*Trinity United Methodist Church*

August 18th, 2024 10:30 a.m. *DIGITAL BULLETIN*

Rev. David S. Vallelunga, Pastor; Neva Wacker, Liturgist;

Caroline Fairchild, Violinist; Christina Wong, Zoomologist

***A Sunday in Ephesus***

PRELUDE *Geampauara de la Murfatlar*

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Dave

WE GREET ONE ANOTHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE

CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

St. Paul encourages us to be careful how we live,

**NOT RASHLY, BUT SOBERLY, VALUING WISDOM,**

And making the most of every day,

**BECAUSE THE TIMES ARE EVIL, AND DISTRACTING,**

**AND DISORIENTING.**

We are encouraged to know the will of God for our lives,

**AND TO BE FILLED WITH SPIRIT AND GRATITUDE,**

Giving God thanks in all things,

**IN THE NAME OF OUR SAVIOR, CHRIST JESUS. AMEN!**

HYMN # 149 “Let’s Sing Unto the Lord”

**Let’s sing unto the Lord a hymn of glad rejoicing,**

**let’s sing a hymn of love,**

**at the new day’s fresh beginning.**

**God made the sky above,**

**the stars, the suns, the oceans,**

**and God saw it was good,**

**for those works were filled with beauty.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Let’s sing unto the Lord, Alleluia!**

**Let’s sing unto the Lord a hymn of adoration,**

**which shows our love and faith**

**and the hope of all creation.**

**Through all that has been made,**

**the Lord is praised for greatness,**

**and so we sing to God,**

**who bestows such lovely blessings.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Let’s sing unto the Lord, Alleluia!**

**Let’s sing unto the Lord a hymn of expectation,**

**let’s sing a hymn of joy as we celebrate creation.**

**Our earth is filled with good**

**for those who use it wisely,**

**let’s learn to share its gifts,**

**and redeem it from dishonor.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Let’s sing unto the Lord, Alleluia!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Let’s sing unto the Lord, Alleluia!**

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US Pastor Dave

OUR LORD’S PRAYER

PRAYER SONG # 144 “This is My Father’s World”

**This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings**

**the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;**

**His hand the wonders wrought.**

*Almighty God, the earth is full of your goodness, your greatness and understanding, your wisdom and harmony. How wonderful are the lights that you created, both within us and beyond us. You formed them with strength and power, and they shine very wonderfully on the world, magnificent in their splendor. When are hearts are attuned to you, we arise in radiance and go down in joy. Reverently we fulfill your divine will, and offer tributes to your name as we exalt your sovereignty in song. Amen.*

**This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,
the morning light, the lily white,**

**declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass I hear him pass,**

**He speaks to me everywhere.**

*To put the world in right order, we must first put the nation in order; To put the nation in order, we must first put the family in order; To put the family in order, we must first cultivate our personal life; We must first set our hearts right. Amen.*

**How can we name a Love**

**that wakens heart and mind,
indwelling all we know or think or do or seek or find?
Within our daily world, in every human face,
Love's echoes sound, and God is found,**

**hid in the commonplace.**

*My Lord, draw aside these veils I have made, interwoven and fashioned with the many fragments of my fears. Draw aside the obstacles, that I might glimpse your ancient form walking along the inner road of my life, where wisdom reigns and silence guards the way to heaven’s gate. May my heartbeats walk alongside you with a measured step, and may I see clearly those gleaming forms of radiance you send to shine upon this holy way. And perhaps at journey's end when I turn to look upon the bitter and the sweet, no vain regret will dim my eyes or diffuse your light, so radiant upon this path we have traveled together. Amen.*

**This is my Father's world, o let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,**

**God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world:**

**why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring!**

**God reigns: let earth be glad!**

EPISTLE READING Ephesians 5:15-20 Liturgist

MUSICAL INSPIRATION *Rinaki Kalamata Dance*

HOMILY “Caution, Clarity, and Celebration”

OFFERTORY *Lemonaki Mirodato*

DOXOLOGY and BLESSING OF THE GIFTS 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.**

HYMN # 380 “There’s Within My Heart a Melody”

**There's within my heart a melody,**

**Jesus whispers sweet and low:
Fear not, I am with thee, peace, be still,**

**in all of life's ebb and flow.**

**CHORUS: Jesus, Jesus, Jesus,**

**sweetest name I know,
fills my every longing,**

**keeps me singing as I go.**

**All my life was wrecked by sin and strife,**

**discord filled my heart with pain;
Jesus swept across the broken strings,**

**stirred the slumbering chords again. CHORUS**

**Though sometimes he leads through waters deep,**

**trials fall across the way,
though sometimes the path seems rough and steep,
see his footprints all the way. CHORUS**

**Feasting on the riches of his grace,**

**resting neath his sheltering wing,
always looking on his smiling face,**

**that is why I shout and sing. CHORUS**

**Soon he's coming back to welcome me**

**far beyond the starry sky;
I shall wing my flight to worlds unknown;**

**I shall reign with him on high. CHORUS**

BLESSING *And so we travel forth, uplifted and inspired, comforted and challenged, provisioned for the road ahead. Wherever and however our road goes, God is with us. Amen!*

POSTLUDE *Tyachiver Seven-Forty*, trad. Klezmer dance