

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

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

Call to Worship “Surely the Presence of the Lord” Choir

Greeting
*Hymn “Fairest Lord Jesus” 189

“Let the Children Come!”
(Those 3 years of age through 8 years of age may go to Children’s Church.)

Opening Prayer
Prayer for Illumination
Old Testament Reading Exodus 17:1-7 Page 63 (O.T.)
Psalter Psalm 78:1-4, 9-20, 32b-38a 799-800
*Hymn “One Bread, One Body” 620

Epistle Reading Philippians 2:1-13 Pages 187-188 (N.T.)
Gospel Reading Matthew 21:23-32 Page 27 (N.T.)
Sermon “Making God’s Joy Complete” 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 “The Old Rugged Cross” Christopher A. McCroskey
*Doxology “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” 95

The Great Thanksgiving
The Lord’s Prayer
Breaking the Bread
Prayer
*Hymn “Precious Name ” 536

*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
Music Director: Christopher A. McCroskey AV Assistant: Chris Derrick
Time Together: Jack Stevens; Pam Turner

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.

A Gift to Trinity is given to the Glory of God and in honor and celebration of their 55th Wedding Anniversary on September 28th, by Wayne and Charlie Hooker.

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

Patsy Zeigler Becky Derrick Carlis Edwards Dale Wells Patsy Shuler Christopher McCroskey
Jimmy Grahl Latson Lewis Kaye Floyd John Ballentine Jack Stevens Dolly Pearson

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

Family and Friends: Alex Courtney (friend of great nephew of Joyce Robinson); Lawrence Gilbert (friend of Becky Derrick); Bob Bohnstengel (spouse of Jo Ann Heiting's cousin); Judy Spence (former member); Anne Piercy (former member); Missy Abrams (stepdaughter of Lissa Abrams); Mary Davis (daughter of Bob & Libby Strickland); Kathleen Braun (sister of Mark Lewis); Lauren & Leah Grace Edwards (granddaughter & great-granddaughter of Hilda Edwards); 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); Nancy Wilson (friend 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); James Boggs (father of Claire Boggs); Stacy Coggins (daughter of Steve Aiello); Dan & Leslie White (brother & sister-in-law of Steve White); Sweat Family (friends of Marty Johnson); Alva Humphries (friend of Marty Johnson); Bill Areheart (friend of Bonnie Ramsey); David Grandshaw (brother-in-law of Edwa Meek); Hayley Beaudoin (niece of Edwa Meek); Addie Kinard (cousin of coworker of Edwa Meek); 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); Bernardo Velasquez, 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 09/24 SS: 14 Worship: 34

OUR GIFTS ...

General Fund 09/24 \$ 1,851.84

OUR SERVICE...

OUR WITNESS.”

Church Calendar

TODAY Baby Shower for Elijah Herrera-Derrick following Worship

10/02 Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m.

10/04 T.a.G., 7 p.m.

10/05 Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m.

10/06 Office Closed

Readings for October 08

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Psalms 19

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46



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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KILLINGSWORTH GALA
Thursday, November 9
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

The Killingsworth Gala is back! The Gala will be held Thursday, November 9, 2023, at Seawell's Restaurant. If purchased individually, tickets are \$65 per person. A table of eight is \$500 or \$62.50 per person. A sign-up sheet will be in the Gathering Area. We would like to be able to have a table for eight. Once we know how many will attend, your check can be made out to Trinity and given to Marie Stiles.

Killingsworth is a home for women in transition from homelessness, addictions, or incarceration. Killingsworth is an Advance Special Ministry of the South Carolina Conference and does not receive funding from apportionments.



Proposed Trinity Women's Group

Several ladies in the church have expressed interest in forming a Women's Group. This group would get together regularly, perhaps once a month. If you are interested in being a part of such a group, please let Marie Stiles know by texting her at 803.463.9706 or emailing her at marie.stiles@icloud.com. We would plan to have an organizational meeting sometime in October to discuss options.



Tuesday, October 17
11 a.m.

The Grief Support Group will meet on Tuesday, October 17, at 11 a.m. in the Conference Room. This group is open to everyone.



Sunday, October 22

Taste of Trinity, our church-wide covered dish luncheon, will be held on Sunday, October 22. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to share great food and great fellowship!



COLUMBIA COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND
FALL CONCERT
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023, AT 4 PM

The Columbia Community Concert Band opens its 43rd concert season on Sunday, October 29, at 4 pm in the Auditorium at Airport High School. Our former assistant director, B.J. Brazier, is our new director, having graciously accepted the position as Bill Ackerman, our conductor since the band was formed 42 years ago, retired in August. He stepped down from the podium but now sits in the front row as our oboe player, and we are grateful he has joined us in this new chapter of his musical contributions to our group.

Selections for this concert include contemporary pieces, marches, a hymn and a tribute to Tony Bennett. Your support of our group is appreciated so much and we love playing to a crowd, so we hope to see you there!

Paul asks the church in Philippi to “make his joy complete.” He continues by telling the church what would make his joy complete. In order to fulfill his joy he asks the church to be of the same mind, have the same love, have the same spirit, and have the same way of thinking.

Being of the same mind, same love, being in full accord or of one mind has nothing to do with agreeing with everyone. Whose mind, love, spirit, and way of thinking would complete Paul's joy? Was Paul telling the church to be just like him? His joy would be everyone agreeing with him? I do not think so.

Paul's joy would be complete if the church had the same way of thinking, the love, the spirit, and the attitude of Christ. He is asking the Philippians to think the way Christ did, love the way Christ did, have the spirit Christ had, and have the attitude Christ had. Paul tells the church to let the mind of Christ be in them. Paul is not talking about a way of thinking but a way of being. His joy comes from the church existing in the mind of Christ.

What is the mind of Christ? Paul describes the mind of Christ in the great hymn in verses 6-11:

who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore, God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (NRSVUE).

Jesus was in the form of God. He was from God, and of God's essence, which is love. Jesus did not consider his being divine as something to hang onto. Jesus deprived himself of his divine right and became human. Humans are God's servants on earth, so Jesus became God's servant.

Jesus humbled himself and became human. As a servant of God, he was obedient to God. He followed the will of God even to the point of death on the cross.

Because Jesus humbled himself and made himself a human servant, God exalted him even more and made him Lord of all. God made Jesus Lord of all because he served and obeyed God totally, not because he was divine. Jesus made God's joy complete.

The church in Philippi could complete Paul's joy by humbling themselves and serving God. Paul's joy would be complete when the church served and obeyed God completely. The church and its members were to serve and obey God. Then Paul's joy would be fulfilled because God's joy would be fulfilled.

We must understand that the key to making God's joy complete is not simply confessing Jesus as our Lord and Savior. We do not complete God's joy when we say the Lord's prayer, the Jesus prayer, the Sinner's prayer, or any other prayer. We do not complete God's joy when we say the creeds. Nothing we say makes God's joy complete.

What makes God's joy complete is found in the Gospel lesson. We all agree that the son who actually went into the vineyard and worked obeyed the father's will. Even though he said he would not go, he went. The other son said he would go but did not. We do not do God's will by saying the right words but by doing the will of God. Words count very little to God but actions count much.

The church in Philippi could make Paul's joy complete by being of one way of thinking, one love, one Spirit, and one accord. The one thing was to obey God's will.

We, at Trinity, complete God's joy. Making God's joy complete is not about agreeing on issues of homosexuality, abortion, education, race relations, or all those other issues we let divide us. Making God's joy complete is about obeying God's will as Christ obeyed God's will. It is about doing what God wants us to do as individuals and as a church.

Let us humble ourselves and put aside what we want Trinity to be. Let us make God's joy complete by listening to God's will and then doing what God wants Trinity to do. Let us be the church God wants us to be. Let us be the people God wants us to be and make God's joy complete.