

TRINITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH (PCA)

BIBLE BELIEVING † CHRIST CENTERED † GRACE FILLED † GOSPEL DRIVEN



Worship for the Lord's Day

July 11th, 2021 • 10:45 A.M.

Trinity Fellowship Church exists to glorify God by equipping a community of believers to worship God and be witnesses of Him in Central Arkansas and to the ends of the earth.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

“[Jesus] said, ‘With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.’”

– Mark 4:30–32

The kingdom of God, says our Savior, is like the mustard seed, which “is smallest of all the seeds on earth.” Now, of course, we know that there are some seeds smaller than the mustard seed. In fact, in first-century Palestine, smaller seeds than mustard seeds were planted, and Christ certainly knew that. But our Lord’s point in this parable is not to give us a lesson in botany. In the culture of the day, the mustard seed was often used proverbially for the smallest thing one could think of. Jesus adapts that use in this parable. His point is that the beginning of the kingdom is tiny to the point that it seems insignificant. Hardly anyone notices its start, just as almost no one pays any attention to a mustard seed.

Yet the kingdom is not to be evaluated by its humble, nearly invisible origins. For just as a mustard seed grows into the largest of garden plants, the kingdom of God finally grows to such an extent that no one can miss it. History bears out the truth of our Savior’s teaching. He started out with twelve ordinary men whom He appointed as Apostles and a handful of other followers. He lived and died in what was considered a backwater province of the Roman Empire, and He is mentioned only in passing in the secular historical sources of that time. But since the time of Christ’s ministry, death, resurrection, and ascension, the kingdom of God has been steadily growing. His church is found around the globe, and it grows even in the most hostile lands. The mustard seed is well on its way to becoming the mustard plant.

John Calvin comments on this parable that “the Lord opens his reign with a feeble and despicable commencement, for the express purpose, that his power may be more fully illustrated by its unexpected progress.” There is no other explanation for the growth of Christ’s kingdom other than that it is the work of God. The continued existence and growth of Christ’s church is a powerful confirmation of His gospel.

Celebration of Worship

Greeting and Announcements

Announcements can be found on page 7

Prelude

*During this time, be prayerful and reverent in preparation
for the worship of our holy God in His sanctuary.
(Please silence all phones and electronic devices.)*

† Call to Worship

from Psalm 84

Leader: *How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God. Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise! Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. They go from strength to strength; each one appears before God in Zion. For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. O LORD of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!*

† Hymn of Praise

Oh, How Good It Is

Hymns of Grace

Nº 332

† Prayer of Invocation

† Please stand, as able

Call to Confession

Romans 3:23–25

Leader: *All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.*

Individual Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

from Psalm 103

Leader: *Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.*

✠ Hymn of Trust

My Faith Has Found a Resting Place

Hymns of Grace

Nº 404

Prayers of the People

*God calls us to be a praying people.
Let us join in prayer, offering our praise,
thanksgiving, and intercession to God.*

The Lord's Prayer

Unison: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offertory

*Our offering is an act of worship in which we express our gratitude and reliance on God.
For those of you who are guests with us today, giving is not obligatory.
We are eager to share with you more about our church and its ministry
and to invite you to participate with us as you are called by God.*

*Tithes and offerings may be placed in the plates in the narthex,
or you may give online at trinityfellowshipca.org/give,
or by texting GIVE to 501-456-4896.*

† Doxology

Hymns of Grace

Nº 440

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

† Prayer of Dedication

Reading of Scripture

ESV Pew Bible

Luke 13:10–21

pp. 872–873

Sermon

“You Won't Believe This!”

Rev. Brad DeVries

† **Hymn of Response**

Jesus Shall Reign (vv. 1–3)

Hymns of Grace

N^o 120

† **Benediction**

† **Recessional Hymn**

Jesus Shall Reign (v. 4)

Hymns of Grace

N^o 120

Postlude

*As you leave the sanctuary today, may you know the hope to which God has called you,
experience the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,
and trust his incomparably great power for us who believe.*

*Please help us love our community by recycling your unneeded bulletins as you leave.
A recycling bin is located by the door in the narthex.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship Lunch ▶ Our monthly Fellowship Lunch will be held in the fellowship hall following the worship service. All are invited!

Small Groups ▶ Small Groups will meet today following the Fellowship Lunch.



Women's Bible Study ▶ The Women's Bible Study meets weekly on Wednesdays at the church. The morning group meets at 9:30 and the evening group meets at 6:30. Both groups are discussing *Men and Women in the Church* by Kevin DeYoung. Contact Katie DeVries for more information.

Men's Prayer Group ▶ The Men's Prayer Group meets weekly on Thursdays at 6:00 A.M. at the church. Contact Ron Plate for more information.

A Special Welcome to Our Visitors

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ! Our prayer is that you will find great joy and spiritual nourishment as we worship together today.

- ❖ Welcome packets are available in the narthex. We encourage you to fill out a visitor's card and place it in the plate located in the narthex.
- ❖ Large print ESV Bibles are available near the bulletins.
- ❖ A cry room is available for infants and small children. The cry room is located adjacent to the narthex.

TRINITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH (PCA)

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MISSIONARIES

Austin Braasch RUF at Arkansas State; Jonesboro
Caring Hearts Pregnancy Center North Little Rock
Dan Anderson Central Hope Church; Little Rock
Del Farris MNA Ministry to State; Colorado
Michelle Hill Revive Our Hearts; Michigan
Mike and Eli Sabin MTW; Guam
Tom and Karen Mirabella MTW; Japan
Union Rescue Mission Little Rock



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