

Trinity United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation

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October 22, 2023

10:45 AM

*If you are a guest, thank you for worshipping with us today. We invite you and all present to sign the pew pads located at the end of each pew. We also invite you to sign your name in our guest book located in the back entrance of the sanctuary or at the bottom of the stairs that lead to the sanctuary. Please note, all doors to the building will be open until 11:00 AM. After that time, please use the handicap door in the narthex. We welcome infants and children and all their giggles & voices in our worship! For your comfort, we also have a children's corner in the back narthex where your child can relax and play and you can still participate in the worship experience. Nursery care (infant through 2nd grade) is also provided, should you desire it. ***Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.***

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Jesus Loves Me"

Music by Jason D. Payne

Sunday Jubilation

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***CALL TO WORSHIP¹**

L: On this Children's Sabbath, we gather:

ALL: to praise God who created every wonderful child.

L: We gather to follow Christ:

ALL: who cherished the children others would keep away.

L: We gather to be moved by the Spirit:

ALL: that we might be partners in peace and justice.

L: We celebrate the sacredness of children. We thank God for children and long to keep them safe.

ALL: This is the day we rejoice together as God's children.

L: Some of us are young. Some of us are older.

ALL: We are all children of a mighty God.

L: Together we will learn from one another.

ALL: Together, we will praise God!

***OPENING HYMN**

"Bring Many Names"

NCH #11 vs.1,5,6

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**Bring many names, beautiful and good, celebrate, in
parable and story, holiness in glory, living, loving God.
Hail and Hosanna! bring many names!**

**Young, growing God, eager, on the move, saying no to
falsehood and unkindness, crying out for justice,
giving all you have:
Hail and Hosanna, young, growing God!**

**Great, living God, never fully known, joyful darkness
Far beyond our seeing, closer yet than breathing,
everlasting home:
Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!**

***TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

L: O God, you created a world of plenty,

ALL: yet there are children starving for food, thirsting for clean water.

L: You created a world of peace,

**ALL: yet there are children in the path of war, innocent lives lost to the violence of
weapons and hatred.**

L: You created a world with time for rest,

**ALL: yet there are children in homes and communities so wrought with uncertainty
and fear that no rest comes and sleep carries with it memories of fear.**

L: You created a world touched by your compassionate hand,

**ALL: yet there are children who never hear kindness and never experience
unconditional love in ways they can understand.**

L: It is our sin, through what we have done and what we have left undone, what we have
said and what we have kept silent, that has caused your world to feel less compassionate,
less restful, less peaceful and less bountiful.

**ALL: Forgive us, O God. Place us back into the work of reconciling ourselves to our
neighbors and this world so that we may again return to your loving creation. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

***PRAISE RESPONSE**

“Faith We Sing”

FWS# 2030

Words from *The Book of Common Prayer*,
Canticle 9 (Isa.12:2-6)

Music: Jack Noble White

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**Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in God and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold
and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.**

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE AND PRAYER FOR PEACE³

Child 1: We light this candle today for children killed by guns, violence, sickness, accidents and poverty. We especially remember with sadness children who were hurt in places where they should have been safe. Make our schools, homes, churches, and streets safe places for us to be. We light this candle for all children who suffer.

ALL: Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.

Child 2: We light this candle today for all the adults who work for laws to protect children. We light it for adults who care for us, teach us and protect us. Their actions speak louder than their words, and we thank God for them.

ALL: Lord, let us invite the children to come to us also. Give us the care and courage to bless them by our words and by our actions. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The Christ in me greets the Christ in you.

All: *The Christ in me greets the Christ in you also.*

FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL

SCRIPTURE

Mark 10:13-16

One: God is still speaking!

All: *Thanks be to God.*

MESSAGE

ANTHEM

"Let the Children Come"

Mark 10: 13-16

Adapted by J. Paul Williams

Music by Joseph M. Martin

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ORDER FOR CONFIRMATION

Eve Dickey

HYMN

"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"

NCH #351

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I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;

I'll be there in case you wander off and find where demons dwell.

When you found the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you on;

You were raised to praise the living God, to whom you now belong.

Should you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,

I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk 'till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,

I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,

I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (sins/sin against)

All: Our Father, (Creator, Mother, Friend), who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

TIME OF DISCIPLESHIP & GENEROSITY

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

Setting by Robert A. Hobby

For All the Saints

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*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

"As a Fire Is Meant for Burning"

FWS #2237

Words: Ruth Duck

Music from: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844

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We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way. We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay. By our gentle, loving actions we would show that Christ is light. In a humble, listening Spirit we would live to God's delight.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN

"Jesus Loves Me"

NCH #327

Japanese transcription Copyright © 1989

The United Methodist Publishing House Ghanaian translation

Armenian translation Copyright © 1994, The Pilgrim Press

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**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

**Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago,
Taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me."
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

**Jesus loves me! Still today, walking with me on my way,
Wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Jesus Loves the Little Children"

Arr. by Janet Linker

Hymn Tunes A to Z

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References

¹ The Call to Worship is adapted from two resources. The first was written by Sherrie Dobbs Johnson and posted at <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/21st-century-africana-liturg-resources-worship-resources-for-childrens-sab>. The other resource is of unknown authorship, but was found at http://storage.cloversites.com/firstpresbyterianchurch6/documents/110815BulletinWEB_4.pdf. Both were accessed on 9/25/23.

²The Prayer of Confession was written by Sherrie Dobbs Johnson and posted at <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/21st-century-africana-liturg-resources-worship-resources-for-childrens-sab> and accessed on 9/25/23

³ The Prayer for Peace was written by Sherrie Dobbs Johnson and posted at <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/21st-century-africana-liturg-resources-worship-resources-for-childrens-sab> and accessed on 9/25/23.

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Danielle Neff, Pastor

Caleb Murray, Director of Faith Formation & Programming

Carol Ann Day, Organist

Gillian Austin, Director of Music

Kristen Adams, Communications Coordinator

John Mentzer, Custodian

Kim Lark, Secretary

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Media Team: Karen Adams, Hal Bitner, Mark Hollen,
Nick Mowen, Andrew Mowen, Joe Thompson

Usher Team: Molly Adams*, Ben Adams, Charlie Clark,
Bill and Sharon Rinker

Children's Sermon: Pastor Dani

Lay Reader: Sarie Dickey

Acolyte: Leah Thompson

Youth Worship Participants: Eve Dickey, Emma Hamilton, Kayden Kettoman,
Sam Neff, Liam Neff, Ray Schlotterbeck, Leah Thompson, Molly Thompson

OUR MISSION

Because of our love of God, who first loved us, we empower disciples to let their lights shine through love of neighbor, love of children, and love of creation.

OUR VISION

As Jesus modeled first for us, we are working to create a just world where all are welcomed, all are loved, and all are included.

OUR PURPOSE

Celebrating the Christ in all of us by joyfully serving our community.

