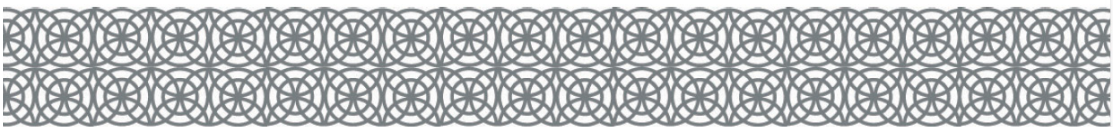




SUNDAY EVENING

*Vespers*



**CONCLUDING THE LORD'S DAY IN WORSHIP**

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AUGUST 27, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.

# Lord's Day Vespers

EVENING WORSHIP AT 6:00 P.M.

## EVENING VESPER MEDITATION

*Almighty God, we give You thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of vesper light; and we implore You in Your great mercy that, as You enfold us with the radiance of Your light, so You would shine into our hearts the brightness of Your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord dispel the darkness of our hearts, that by Your brightness we may know You to be the true God and Eternal Light, living and reigning forever and ever. Amen.*

## Prelude

## Call to Worship

Psalm 116:12-13, 19

What shall I render to the LORD for all His benefits to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD. Praise the LORD!

## Hymn

*I Will Lift Up the Cup of Salvation*

(see page 7)

## Psalm Reading

Psalm 32 (selected verses)

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

**For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.**

For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity;

**I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with shouts of deliverance. Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

**Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!**

*At the last stanza of "There is a Fountain Filled with Blood,"  
children are dismissed to attend their classes.*

## Evening Prayer

### Congregational Prayer

Adapted from *Sheltering Mercy*

Father, it is good to be loved by You; to receive Your free gift; to put on Christ. The record of our sins have been nailed to the cross; utterly forgotten; cast behind Your back, flung the distance of East to West.

#### **But we are forgetful, Lord.**

We have stumbled and staggered, drawn to sin like a moth to the flame. We have played with fire, too enraptured to feel the burn. Such was our resistance until, unable to bear it, we opened our hearts and laid the full weight of our wandering before You.

#### **Yet You take our hand saying "All is forgotten now."**

How quickly we forget how safe we are with You, Lord – held by Your hand; comforted by your kindness; defended and delivered.

#### **Your voice speaks life to us, calling us to higher things.**

Long suffering Lord, though we are slow to learn, teach us.

#### **Though we are quick to sin, rebuke and redeem us.**

May we find Your mercy at every turn; Your hope in the darkest of places.

**May all Your people praise You; all those brought from death to life, with one voice sing the song of Your Salvation. Amen and Amen.**

### Prayer Response

#### Trinity Song



Ho - ly - Fa-ther, Son, and Spi-rit. Ho - ly com-mu-nion, Three-in-One.



Come with Your peace, with Your in - vi - ta-tion. Bind us to-gether in ho-ly love.

Again He began to teach beside the sea. And a very large crowd gathered about Him, so that He got into a boat and sat in it on the sea, and the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. And He was teaching them many things in parables, and in His teaching He said to them: “Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow. And as He sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it. Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and immediately it sprang up, since it had no depth of soil. And when the sun rose, it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away. Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. And other seeds fell into good soil and produced grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.” And He said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” And when He was alone, those around Him with the twelve asked Him about the parables. And He said to them, “To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything is in parables, so that “they may indeed see but not perceive, and may indeed hear but not understand, lest they should turn and be forgiven.” And He said to them, “Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables? The sower sows the Word. And these are the ones along the path, where the Word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the Word that is sown in them. And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the Word, immediately receive it with joy. And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the Word, immediately they fall away. And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the Word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the Word, and it proves unfruitful. But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the Word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.”

Homily

**THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER**

Mr. Howell

The Parables of Jesus, Part II

Mark 4:1-20

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A sermon outline can be found on page 6.

## Prayer

### The Lord's Supper

#### Invitation to and the Fencing of the Table

*Participation requires your reverence and attention, discernment of the Lord's Body, a clear understanding of the meaning of the Lord's Supper, meditation on Christ's suffering and death, self-judgment, sorrow for sin, desire for Christ, feeding on Him in faith, trusting in Him, rejoicing in His love, giving thanks for His grace, renewal of your covenant with God and commitment to Christ, and your special love to all Christians.*

#### Hymn of Preparation

*How Deep the Father's Love For Us*

*(see page 9)*

#### Confession of Our Faith

The Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds; God of God; Light of Light; Very God of Very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from Heaven; and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into Heaven; And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Lord and Giver of Life; Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; Who spake by the prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead; And the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### Prayer of Humble Access

#### Words of Institution

## Serving of the Meal

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn

*We Will Feast in the House of Zion*

(see page 10)

Benediction

Benediction Response

*We Will Feast in the House of Zion*

**We will feast in the house of Zion.  
We will sing with our hearts restored.  
He has done great things, we will say together.  
We will feast and weep no more.**



# **THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER**

The Parables of Jesus, Part II

Mark 4:1-20

## **I. THE PARABLE: VV. 3-9**

A. 3 Examples of Poor Soil: vv. 3-7

B. 1 Example of Good Soil: vv. 8-9

## **II. THE PURPOSE: VV. 10-12**

A. Question: v. 10

B. Answer: vv. 11-12

## **III. THE EXPLANATION: VV. 13-20**

A. Opening Rebuke: v. 13

B. Common Ingredient: v. 14

C. Interpretation of Poor Soils: vv. 15-19

D. Interpretation of Good Soil: v. 20

## **IV. THE CONCLUSION**

# I Will Lift Up the Cup of Salvation



I will lift up the cup of sal - va - tion,  
I will walk with the Lord in His vic - t'ry,



I will call on the name of the Lord,  
I will no more de - spair in the dark.



He has heard my cry, He has saved my life—  
He has calmed my fears with His love so near—



I will en - ter His courts with praise.  
I am safe in His faith - ful arms.



Al-le - lu - ia to the ris - en Lord! Al-le - lu - ia, death will reign no more!



I will lift up the cup of sal - va - tion, I will call on the name of the Lord.

*Words and Music by Wendell Kimbrough*



# There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood



1. There is a foun-tain filled with blood, drawn from Im-man - uel's veins;
2. The dy - ing thief re-joiced to see that foun-tain in his day;
3. When this poor lisp - ing, stam m'ring tongue lies si - lent in the grave,



and sin - ners, plunged be - neath that flood, lose all their guilt - y stains:  
and there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins a - way:  
then in a no bler, sweet - er song I'll sing thy pow'r to save:



lose all their guilt - y stains, lose all their guilt - y stains;  
washed all my sins a - way, washed all my sins a - way;  
I'll sing thy pow'r to save, I'll sing thy pow'r to save;



and sin - ners, plunged be - neath that flood, lose all their guilt - y stains.  
and there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins a - way.  
then in a no bler, sweet - er song I'll sing thy pow'r to save.



## How Deep The Father's Love

1. How deep the Fa - ther's love for us How  
 2. Be - hold the man u - pon a cross My  
 3. I will not boast in an - y - thing No

vast be - yond all mea - sure That  
 sin u - pon His shoul - ders A -  
 gifts no pow'r no wis - dom But

He should give His on - ly Son To  
 shamed I hear my mock - ing voice Call  
 I will boast in Je - sus Christ His

make a wretch His trea - sure How  
 out a - mong the scof - fers It  
 death and re - sur - rec - tion Why

great the pain of sear - ing loss The  
 was my sin that held Him there Un -  
 should I gain from His re - ward I

Fa - ther turns His face a - way As  
 til it was ac - comp - lished His  
 can - not give an an - swer But

wounds which mar the Cho - sen One Bring  
 dy - ing breath has brought me life I  
 this I know with all my heart His

ma - ny sons to glo - ry  
 know that it is fi - nished  
 wounds have paid my ran - som

# We Will Feast in the House of Zion

## Refrain



We will feast in the house of Zi - on. We will sing with our



hearts re - stored. He has done great things we will say to - ge - ther.

## Verse



We will feast and weep no more. 1.We will not be  
2.In the dark of  
3.Ev - ery vow we've



burned by the fire. He is the Lord our God. We are not con -  
night be - fore the dawn. My soul be not a - fraid; for the pro - mised  
bro - ken and be - trayed. You are the faith - ful One. and \_ from the



sumed by the flood. Up - held, pro - tect - ed, ga - thered up.  
morn - ing, O how long. O God of Ja - cob be \_ my strength.  
gar - den to the grave. Bind us to - ge - ther bring sha - lom.



## **VISITORS**

We are honored to have you as our guest today. Please complete the information on our Friendship Register (by scanning the QR code) so that we may respond properly to your visit.

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory;  
to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to all who will come,  
this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome  
in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*



*A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)*

**trinitypca.org**

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