

**Trinity United Church of Christ**  
**An Open and Affirming Congregation**

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November 26, 2023

10:45 AM

**God's Economy: Worthy Investments**

*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 wiggles & 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**

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>**

L: Who made this beautiful day?

**P: We believe that God, the Creator, made this day.**

L: God made this day so we can rest, and reflect, and enjoy;

**P: God made this day so we can open our eyes and see beauty,**

L: And see pain, and opportunity,

**P: And see hope.**

L: In love, God calls us together.

**P: As friends, as neighbors, as siblings in Christ, we gather.**

L: Called together by God, we bring our offerings to God:

**P: Our songs, our hearts, our prayers, and our lives.**

L: So let us go into this day with our eyes and hearts wide open, grateful for this opportunity to give and receive.

**P: Let us worship God.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*“Sanctuary”*

Words and Music by John W. Thompson and Randy Scruggs  
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**Lord prepare me To be a sanctuary  
Pure and holy Tried and true  
With thanksgiving I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for You**

**\*TIME OF CONFESSION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>2</sup>

*All: God of grace, you have called us to give ourselves completely to you. Yet, we often hold back part for worldly pursuits. You have given us the gift of time. You give us time to serve, time to learn, time to grow, time to share. Often, we choose to spend our time serving self. You provide us with opportunities to serve using the talents and abilities we have been given. We tend to hide our gifts or under-utilize them. You have provided even those that have the least among us with more financial resources than most of the world—yet so often we resist sharing because of fear for the future. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us. Set us back on the path you intend and call us forth again in faithfulness, because we long to follow you well. Amen.*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

**\*PRAISE RESPONSE**

*“Grace Alone”*

FWS# 2162

Jeff Nelson, Scott Wesley Brown,  
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**ALL SING: Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith, every difference we will make is only by God's grace. Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine, every blessing left behind is only by God's grace. Grace alone which God supplies, strength unknown God will provide. Christ in us our Cornerstone; we will go forth in grace alone.**

**\*LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE AND PRAYER FOR PEACE**

**\*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**

1 Timothy 6:6-19

One: God is still speaking!

*All: Thanks be to God.*

**MESSAGE**

**ANTHEM**

*“Everything”*

Jason Ingram/Lauren Daigle/Paul Mabury  
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Fellow Ships Music; ICM Crescendo Royalty Publishing;  
So Essential Tunes  
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**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

*“Lord I Need You”*

Words and Music by Jesse Reeves, Kristian Stanfill,  
Matt Maher, Christy Nockels and Daniel Carson  
Copyright © 2011 Sixsteps Music, Sweater Weather Music  
Thank you Music Valley of Songs Music, worshiptogether.com songs  
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**Lord I come I confess  
Bowing here I find my rest  
And without You I fall apart  
You're the one that guides my heart**

Lord I need You oh I need You  
Ev'ry hour I need You  
My one defense my righteousness  
Oh God how I need You

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more  
Where grace is found is where You are  
And where You are Lord I am free  
Holiness is Christ in me

Lord I need You oh I need You  
Ev'ry hour I need You  
My one defense my righteousness  
Oh God how I need You

**Bridge**

So teach my song to rise to You  
When temptation comes my way  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You  
Jesus You're my hope and stay  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You  
Jesus You're my hope and stay

Lord I need You oh I need You  
Ev'ry hour I need You  
My one defense my righteousness  
Oh God how I need You  
My one defense my righteousness  
Oh God how I need You

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

*For One Great Peace*

FWS #2185 vs.3

Words by: Shirley Erena Murray  
Music by Jim Strathdee

Words Copyright © 1992, Hope Publishing Co.  
Music Copyright © 1998, Desert Flower Music  
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**ALL SING: This check I write, this march I join, this faith I state, this truth I sign,  
this one small part, in one small place of one heart's beat for one great Peace.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*CLOSING HYMN

*"Praise to the Living God"*

NCH #8

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Praise to the living God, the God of love and light,  
Whose word brought forth the myriad suns and set the worlds in flight;  
Whose infinite design, which we but dimly see,  
Pervades all nature, making all a cosmic unity.

Praise to the living God, from whom all things derive,  
Whose Spirit formed upon this sphere the first faint seeds of life;  
Who caused them to evolve, unwitting, toward God's goal,  
Till humankind stood on the earth, as living, thinking souls.

Praise to the living God, who knows our joy and pain,  
Who shares with us our common life, the sacred and profane.  
God toils where-e'er we toil, in home and mart and mill;  
And deep within the human heart God leads us forward still.

Praise to the living God, around, within, above,  
Beyond the grasp of human mind, but whom we know as love.  
In these tumultuous days, so full of hope and strife,  
May we bear witness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

## References

<sup>1</sup> The Call to Worship is a combination of two liturgies written by Rev. Beth Merrill Neel and published on her website, <https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgies/call-to-worship/> and accessed on November 14, 2023.

<sup>2</sup>The Prayer of Confession was written by Christian Smith and posted on the website, <https://cpcmc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/A-Liturgy-for-Stewardship-Sunday.pdf> and accessed on November 14, 2023.

## 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

**December's Usher Team:** Sarie Dickey\*, Jim Cooper, Teresa Needham,  
Scott and Kathy Shaffer

**Children's Sermon:** Pastor Dani

**Lay Reader:** Mark Hollen

**Acolyte:** Kayden Kettoman

## 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.