

**We are church together!** St. Paul is collaborating with St. John's and Immanuel for virtual worship. You can call and listen to Tri Church worship on Sundays at 7 a.m., noon, and 4:30 p.m. by calling (508) 924-5733. There is NO access code needed. You will be connected to the conference line automatically. You can watch the service by clicking [HERE](#).

**The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 12, 2021**  
**Tri Church Worship**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

**All: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart. God our comforter:

**All: like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

P: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**All: Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

***"Glory to God"***

*Refrain*

Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

1 Lord, God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you  
for your glory. *Refrain*

2 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God,  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. *Refrain*

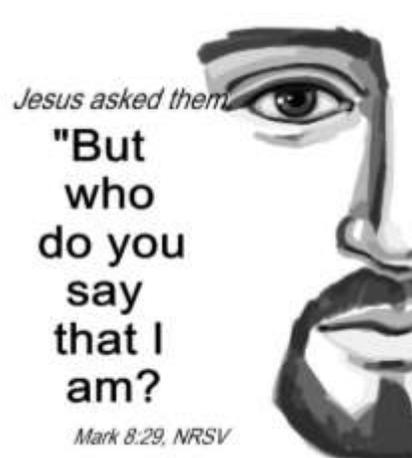
3 For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen. Amen. Amen. *Refrain*

**GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with you all!

**All: And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**



P: Let us pray. O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING

**Isaiah 50:4-9a (NRSV)**

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning the Lord GOD wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. <sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. <sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. <sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; <sup>8</sup>the one who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. <sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

L: Word of God, word of life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL

**Mark 8:27-38 (NRSV)**

P: The holy gospel according to Mark.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” <sup>29</sup>Jesus asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. <sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son-of-Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, Jesus rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” <sup>34</sup>Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son-of-Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

### SERMON

**Pastor Jacob Gawlik**

### SONG

*“Will You Come and Follow Me”*

1 Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

- 2 Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?
- 3 Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
- 4 Will you love the you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
- 5 Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b.1949

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## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P: Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*Each petition ends with these words:*

P: Lord, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude with these words:*

P: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## **PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ is with you always!

**All: And also with you.**

## **MEAL**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray, God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## **DIALOGUE**

P: The Lord is with you.

**All: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven. You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast. By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**All: Amen**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.

**All: Our Father, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

## **COMMUNION**

## **COMMUNION MUSIC**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

P: People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, one God, bless you now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

*"Halleluiah, We Sing Your Praises"*

*Refrain*

Hallelujah! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness.  
Hallelujah! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness. *Repeat*

1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,  
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger. *Refrain*

2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,  
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joyful gospel. *Refrain*

Text: South African, tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984  
English text © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

## **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## **POSTLUDE**

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**Thank you for joining us in worship today!** Thank you for your on-going support of the mission and ministry of St. Paul through your prayers, service and giving!