**Trinity United Methodist Church**

July 16th, 2023 10:30 a.m. DIGITAL BULLETIN

Rev. David S. Vallelunga, Pastor; Mike McCollough, Liturgist;

Caroline Fairchild, guest musician; Christina Wong, Zoomologist

“Vices and Virtues – Seven Sure Strategies to Sabotage or Sanctification” Week 2

PRELUDE “Corrente in F” GF Handel

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Dave GREETING ONE ANOTHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE Everyone

CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

We live within the embrace of a mystery;

**THAT, SOMEHOW, *GIVING* LEADS TO INCREASE, WHEREAS *WITHOLDING* DIMINISHES US.**

Today, O God, we learn again of greed and generosity,

**AND AMEND OUR LIVES TOWARDS YOUR CHOSEN WAYS AND PRACTICES!**

In your generosity, Almighty God, deeply impress us with the truth;

**AND GO WITH US INTO THE WORLD WHERE SHARING IS SO MUCH NEEDED AND TOO OFTEN UNDERVALUED. AMEN!**

HYMN # 389 “Freely, Freely”

**God forgave my sin in Jesus' name, I've been born again**

**in Jesus' name, and in Jesus' name I come to you,**

**to share His love as He told me to…**

***He said freely, freely, you have received; freely, freely give;***

***go in My name and because you believe,***

***others will know that I live!***

**All pow'r is giv'n in Jesus' name, in earth and heav'n in**

**Jesus' name, and in Jesus' name I come to you, to share His pow'r as He told me to… *He said freely, freely, you have received; freely, freely give;* *go in My name and because you believe,***

***others will know that I live!***

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US Pastor Dave

OUR LORD’S PRAYER *(Following the prayer, the children may leave for Sunday School.)*

SONG # 549 “Where Charity and Love Prevail”

**Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ’s love, by love are we thus bound.**

**With grateful joy and holy fear true charity we learn;
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in return.**

*Generous Lord, in which we live and move and have our being, may we become ever more filled with generosity of spirit, and true compassion, and love for all life. Inspire us to heal the exploitive hurts that we have inflicted on nature and on one another, and help us control our petulant greed for material things. Amen.*

**Forgive we now each other’s faults as we our faults confess;
and let us love each other well in Christian holiness.**

*Almighty One, give us the words that can cut deep into and destroy the soul of arrogance. Give us the character that can destroy the seeds of greed and envy. Help us make the kinds of life choices that can pulverize the ugly rocks of egotism and selfishness. Amen.*

**Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease;
be God’s the glory that we seek, be ours God’s holy peace.**

*Lord Christ, grant us understanding hearts, clear vision, balanced minds, faith, devotion, and wisdom. Help us access our inner spiritual strength to resist temptations and to control our minds. Free us from egoism, lust, greed, hatred, anger and jealousy, and instead fill our hearts with divine virtues. Amen.*

**Let us recall that in our midst dwells God’s begotten Son;
As members of one body joined, we are in Christ made one.**

**Love can exclude no race or clan, if honored be God’s name;
our family embraces all whose Maker is the same.**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Ezekiel 33. 30-32 and Proverbs 11. 24-26

MUSICAL INSPIRATION “Reientanze und Schlittschutanze” Susato

SERMON “The Practice of the Open Hand” Pastor Dave

DOXOLOGY and PRAYER OF CONSECRATION Liturgist

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise God all creatures here below;**

**praise God above, ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

CLOSING HYMN # 436 “The Voice of God is Calling”

The voice of God is calling its summons in our day;
Isaiah heard in Zion, and we now hear God say:
"Whom shall I send to comfort my people in their need?
Whom shall I send to loosen the bonds of shame and greed?

"I hear my people crying in slum and mine and mill;
no field or mart is silent, no city street is still.
I see my people falling in darkness and despair.
Whom shall I send to shatter the fetters which they bear?"

We heed, O Lord, your summons, and answer: Here are we!
Send us upon your errand, let us your servants be.
Our strength is dust and ashes, our years a passing hour;
but you can use our weakness to magnify your power.

From ease and plenty save us; from pride of place absolve;
purge us of low desire; lift us to high resolve;
take us, and make us holy; teach us your will and way.
Speak, and behold! we answer; command, and we obey!

BLESSING *Dearest Lord, teach us to be generous, teach us to serve as we should, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and ask not for reward, save that of knowing that we do your most holy will, empowered and sustained by your Spirit. Amen.*

POSTLUDE “Menuetto #2” GF Handel