

***Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost***  
**September 25, 2022**

***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: *Pam Turner; Jack Stevens*

Welcome and Announcements		
Prelude		Christopher A. McCroskey
Call To Worship	<i>“Come! Come! Everybody Worship”</i>	Choir
Centering Words		
*Hymn	<i>“Let All Things Now Living”</i>	TFWS 2008
Opening Prayer		
The Lord’s Prayer		895
<b>Proclamation of the Word</b>		
Prayer of Illumination		
New Testament Reading	1 Timothy 6:6-19	Pages 200-201 (N.T.)
Psalter	Psalm 91	810-811
*Hymn	<i>“Through It All”</i>	507
Gospel Reading	Luke 16:19-31	Pages 77-78 (N.T.)
Anthem	<i>“Let There Be Peace on Earth”</i>	Choir
Old Testament Reading	Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15	Page 696 (O.T.)
Sermon	<i>“Faith in Times of Trouble”</i>	Rev. John D. Jordan
<b>Response to the Word</b>	<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>“A Charge to Keep I Have”</i>	413
*Dismissal With Benediction		
*Benediction Response	<i>“The Lord Bless and Keep You”</i>	Choir
*Postlude		Christopher A. McCroskey
	*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...

Patsy Zeigler	Kaye Floyd	Hilda Edwards	Charlie Hooker	Jackie McNeill	Christopher McCroskey
Jimmy Grahl	Lynn Martin	Marty Johnson	Steve Aiello	Patsy Shuler	George Taylor
John Ballentine	Wayne Hooker	Dale Wells	Latson Lewis	Becky Derrick	Kenny Long

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

**Family and Friends:** **Ross Deal** (grandson of Mary Kamoroff); **Chip Mixon** (friend of Tommy Gleaton); **Ron Walker** (friend of Tommy & Chris Gleaton); **Merit Takach** (friend of Joyce and Brent Robinson); **Frankie Hendrix** (cousin of Billy Pearson); **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); **Bill Areheart** (friend of Bonnie Ramsey); **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); **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); **Nellie Gantt** (mother of friend of Ray Culbreth); **Bryson Raszewski** (grandson of Caroline Hutton Raszewski); **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 09/18 SS: 10      Worship: 23

**OUR GIFTS ...**

General Fund 09/18 \$ 2,605.69

**OUR SERVICE ...**

**OUR WITNESS."**

**Upcoming Events**

**09/26** Exercise, 10:30 a.m.

**09/28** T. a. G. Meeting, 7 p.m.

**09/29** Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m.

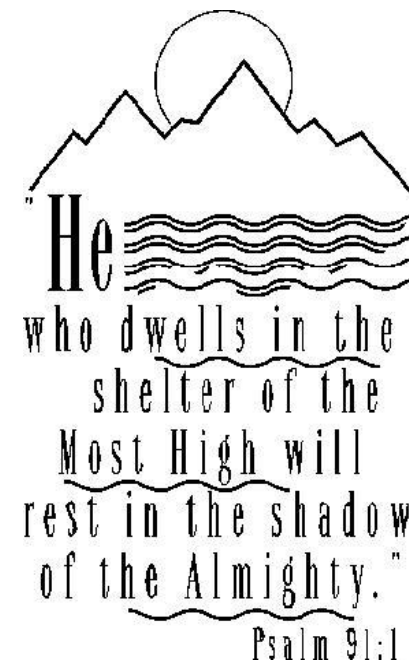


<b>Ministers</b>	<b>The Congregation</b>
<b>Pastor</b>	<b>John D. Jordan</b>
<b>Resident Bishop</b>	<b>Jonathan Holston</b>
<b>District Superintendent</b>	<b>Rev. Fran M. Elrod</b>

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***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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# ADULT *Sunday School*

Currently scheduled for October 2, the Adult Sunday School Class will begin studying *Twelve Extraordinary Women* by longtime pastor and prolific Christian author John MacArthur, a study of five women from the Old Testament and seven women from the New Testament. Tom Geddens ordered ten copies of this book. This study should take up the remainder of this year. Tom hopes that in the New Year, the class will agree to begin reading from the Bible about the life of David, primarily from the First and Second Books of Samuel and perhaps First Chronicles and the opening of First Kings, too.



The **Exercise Class** will start their Fall Classes on **Monday, September 19**. The Exercise Class is open to everyone and meets on Mondays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. for about an hour. They are using the **Grow Young Fitness & Balance** and the **Stretching Tape**.

The class meets in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like additional information on what to expect from the class contact Pam Turner.

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Jeremiah 32: 1-3a, 6-15

The situation was bad in Judea and Jerusalem. Zedekiah had been placed on the throne by the Babylonian king, Nebuchadnezzar. Zedekiah was a weak king who vacillated between supporting Babylon and Egypt. He decided to join an alliance with other nearby countries to rebel against Babylon. Now the hammer had fallen. Jerusalem was besieged by the powerful Babylonian army.

The situation was bad for the prophet, Jeremiah. He was imprisoned by Zedekiah. Jeremiah had long warned of the consequences of rebellion against Babylon. He had prophesied that the city would fall and Zedekiah would be taken captive and deported to Babylon. Jeremiah was in prison and the city was under siege. The situation was bad for Judea and Jerusalem. It was doubly bad for Jeremiah. All seemed hopeless.

The loss of a job and career may be one bad situation we may experience. We may experience times of financial difficulties. We may feel hopeless after the loss of a loved one to addiction or being caught in the drainpipe of addiction. We may feel besieged by grief and despair after the death of a loved one. We may feel imprisoned by our past and feelings of anger, guilt, and shame. We have times when all may seem hopeless.

In this time of trouble, as Jerusalem was besieged and Jeremiah imprisoned, the LORD told Jeremiah to buy a field. Jeremiah's cousin, Hanamel, wanted to sell a field in Anathoth, Jeremiah's hometown. According to Levitical law, the closest next of kin had the right to redeem property being sold so land remained in the family. We would say Jeremiah had first dibs.

Anathoth was 3-5 miles northeast of Jerusalem. In all probability, Anathoth had already been taken by the Babylonian army. Who knows, the Babylonian army may have been encamped on this field. Even so, the LORD told Jeremiah to buy this field.

Hanamel came to Jeremiah with the offer to sell Jeremiah the field. Jeremiah knew this was what the LORD wanted him to do. Jeremiah weighed out the asking price, seventeen shekels of silver, in front of witnesses. He signed the deeds and sealed them, meaning he place his wax seal on them. This legally confirmed that Jeremiah purchased the field from Hanamel. Then he gave the deeds to his secretary, Baruch, and told him to place the deeds in an earthenware jar so they could be preserved for a long time.

This seems crazy! The city was besieged. Jeremiah was in prison. The field was probably behind enemy lines. Why would Jeremiah buy a field in Anathoth? It made no sense to spend seventeen shekels of silver on a field that Jeremiah may not ever set foot.

But, Jeremiah did it. He spent seventeen shekels of silver for this seemingly worthless field. He did it because it is what the LORD instructed. The reason the LORD instructed Jeremiah to do this is in verse 15. "For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land."

This transaction was a symbolic act. The LORD told Jeremiah to purchase the field from Hanamel because Jeremiah had the right of redemption. This pointed to the reality that the LORD had the right to redeem Israel.

One cannot help but notice the detail in which the transaction was narrated. These details, the purchase price, the weighing of the coins, the witnesses, the sealing of the deeds, and the storage in earthenware jars, point to the binding nature of the LORD's promise.

The promise was that houses would be built. Fields and vineyards would be bought and planted. Israel would be redeemed by the LORD. Israel would be restored. Life would return to normal.

Jeremiah acted on faith. He acted on the faith of the LORD to keep divine promises. Yes, there were times of trouble but the LORD promised to get Israel through the times of trouble. The LORD would restore Israel.

The LORD did restore Israel. Maybe not to the glory of the Davidic monarchy but life returned to normal. Houses were built, bought, and sold. Fields and vineyards were bought, sold, and planted. Everyday life returned, maybe not to the old normal but a new normal.

This symbolic act is true for us today. In our times of trouble, whatever they may be, the LORD has the right to redeem. The LORD does redeem us out of whatever trouble and difficult times we may be experiencing. The LORD redeems us out of our grief. The LORD redeems us out of our shame, guilt, anger, and resentment. The LORD redeems us out of our sin no matter how great or small our sin may be. The LORD redeems us out of broken relationships. The LORD redeems and lifts us out of our times of trouble.

The Lord does not just redeem us, getting us through our times of trouble, but restores us. The LORD promises to restore us into the divine image. The LORD does not return us to normal but makes us better.

By maintaining faith in the LORD in times of trouble we learn that the LORD does redeem us. The LORD does get us through times of trouble as is promised. Our faith may grow stronger and our relationship with the LORD stronger.

We will have times of trouble. We will have times when all may seem hopeless. But we can hang on to the promise that the LORD will redeem us. The LORD will pull us out of our trouble. The LORD will restore us. And the LORD will make us better.