



TRINITY

P R E S B Y T E R I A N

A S H E V I L L E

May 12, 2024

Welcome to Trinity Presbyterian Church!

(Presbyterian Church in America)

We are glad that you are with us this morning. We hope you feel welcome. Please let us know if we can help you in any way.

Our Worship Service lasts for about 75 minutes. Please use this worship bulletin as an aid in following the service. We hope you will find the service accessible whether you have spent your whole life in church or are attending for the very first time. Christian Education classes are available for all ages following the worship service.

Devices for the hearing impaired are available. Please go to the sound booth in the sanctuary if you would like one.

There are a few options for your children. We welcome children of all ages and abilities to remain with their parents in worship. We have children's bulletins and Bibles available in the foyer. Room 101 is a dedicated cry room for nursing mothers. Children ages two through five are given the choice of attending a children's worship time in Room 104; dismissal is before the sermon. We love children here at Trinity. For their safety, please do not leave them unattended in or outside the building.

The Trinity 'Weekly' is an email that comes out every Thursday evening. It is the central line of communication for our church. To receive the Weekly, please subscribe at the bottom of the church website home page.

To connect with our church, please feel free to speak with our pastor, elders, or greeters. They can give you information on our small group Bible studies and other ministry opportunities. You may also complete a contact card (found on the back page of this bulletin) or send an email to tish@trinityasheville.com. Additional information may also be found at the welcome table in the foyer or on our website: trinityasheville.com.

GOD CALLS US

** Please stand as you are able.*

* Gathering Song

Rejoice

Rejoice in the Lord, now and always; sing it again, we rejoice.
Delight in the love he has shown us, gratefully lift up your voice.
His gentleness among us will join our hearts with praise.
We gather in his goodness; a family of grace.

Chorus

*With each breath he's given, praise the Lord!
In these times we live in, we will praise the Lord.
Throughout ev'ry season, I am sure
we have every reason to praise the Lord.*

Rejoice and be anxious for nothing, praying for all that you need.
Come with a song of thanksgiving; lay your requests at his feet.
His peace will fall upon us, to guard our hearts and minds
in Christ, who reigns eternal; the Shepherd of our lives.

Chorus

Rejoice in the Lord, now and always; tell of the good he has done.
Worship the Lord to remember all of the joy yet to come.
The hope that burns within us the dark cannot destroy.
With praise that's never ending, we say again, "Rejoice!"

Chorus

We have every reason to praise the Lord.

Shive | Fowler | Getty | Getty | Peterson

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Welcome and Announcements

(See rear pages for more information)

* Call to Worship

Hebrews 12:1-2

Leader: Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

All: looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Amen! Let us worship God!

* Hymn of Praise

We Come, O Christ, to You

We come, O Christ, to you, true Son of God and man,
by whom all things consist, In whom all life began:
in you alone we live and move, and have our being in your love.

You are the Way to God, your blood our ransom paid;
in you we face our Judge and Maker unafraid.
Before the throne absolved we stand, your love has met your law's demand.

You only are true Life, to know you is to live
the more abundant life that earth can never give:
O risen Lord! We live in you: in us each day your life renew!

We worship you Lord Christ, our Savior and our King,
to you our youth and strength adoringly we bring:
so fill our hearts, that all may view your life in us, and turn to you!

Trinity Hymnal 181 (V. 1, 2, 4, 5) | Clarkson | | Darwall
Text © 1957. Renewed 1985 InterVarsity Press. Assigned 1987 to Hope Publishing Company | CCLI Song # 3680735

* Prayer of Invocation & Adoration

GOD CLEANSSES US

Unison Prayer of Confession

Loving Lord Jesus Christ, who came to seek and to save the lost, who invites the weary and the overburdened to rest, and who heals the hurting: we confess that we have lost our way. Forgive our wayward and willful disobedience. Lead us back to you. Forgive us for every thought, word, or deed that has brought hurt to others, harmed ourselves, or dishonored your name. Heal the pain we have caused. Grace us with your Holy Spirit, and lead us once again in the way that leads to life. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Hebrews 2:17

Leader: Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

* Response Song

God, Be Merciful to Me (Psalm 51)

God, be merciful to me, on thy grace I rest my plea;
plenteous in compassion thou, blot out my transgressions now;
wash me, make me pure within, cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess, grief and guilt my soul oppress;
I have sinned against thy grace and provoked thee to thy face;
I confess thy judgment just, speechless, I thy mercy trust.

Broken, humbled to the dust by thy wrath and judgment just,
let my contrite heart rejoice and in gladness hear thy voice;
from my sins O hide thy face, blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true;
cast me not away from thee, let thy Spirit dwell in me;
thy salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.

³¹ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³² not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

Recognition of High School Graduates

Samuel Basham, Georgi Bruns, Kathryn Figliozzi, Robert Gage, Lucie Pittman

Pastoral Prayer (concluding with the Lord’s Prayer)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering

The offering isn’t about our monetary gifts alone, since the Gospel demands a much deeper response: God demands “our all” – every ounce of who we are. This act of ‘worship through giving’ is a spiritual discipline – and a joy – in offering ourselves as “living sacrifices” to God (Romans 12:1), and giving cheerfully out of our thankfulness to him. (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Online Giving: Text any dollar amount to 84321

Children’s Church (ages two through Kindergarten) may dismiss at this time.

Hymn of Preparation

May the Mind of Christ My Savior

May the mind of Christ my Savior live in me from day to day,
by his love and pow'r controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph only through his pow'r.

May the peace of God my Father rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea;
him exalting, self abasing, this is victory.

May his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win,
and may they forget the channel, seeing only him.

Trinity Hymnal 644 | Wilkinson | A.C. Barham-Gould

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GOD SPEAKS TO US

Please stand for the reading of God's Word.

* Scripture Reading

John 3:22-36

²² After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing. ²³ John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized ²⁴ (for John had not yet been put in prison).

²⁵ Now a discussion arose between some of John's disciples and a Jew over purification. ²⁶ And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him." ²⁷ John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. ²⁸ You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.' ²⁹ The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. ³⁰ He must increase, but I must decrease."

³¹ He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all. ³² He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one receives his testimony. ³³ Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. ³⁴ For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. ³⁵ The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. ³⁶ Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon Notes

John 3:22-36

He Must Increase

Rev. Robert Recio

GOD STRENGTHENS US

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;

and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell.†
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic‡ church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

† “descended into hell” means Jesus Christ literally experiencing God’s wrath

‡ “catholic church” means the universal church

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Trinity Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who have made a public profession of faith and are members of any Bible-believing church to participate in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper with us.

Gluten free crackers are in the paper liners of each tray.

Understanding the Gospel

John 3:16 tells us: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."

This passage answers basic questions of who, what, why, when, and how. Please ask any of our church leaders to talk with you about what the Bible says about Jesus.

- God so loved the world...
God loved the world in such a way to rescue people from their sins against Him (John 3:17; II Corinthians 5:21).
- He gave His only begotten Son...
He sent His Son to live among us, to show us His love, and to pay the penalty for our sins through His death on the cross (Romans 5:8; 6:23).
- That whoever believes in Him...
Believing in Christ means trusting in Him as the One who fully paid for our sins, and turning from our sins (including trusting in ourselves). It means receiving His free gift of salvation and full forgiveness, and trusting His Lordship in our lives (John 1:12; Ephesians 2:8-10; I John 5:11,12).
- Shall not perish, but have everlasting life.

Through faith in Jesus, we have eternal life and a family relationship with God as our Father. Because we trust Jesus as the One who died for our sins, we are rescued from God's judgment and have new life in His name (John 5:24; John 10:10; John 11:25,26).

* Closing Song

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners!
Jesus! lover of my soul;
friends may fail me, foes assail me,
he, my Savior, makes me whole.

Refrain:

*Hallelujah! what a Savior!
Hallelujah, what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
he is with me to the end.*

Jesus! what a strength in weakness!
Let me hide myself in him;
tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,
he, my strength, my vict'ry wins. (*Ref.*)

Jesus! I do now receive him,
more than all in him I find;
he hath granted me forgiveness,
I am his, and he is mine. (*Ref.*)

Trinity Hymnal 498 (V. 1, 2, 5) | Chapman | Pritchard | © Public Domain | CCLI Song # 22142

* Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him, above, ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Ken | Bourgeois | © Public Domain | CCLI Song # 25417

GOD SENDS US

* Benediction and Dismissal

The LORD always has the final word in our worship service.
This "bene" (good) "dictos" (word) is always a promise
of His presence and blessing for all those who are in Him.

MISSION FOCUS

Trinity's Class of 2024

*My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments,
for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.*

*My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of his reproof,
for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.
Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding,
for the gain from her is better than gains from silver and her profit better than gold.
She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.*

Proverbs 3:1-2; 11-15

God has given our church some tremendous gifts—their names (and tentative plans for the fall) are listed below! Let's truly thank our Father for the delight that he has brought us through each of our high school seniors. Let's delight still more in God's faithful work in and through them over the years, and pray they grow in grace still more.

Samuel Basham

Gap Year

Georgianna Bruns

Wake Technical Community College

Business Administration (completing her Associates degree started at AB Tech)

Kathryn Grace Figliozi

Blue Ridge Community College

Business Administration

Rob Gage

University of North Carolina - Asheville

Computer Science

Lucie Pittman

Western Carolina University

Undecided

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, May 12

Worship Service.....9:30AM in Worship Area
Congregational Meeting..... 10:45AM in Worship Area
Sunday School for Children and Youth 11:00AM in Classrooms
 Twos and Threes (Room 102), Pre-K and K (Room 104), 1st-2nd (Room 105), 3rd-5th (Room 107)
 MS and HS (Modular Room 501)
Sunday School for Adults 11:00AM in Classrooms
 Westminster Confession of Faith (Worship Area)
 Sola Fide – the Gospel of John (Room 203)

MONDAY, May 13

Session and Diaconate Meetings 6:00PM in **201**

TUESDAY, May 14

Second North Carolina Primary Election6:30AM to 7:00PM in 205
Missions Team Meeting 6:00PM in 201
Ladies Bible Study – Pilgrim’s Progress6:30-8:00PM in 203

WEDNESDAY, May 15

Prayer Meeting 5:45PM in Foyer
Choir Rehearsal 6:30PM in Worship Area

THURSDAY, May 16

Band Rehearsal7:00PM in Worship Area

UPCOMING DATES

May 19 – Young Adult Hangout **Lunch** (RSVP to Pepper Basham)
May 19 – Summer Nights at Trinity (First of Six)
May 26 – No Sunday School
May 27 – Office holiday
June 1 – Men’s Cookout
June 2 – NEW worship time (10:30AM)
June 2 – Promotion Sunday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENERAL

Trinity members, please stay for a **Congregational Meeting** this morning for the purpose of electing elders. The following names are on the ballot:

Randy Bartlett (second term), Conley Brown (second term), Tim Carlson, Steve Eargle, Bryson Fleming (second term), Jay Pratt, Norman Riddle, and Stephen Todd (second term). Officer nominee bios are on the Welcome Table in the foyer.

Summer Nights at Trinity is a whole-church gathering that will meet on six different Sunday evenings at 5 PM beginning on May 19th. The purpose of the gathering is two-fold: discipleship and fellowship. We will spend the first hour discussing what it means to think biblically and redemptively about issues relating to sexuality and gender identity. Following our discussion, we will gather for a potluck meal enjoying the summer evenings we're looking forward to and our company with one another. More details in the Weekly.

WOMEN

Ladies, "**Pilgrim's Progress**" begins this Tuesday. Please pick up your books this morning (\$15, cash or check, payable to Trinity, if you have not paid yet).

Please read/review the material in both books up to Chapter One before our first class.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

VBS Registration and Youth Volunteer forms are available in the foyer (and in the Weekly).

OFFICERS

ELDERS: Zach Ashton, Randy Bartlett, Bill Brown, Conley Brown, Bryson Fleming, Joe Mullen, Brandon Ray, Robert Recio, Stephen Todd

DEACONS: Harold Frost, Steve Miner, Dale Slusser

TRINITY STAFF

Pastor Robert Recio | ext. 303 | robert@trinityasheville.com

Associate Pastor Joe Mullen | ext. 306 | joe@trinityasheville.com

Director of Music Dwight Basham | ext. 301 | dwight@trinityasheville.com

Youth Transition Coordinators Chuck and Jimmie-Lynn Linkston | 828.457.9191

Office Manager & Children's Ministry Assistant Tish Hawks | ext. 305 | tish@trinityasheville.com

Bookkeeper Karen Pick | ext. 302 | karen@trinityasheville.com

17 Shawnee Trail Asheville, NC 28805 | 828.299.3433 | www.trinityasheville.com

MISSIONARIES

SUPPORTED BY TRINITY

Andrew & Becc Baron
Cru - Australia

David & Danielle Grotton
MTW - Chile

Alec and Riley Cotton
RUF - App State

Collin & Zury
West Africa

Jamie & Elizabeth Kabernick
Helps Ministries

Jonah
Sensitive area

Joel & Kate Ledbetter
Campus Outreach - Georgia

Chuck & Jimmie Lynn Linkston
Paraclete Mission

Flavien & Inyange
Sensitive area

James & Sharon Royal
YWAM - Australia

Andrew & Trish Shank
RUF - Western Carolina

Dale Slusser
Helps Ministries

Donnie & Kara
West Africa

Steve & Rita Williams
MTW - New Zealand

SUPPORTED ORGANIZATIONS

Asheville Buncombe Com Christian Ministry

Highlands Presbytery

Mountain Area Pregnancy Support Services

PCA | Administrative Committee

Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry

Western Carolina Rescue Ministries

CONTACT CARD

We are thankful to have you with us this morning.

*Please fill out this card if you would like to let us know you were here or if you would like to update your contact information with us. **We ask that you place contact cards in the offering plate or turn them in at the welcome table or church office.***

- I am new to church
- I am new to Trinity
- I am a regular attendee
- Please update my contact info

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss.

Name:

Email:

Spouse:

Spouse email:

Children (names & ages):

Street Address:

City/State/ZIP:

Home Phone:

Cell Phone:

I would like to receive more info about:

- Learning about Christianity*
- Joining a growth group*
- Becoming a church member*
- Volunteering at Trinity*
- I would like to receive church emails*