediction

\*Benediction Response "May the Lord, Mighty God, Bless and Keep You" 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: John D. Jordan AV Director: Marie Stiles  
 Choir Director: Christopher A. McCroskey AV Assistant: Chris Derrick  
 Church Musician Time Together: Ruth Frady

**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 is Jo Ann Heiting's 71<sup>st</sup> birthday and instead of flowers a donation is being made to our church to honor my "beloved sister of my heart" and to God be the glory for his love for each of us! Given by Bonnie Ramsey.*

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

Jim Stiles	Lynn Martin	Marty Johnson	Patsy Zeigler	Kay Jordan	Christopher McCroskey
Jimmy Grahl	Oren Edwards	Hilda Edwards	Steve Aiello	Patsy Shuler	George Taylor
John Ballentine	Boots Morgan	Dale Wells	Latson Lewis	Becky Derrick	Kenny Long
Jackie McNeill	Charles McNeill	Charlie Hooker			

**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:** **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); **Bill Areheart** (friend of Bonnie Ramsey); **Bob Bryant** (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](mailto:trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com).

**OUR PRESENCE ...**

In-Person Attendance 07/03 SS: 10      Worship: 30

**OUR GIFTS ...**

General Fund 07/03 \$ 7,542.00

**OUR SERVICE ...**

**OUR WITNESS."**

**Upcoming Events**

07/13 Class Meeting, 7 p.m.

07/15 Office Closed



Ministers  
Pastor  
Resident Bishop  
District Superintendent

The Congregation  
John D. Jordan  
Jonathan Holston  
Rev. Fran M. Elrod

---

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

***Our vision is to Connect, Nurture, Inspire and Transform***



**Who Is My Neighbor?**

1201 Mohawk Drive  
West Columbia, SC 29169

Telephone: 803.794.7777

E-mail: [trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com](mailto:trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com)

Website: [www.trinityumcwc.org](http://www.trinityumcwc.org)

Luke 10: 25-37

This parable of the Good Samaritan is probably the most familiar, along with the Prodigal Son, of the parables of Jesus. I would be willing to bet that if you asked any person on the street to name a parable of Jesus, most would say one of these two.

Sadly, this parable has become almost cliché. We think of the Good Samaritan as being one who does a good deed. On a very superficial level that seems to be the case, especially if we read just the parable. However, to get the full message of this parable we must consider it within the context of the whole passage we read today.

Jesus is approached by a lawyer who asks him a question, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” This is a question we all ask. We all want to know what we must do to have eternal life.

Jesus responds with a question of his own, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” In other words, what does the Torah say? Jesus is saying, “You are a lawyer, What does the law say? “

The lawyer responds with the Shema, which is the core of Judaic law. “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” Jews were commanded in Deuteronomy 6 to recite this phrase daily. Jews today recite the Shema daily.

Jesus says “you got it just do it”. But the lawyer, being a lawyer, pushes the issue. And asks, “Who is my neighbor?” There is a slightly veiled question the lawyer is asking. Since the command is to love your neighbor, the question indirectly asks, “Who am I to love?” The lawyer is asking, “Are there people I can love and people I don’t have to love?”

Jesus then tells the parable. Most of the time we focus on the Samaritan. However, the Samaritan is not the answer to the question, “Who is my neighbor” though it does answer the lawyer’s original question which we will get to later. The question of who is my neighbor is answered through the victim.

Jesus begins the parable, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho.” Notice it is simply a man. Jesus gives no identifiers. Some translations may say “a certain man” but that maintains the ambiguity of the man. He does not say whether the man was Jewish, Roman, Greek, Samaritan, rich, poor, old, young, or anything else that tells us more about the man. Today, in our context, Jesus might say a person but not whether that person was white, black, Hispanic, Asian, gay, straight, male, or female. It is simply a man, a person, a fellow human being.

This man could be anybody and everybody. It could be the person listening to Jesus. It could be the person hearing this story two thousand years ago. It could be any of us sitting here today.

The man was robbed, beaten, stripped, and left half dead on the side of the road. The man was in desperate need. He lay by the side of the road bloody, broken, and slowly dying. He needed someone to care for him.

The victim is anybody and everybody. We may not be beaten and left on the side of the road literally, but all people are broken and touched by sin. We may be physically broken. We may be emotionally broken. We may be spiritually broken. We, along with everyone on the face of the earth, are broken.

So, who am I to love? Everyone who is broken, hurting, and in need of love. Since all of us on the face of the earth are broken, hurting, and in need of love, everyone is our neighbor. We are to love everyone as much as we love ourselves.

I am to love the people in Sudan who are starving because food supplies are cut by the war in Ukraine. I am to love the migrants who are being trafficked like the fifty-plus found dead in a tractor-trailer outside Houston, Texas. I am to love all the victims of the recent shootings, the latest being Highland Park. I am to love the shooters and their families. I am to love the homeless person on the street corner with the sign saying hungry, please help. I am to love everyone and anyone. It is that simple. We are to love our fellow human beings.

The undefined victim tells us who we are to love. The rest of the story answers the lawyer's original question, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" The answer the lawyer gave was to love God and love my neighbor. The victim identifies my neighbor as everyone. So, to inherit eternal life we are to love.

As the man lay on the side of the road, a priest and a Levi passed by. You would think both would stop and assist the man, being religious leaders, but neither do. Then along came a Samaritan, a despised half-breed to a Jew. He would have no particular religious or moral reason to stop but he does stop. He cleaned and bound the wounds. He took the man to an inn and cared for him. He paid the innkeeper to look after the man with the pledge to pay any other expenses when he returns. The Samaritan did not ask who the man was. He saw a fellow human being in need and acted to meet the need of the man.

The priest and the Levi may have offered thoughts and prayers for the man. The Samaritan acted his love. The lawyer's response to Jesus' question of who was the neighbor to the man was the one who showed mercy.

To show the love for neighbor that God commands, we see the needs of our fellow humans and act to meet that need in whatever way we can. I know many of the needs we see in our fellow humans today seem overwhelming and insurmountable. But we can do what little we can. We may carry granola bars and water bottles in our cars to give to the homeless person. We may donate to UMCOR or other reputable relief agencies to feed the hungry in Sudan. We may write our legislators for reasonable gun control or more mental health funding. It doesn't matter what action we take but that we take action. We give more to the person in need than thoughts and prayers. We show our love for God by doing what God calls us to do to meet the needs of our fellow humans.

Jesus told the lawyer to go and do likewise: to inherit eternal life you show love and mercy to your fellow humans. You see the need of your fellow humans and act to meet their needs. That is how you love God and love your neighbor. That is what you must do to inherit eternal life.

I close with the words of John Wesley from *Wesley's Notes on the Bible*. In his notes on verse 37, he writes:

Let us go and do likewise, regarding every man as our neighbor who which would contract our hearts into an insensibility for all the practices are so much our own that our love to them is but love remember the kindred between man and man; and cultivate that God has strongly bound us to each other.<sup>1</sup>

needs our assistance. Let us renounce that bigotry and party zeal human race except for a small number whose sentiments and self-reflected. With an honest openness of mind, let us always happy instinct whereby, in the original constitution of our nature,

God binds all people together as divine children, so all are our neighbors. Let us go love our neighbors so we may love God and inherit eternal life.

---

<sup>1</sup> John Wesley, *Wesley's Notes on the Bible*, Ed by G. Roger Schoenhals (Grand Rapids, MI: Francis Asbury Press, 1987) 441.