

“Living Jesus Christ’s Vision – Building Communities of Compassion”

<u>September 27, 2026</u>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u>	<u>18th Sunday After Pentecost</u>
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PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

People: For once we were lost and felt so far away; now we have been found and welcomed home.

People: We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

All: Amen!

***OPENING PRAYER** *(In Unison)*

Let this be the welcoming place, the place of return and let it be built by a love that bends towards those who return here. For it is a love that has been waiting like a candle in the window ever lighting the way back and never willing to let go. The hope that each child will return home. Let this be the place where the only appropriate response to love that has come to the end of its longing is to kill the fatted calf, feast and celebrate. Send up balloons and prepare the party for that which has been lost has returned to be among us once more.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

No. 61

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING THE PEACE

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 15: 11-32

12 The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need.

15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs.

16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

17 “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!

18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.'

20 So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

21 “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

22 “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.

23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate.

24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.⁷ So they began to celebrate.

25 “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing.

26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on.

27 ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

28 “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him.

29 But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends.

30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

31 “My son,” the father said, “you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.

32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.””

*The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.*

***GLORIA PATRI**

No. 70

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

No. 881

OFFERING

Head Usher: Let us join together and ask the Lord to bless the giving and receiving of our tithes and offerings. Let us pray:

Gracious God, we thank You for all the ways You bless us each day and for giving us the opportunity to worship You with our tithes and offerings. Help us to give cheerfully so that all may come to experience the grace of Your forgiveness and the promise of eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Piano Solo

Sarah Burton

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

No. 95

***HYMN OF PREPARATION**

“His Name Is Wonderful”

No. 174

SERMON

“What Kind of a Christian Do You Want to Be?”

Rev. Bill Brown

***HYMN OF INVITATION**

“God Will Take Care of You”

No. 130

***BENEDICTION**

*POSTLUDE

Sarah Burton

**Invitation to Stand*



Trinity Church

(A United Methodist Congregation)

Rev. Dr. Vaughan Hayden – Senior Pastor
pastorhayden@trinityumcsalisbury.org

**Music Ministers: David Lawson & Phyllis Oldham
Sarah Burton**

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TOWER BELL RINGER: Dr. Fran Tracy-Mumford
9:00 A.M. HEAD USHER: Steve Trader
9:00 A.M. USHERS: Bill Lankford, Carroll Thamert, Nancy Horner, Patty Burris
9:00 A.M. READER: Connie Taylor
9:00 A.M. WORSHIP LEADER: Tammy Paxton
9:00 A.M. NURSERY Jane Kitzrow, Heather Porter
9:00 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPER: Brenda Hearn
10:30 A.M. USHERS: Ruth Ann and Jay Savage
THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given in thanks to God for SoSo Oneus on the year anniversary of her car accident. With love, her husband, Noldo Oneus, and her daughter, Raydya Oneus.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Sarah Burton for being our guest pianist today.

TODAY AT TRINITY

OFFERING MADE EASY – Just scan this code to go directly to Pushpay where you can give your offering.

CHURCH NURSERY is available every Sunday for the 9:00 a.m. worship service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL has resumed. We welcome back Danielle Farrell as our teacher this year! Volunteers are needed to make this a wonderful and blessed experience for the children of Trinity. See the Newsletter and the flyers posted for information.

THE COMBINED YOUTH GROUP is part of our Bethesda/Trinity Ministry Partnership. The youth group meets every Sunday from 3:00-4:30 p.m. at Bethesda.

SUPPORT FOR OUR TRINITY FAMILIES - Many of our Haitian families have not been able to attend church or felt comfortable leaving their homes during the past month due to recent events in our community. This has made it difficult for them to get to work, buy groceries and take care of other essential needs. To support our Trinity families during this difficult time, we are asking for the following donations: toothpaste, deodorant, tampons, shampoo, toilet paper, diapers: size 2, 4 and 5, wipes, powdered baby formula, rice, beans, bottled water, sugar, cooking oil, potatoes, fruit, wheat flour, and peanut butter. Items can be dropped off in the back of the church or the church office Monday through Thursday. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to: Trinity UM Church with a designation to SUPPORT FOR TRINITY FAMILIES.



THE WEEK AHEAD

WORLD STAGE THEATRE AT THE MUSEUM OF THE BIBLE – On Wednesday, November 11th, Trinity is planning a bus trip to the Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC. to see the show, entitled “A Silent Star”. It begins at 2:00 p.m. It is a brand-new Christmas Musical Live onstage. We have booked a 56-passenger motor coach from Jor-Lin Tour and Charter Bus Service. We will leave from the Fruitland Wal-Mart parking lot. (Time to be determined.) We have been given permission to leave cars there until our return. The total cost is \$120.00 per person. **Deadline for payment is Monday, September 28th.** For more information or to reserve a seat on the motor coach, please call the church office at (410) 749-5562.

ABC STUDY GROUP – Thursday, October 1st, at 2:00 p.m. in the downtown parlor.

INVITATION TO PRAYER FOR PASTOR HAYDEN – Every Thursday at 8:45 a.m. by Zoom. This will be approximately 15 minutes devoted to prayer, asking God to strengthen Rev. Hayden’s

body, grant him peace for each new day, give wisdom to those caring for him, and remind him that he is deeply loved by God and by the people he has faithfully served. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85731076162?pwd=Sr4yGWL3eslEPg2olhqloFvuGwSC4x.1>
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR will rehearse every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. We invite you to visit us and see if you might enjoy singing in our choir. Feel free to call Phyllis if you have any questions or comments at (410) 845-0212.

THE WEEKS AHEAD

UMW CIRCLE GROUPS:
“Deborah” – Monday, October 5th at 1:30 p.m. in the Jackson Building
“Esther” – Tuesday, October 6th at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Doris Ball
“Ruth” – Tuesday, October 13th at 10:30 a.m. in the church parlor
PRAYER GROUP – Tuesday, October 6th, at 2:00 p.m. in the church chapel.
OUTREACH AND EVENTS COMMITTEE – Tuesday, October 6th, at 5:15 p.m. in the Jackson Building.
TRUSTEES INVESTMENT MEETING – Wednesday, October 7th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Jackson Building.
UNITED METHODIST MEN – Monday, October 12th, at 6:00 p.m. at the Deli at Pecan Square.
TRUNK OR TREAT - Trinity TCAP is once again hosting Trunk or Treat for our faith-based partner school, Choices. We would appreciate any candy, snack packs or individually wrapped treats for the students. Please leave these items in the back of the sanctuary or the church office by Monday, October 26th. Choices students and TCAP appreciate your support. If you would like to join our fun or have any questions, contact Barb Dix (410) 430-1970.
SALISBURY URBAN MINISTRIES – Please continue to support the needy of the community through your donations of non-perishable food, snacks and hygiene supplies. Donations can be placed in the container at the church or donated directly to SUM.

AROUND TOWN

BETHESDA UMC ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL AND BAZAAR will be held on Saturday, October 3rd, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The festival will include a silent auction, raffles, cake walk, bake table, ice cream, oyster sandwiches, sweet potato biscuits, pies, canned goods and more.
GOLD STAR FAMILIES - WWI families displayed a flag with a gold star to commemorate their soldiers who lost their lives to serve for freedom. Soldiers’ mothers founded American Gold Star Mothers to support grieving families and hospitalized veterans; illustrate the dignity, honor, and sacrifice of service persons; and continually recognize families’ losses with special remembrance on the last Sunday of September. Website at <https://www.army.mil/goldstar/>