

Trinity Sunday

June 4, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Christopher A. McCroskey
(As the Prelude begins, prayerfully prepare your hearts and minds for worship.)

Call to Worship "Something Beautiful" Choir
Greeting

*Hymn "Morning Has Broken" 145
Opening Prayer

(Please register your attendance on the pew pads provided.)

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Reading 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Page 176 (N.T.)

Psalter Psalm 8 743-744

*Hymn "For the Beauty of the Earth" 92

Gospel Reading Matthew 28:16-20 Page 36 (N.T.)

Old Testament Lesson Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a Pages 1-2 (O.T.)

Sermon "The Image of God" Rev. John D. Jordan

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

*Gloria Patri "Glory Be to the Father" 70

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation

Confession and Pardon

Passing of the Peace

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory "Break Thou the Bread of Life" Choir

*Doxology "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" 95

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking the Bread

Prayer

*Hymn "Go, Make of All Disciples" 571

*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

Time Together: Jack Stevens, Pam Turner

Choir Director: Christopher A. McCroskey

AV Director: Marie Stiles

Church Musician

AV Assistant: Chris Derrick

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 Becky Derrick Cristen Hipp Dale Wells Patsy Shuler Christopher McCroskey
Jimmy Grahl Latson Lewis Kaye Floyd John Ballentine Dan Greshel Jack Stevens

Shut-Ins: Shirley Butler; Esther Carter; Gillett Hipp; Linda Maloch; Jean Raynor; Claudia Sineath; George Taylor

Family and Friends: **Mary Davis** (daughter of Bob Strickland); **Taylor Lewis** (son of Mark & Mary Sue Lewis); **Kathleen Braun** (sister of Mark Lewis); **Al Dekle** (friend of Beverly Shull); **Lauren & Leah Grace Edwards** (granddaughter & great-granddaughter of Hilda Edwards); **Andrea Johnson** (former member); **Gloria Erd** (friend of Lynn Martin); **Pearl Geddens** (mother of Tom Geddens); **Beverly Lipscomb** (sister-in-law of John Jordan); **Ross Deal** (grandson of Mary Kamoroff); **David Williamson, Nancy Wilson** (friends of Jeanette Hornsby); **David Turner** (brother of Pam Turner); **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); **James Boggs** (father of Claire Boggs); **Stacy Coggins** (daughter of Steve Aiello); **Dan & Leslie White** (brother & sister-in-law of Steve White); **Mary Ann Rentz** (stepmother of Marty Johnson); **Alva Humphries** (friend of Marty Johnson); **Bill Areheart** (friend of Bonnie Ramsey); **Hayley Beaudoin** (niece of Edwa Meek); **Addie Kinard** (cousin of coworker of Edwa Meek); **Chip Hooker** (Wayne Hooker's father); **Robert Bradley** (Business Associate of Simon Ross); **Gary Becton** (friend of Mark Branham); **Florence Lee Carter, Monnie Tiller** (friends of Chris Derrick); **Adrin & Linda Hargett** (stepfather and stepmom of Christopher McCroskey); **Alexa Lookingbill, Teddy Derrick** (uncle of Arvan Derrick); **Haidee Baehr** (friends of Ruth Frady); **Denise Paul, Scott & Karen Nelson** (cousins of Gale Frady); **Dan Conner, Max Johnson** (friends of Gale Frady); **Wayne Blair** (son of Dot Johnson); **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 ...

Attendance 05/28 SS: 10 Worship: 25

OUR GIFTS ...

General Fund 05/28 \$ 2,604.20

OUR SERVICE...

OUR WITNESS.”

Church Calendar

TODAY Annual Conference

06/05 Annual Conference
Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m.

06/06 Annual Conference

06/07 Annual Conference
T.a.G., 7 p.m.

06/08 Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m.

06/09 Office Closed

Readings for June 11

Genesis 12:1-9

Psalms 33:1-12

Romans 4:13-25

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26



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



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From the Pastor

Annual Conference will be held in person June 4-7 at the Florence Center in Florence. Marie Stiles is our Lay delegate. Please pray for the conference as many churches are disaffiliating and leaving the United Methodist Church. Pray that there is no rancor, but that we continue to love even as the separation occurs. I do invite you to attend even if only for one session.



Jeanette Hornsby or I may be contacting persons who we think might be interested in a daytime T.a.G group. If you are interested, please contact John or Jeanette. If you would like to know more, the present group members are John and Sue Ballentine, John and Kay Jordan, Marie Stiles, Tom Geddens, Mary Louise Robinson, Chris Derrick, and Slone Taylor.



Sunday, June 11

The Church Council will meet on June 11 immediately following the worship service. A new organizational model will be presented at that meeting for the council's consideration.



Sunday, June 18

Please join us on Sunday, June 18, as we celebrate Father's Day. A special Time Together will be held in their honor.



**Tuesday, June 20
11 a.m.**

The Grief Support Group will meet on Tuesday, June 20, at 11 a.m. in the Conference Room.



Sunday, June 25

Taste of Trinity, our church-wide covered dish luncheon, will be held on Sunday, June 25. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to share great food and great fellowship!

“Then God said, ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness...’” (Genesis 1:26a, NRSV).

Humans are made in God’s image. We are humans; therefore, we are made in God’s image. In this verse, *adam* is not the name of the first man but the term for all humanity. All humans, male and female, are made in the image of God. That is a powerful concept to consider, being made in the image of God.

What does in the image of God mean? Do we look like God? If that was the case then we would all look alike. No, the Image of God is what humans are made of and for.

What are humans made of? The Hebrew word translated as *image*, can mean the essential nature. Humans are made from the essential nature of God. What is the essential nature of God?

The essential nature of God was first declared in Exodus. After the Hebrews built the golden calf, Moses pled with God not to reject the Hebrews. God revealed the divine nature to Moses. Exodus 34: 6-7 reads, “The LORD, The LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for the thousandth generation, and forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, yet by no means clearing the guilty...” (NRSV).

Let’s take a brief look at each of these characteristics of God. God is merciful. God is compassionate and shows love for all creation.

God is gracious. The Hebrew word is used only to describe God and denotes God’s activity that springs from His free, unmerited love for creatures.

God is slow to anger. God is long-suffering. To put it in more base human terms, God will put up with a lot before becoming angry.

God is abounding in steadfast love and keeps steadfast love. Steadfast love may also be translated as loving-kindness. God’s love is unwavering and dependable while being gentle. God’s love is overflowing. God keeps his love for a thousand generations, which is a way of saying forever.

God is abounding in faithfulness. God is stable and certain. One can always count on God.

God is forgiving. The word forgive can also mean to lift or carry. God forgives iniquity, that is, offenses against God’s law both intentional and unintentional. God forgives sin. God forgives when we lack understanding. God even forgives when we willfully deviate from Godly living. Even though God forgives there are consequences to sin. However, the consequences are brief, compared to the eternal nature of God’s love.

Forgiving, faithful, steadfast, kind, longsuffering, gracious, and compassionate - these characteristics describe the nature of God from which we humans are made. The writer of 1 John put it even more succinctly, “Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.” (1 John 4:8, NRSV) In the image of God means humans are created from God’s love as encompassed in the traits from Exodus.

Humankind was created in the image of God, not only from the characteristic nature of God but also from the relational nature of God. In the creation story, we see the Trinity working together to create order out of chaos. God, the Father, speaks the word, which is the Son, while the wind, which is the Spirit, sweeps over the face of the earth. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit work together to create and after the fall to restore.

Humans are created to be in relationship with each other just as the Trinity is the divine relationship between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We are to be in a relationship with the Triune God and with each other. We are to be in relationship with all in the love that proceeds from God.

We are made from the essential nature of God, love, and as each person of the Trinity is in relationship, so are all humans. But the image of God also means what humans are made for.

The image of God also means the reflection of God. Humans were created to reflect the perfect knowledge of God. Humans were created to reflect God's righteousness, that is right being and relationship with God. Humans were created to reflect God's holiness. Humans were set apart from other creatures to care for creation. We are made to be a reflection of God's love for all creation.

Sadly, the perfect image of God was distorted by sin. Humanity turned away from God. Yet, we all are still made in God's image. We are still mirrors that reflect God's image, albeit a distorted image. But through the working of the triune God, we are justified and sanctified. We are dirty mirrors reflecting a distorted image. As we are drawn closer to God, the dirtiness is wiped away. The image becomes clearer until we reflect the perfect image of God, the image of love.

Each day we should ask ourselves, "Did I reflect the image of God today? Did I reflect God's nature and love to my family, my coworkers, my fellow students, my teachers, the waitress at the restaurant, the clerk at Food Lion, and to everyone I met today?"

The sacrament of Holy Communion is a means of grace. God's grace wipes the dirt off, so we may be mirrors that reflect a clearer Image of God to the world - the image of love in which all are made.