



### *TUPC VISION STATEMENT*

*We are a diverse community of disciples of Jesus Christ **GROWING** together. With the always present power of the Holy Spirit, we share our lives, care for one another, worship, pray, study God's word, and serve both inside and outside the walls of the church. We invite you to come and **GROW** with us.*



### **TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

November 15th, 2020

Interim Pastor – Rev. Lindsey Carnes

Liturgist –Kathy Henderson

Accompanist-Sharon Auger

### **GATHERING**

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

All good gifts come from God, and we delight in them.

**God's gifts are ours to use – to steward faithfully as stewards of the mysteries of faith.**

Let us bring forth all that we are to offer to our Creator!

**We come with joy to offer our lives anew!**

Prayer of Praise and Adoration

Eternal God, we long for truths that are lasting, yet we want our faith to be alive to the people and problems of today. As we move forward in an ever changing world, may faith in Christ be our anchor, and your love be our guide through the presence and power of the Spirit. Unite our hearts, even as we unite our voices in your praise, through Christ our Lord.

## Opening Hymn PH#343 **Called as Partners in Christ's Service**

1Called as partners in Christ's service  
Called to ministries of grace  
We respond with deep commitment  
Fresh new lines of faith to trace  
May we learn the art of sharing  
Side by side and friend with friend  
Equal partners in our caring  
To fulfil God's chosen end

2Christ's example Christ's inspiring  
Christ's clear call to work and worth  
Let us follow never faltering  
Reconciling folk on earth  
Men and women richer poorer  
All God's people young and old  
Blending human skills together  
Gracious gifts from God unfold

3Thus new patterns for Christ's mission  
In a small or global sense  
Help us bear each other's burdens  
Breaking down each wall or fence  
Words of comfort words of vision  
Words of challenge said with care  
Bring new power and strength for action  
Make us colleagues free and fair

4So God grant us for tomorrow  
Ways to order human life  
That surround each person's sorrow  
With a calm that conquers strife  
Make us partners in our living  
Our compassion to increase  
Messengers of faith thus giving  
Hope and confidence and peace

## Call to Confession

If anyone sins, we have someone who pleads with the Father on our behalf—Jesus Christ, he righteous one. And Christ himself is the means by which our sins are forgiven, and not our sins only, but also the sins of the whole world. (1 John 2:1,2) Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

## Prayer of Confession

When we have sown sparingly; **Lord, have mercy.**

When we have given reluctantly; **Christ, have mercy.**

That we may know the joy of cheerful giving; **Lord, have mercy.**

**As Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, has given all for us, may we give ourselves to you - confidently, completely, faithfully.**

*SILENCE IS KEPT*

## Assurance of Pardon

When we turn back to God, we find God has already turned towards us. God longs for us to seek goodness and mercy and to do justice and loving-kindness. When we live into God's ways, we know that we are forgiven, that reconciliation is possible, that restoration is God's desire for us. Live into the fullness of God's desire for you. Amen.

## **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

### Prayer for Illumination

God of power and might, help us to recognize the imprint of your love and mercy in our lives. Open our hearts to that love that we may grow in our faith and be strengthened in our witness to you. In Jesus' name, we pray. AMEN

### Scripture Readings **Matthew 17:24–27 Jesus and the Temple Tax**

24 When they reached Capernaum, the collectors of the temple tax came to Peter and said, "Does your teacher not pay the temple tax?" 25 He said, "Yes, he does." And when he came home, Jesus spoke of it first, asking, "What do you think, Simon? From whom do kings of the earth take toll or tribute? From their children or from others?" 26 When Peter said,

“From others,” Jesus said to him, “Then the children are free. 27 However, so that we do not give offense to them, go to the sea and cast a hook; take the first fish that comes up; and when you open its mouth, you will find a coin; take that and give it to them for you and me.”

## Scripture Readings Matthew 22:15-22 The Question about Paying Taxes

15 Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. 16 So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodian’s, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. 17 Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” 18 But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? 19 Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. 20 Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” 21 They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” 22 When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Who Does It Belong To?

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### Hymn G2G# 754 Help Us Accept Each Other

1 Help us accept each other  
as Christ accepted us;  
teach us as sister, brother,  
each person to embrace.  
Be present, Lord, among us  
and bring us to believe  
we are ourselves accepted,  
and meant to love and live.

2 Teach us, O Lord, your lessons,  
as in our daily life  
we struggle to be human  
and search for hope and faith.  
Teach us to care for people,  
for all, not just for some,  
to love them as we find them,  
or as they may become.

3 Let your acceptance change us,  
so that we may be moved  
in living situations  
to do the truth in love,  
to practice your acceptance  
until we know by heart  
the table of forgiveness,  
and laughter's healing art.

4 Lord, for today's encounters  
with all who are in need,  
who hunger for acceptance,  
for righteousness and bread,  
we need new eyes for seeing,  
new hands for holding on;  
renew us with your Spirit,  
Lord, free us, make us one!

### Affirmation of Faith (Westminster Shorter Catechism, Modern English)

#### **Q105. For what do we pray in the fifth request?**

In the fifth request (Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors), encouraged by God's grace, which makes it possible for us sincerely to forgive others, we pray that for Christ's sake God would freely pardon all our sins.

#### **Q106. For what do we pray in the sixth request?**

In the sixth request (And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one) we pray that God would either keep us from being tempted to sin or support and deliver us when we are tempted.

## Introduction to the Offering

God has shown us the meaning of generosity in the beautiful diversity of creation, in the overflowing love of Jesus Christ, and in the never-ending gift of the Holy Spirit. God has blessed us abundantly and called us to be a community that blesses others through the sharing of our love, our talents and our material possessions. Let us rejoice now in what we have been given and in what is ours to give as we receive our morning offering.

## Offertory Prayer

**Lord God, we give you thanks for all your gifts to us—for daily food, for health, for each breath we take, for freedom to choose, and for the gifts of your word, your power and your love. Our hearts are truly overwhelmed, O God, when we consider how you have entrusted so much to us. May we be worthy of that trust—may we be a people who are unafraid to live as fully and as richly as you want us to live.**

## Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

In humility of heart let us pray to God the Father of all.

Lord, in your word you teach us that sparse sowing means meager reaping; give us generous hearts as we respond to your love. Lord, in your mercy; hear our prayer.

Lord, you teach us that a generous heart produces a bountiful harvest; pour your love within us. Lord, in your mercy; hear our prayer.

Lord, you teach us to pray for those who govern us; bless all in positions of authority who take decisions for the nations of your world. Lord, in your mercy; hear our prayer.

Lord, you teach us to bring your healing to the sick and suffering; may your healing be upon those whom we name before you now ... Lord, in your mercy; hear our prayer.

## BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

Closing Hymn PH#418    ***God, Bless Your Church with Strength (v.1,2,3)***

1 God bless your church with strength!  
Wherever we may be,  
up build your servants as we work  
in common ministry.  
Urge us from fledgling faith  
to venture and to soar  
through open skies to sing the praise  
of Christ whom we adore.

2 God bless your church with life!  
May all our branches thrive,  
un blemished, wholesome, bearing fruit,  
abundantly alive.  
From you, one holy vine,  
in freedom may we grow;  
sustain us in our mission, Lord,  
your love and peace to show.

3 God bless your church with hope!  
Despite chaotic days,  
may we in darkness shine to light  
a pathway through life's maze.  
May justice be our aim,  
and kindness ours to share;  
in humbleness oh may we walk,  
assured our God is there!

## Charge and Benediction

May Christ who for our sake became poor make you rich in everything – in faith, speech, knowledge and love. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen

## The Passing of Christ's Peace

One: Having met Christ in this house, let us now share his peace: the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

All: **And also with you!**

Trinity United Presbyterian Church (USA) is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). We are three churches which merged together and became one in 2007. We are a multicultural, multigenerational and multiethnic congregation reflecting the rich diversity of God's people. This congregation is a witness to the uniqueness of the Christian faith which must be responsive to diversity both in the church and in the world. You are welcome here.

## OFFICERS

### *The Session*

Class of 2020 Delphine Moore, Mary Krist, Barbara Wesley

Class of 2021 Greg Bolduc, Waldo Bronson, Denise Dixon

Class of 2022 Allison Bradley, Gayle Kettler, Ryan Wier

Moderator ~ Rev. Lindsey Carnes

Clerk of Session ~ Georgia McCall

Treasurer ~ Janet Hartzell

### *The Board of Deacons*

Class of 2020 Funmi Adigun, Sharon Bonney, Alice Shirley

Class of 2021 Matt Burton, Kathy Henderson, Jeri Taylor

Class of 2022 Margaret Bausack, Jill Bolduc, Karen Fischer

### *Staff*

**Interim Pastor ~ Rev. Lindsey Carnes**

810-445-6780 [pastorlcarnes@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlcarnes@gmail.com)

if you need assistance please email or leave a voice mail at the church.

For emergencies call 810-445-6780

5151 Lennon Road, Flint, MI. 48507

[www.trinityunitedpc.org](http://www.trinityunitedpc.org)

E-mail: [office@trinityunitedpc.org](mailto:office@trinityunitedpc.org)

(810) 720-5152 office (810) 820-2433 fax