

Sunday September 2 through Sunday September 9

- Pastor Robert's sermon series that has broken down the Parable of the Sower ends today with Bearing Fruit and practicing love.
- UMYF will be meeting this evening at 5 pm.
- Boy Scouts will be meeting at 7 pm on Monday.
- Girl Scouts will be meeting at 7 pm on Tuesday.
- Prayer Team will be meeting on Wednesday at 6 pm.
- Fellowship Dinner is Wednesday at 6:30 pm.
- Choir Practice is canceled for Wednesday.
- Susanna Wesley/Wesleyan Circle will be meeting Thursday at 11.
- BABY SPURLOCK SHOWER is Saturday at 11 am in the Fellowship Hall.



This WEEK at Trinity

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Sunday September 2

10:00 am—10:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am—12:00 pm Morning Worship
5:00 pm—UMYF

Monday September 3

6:00—Garden Club
7:00 pm—Boy Scouts

Tuesday September 4

6:00 pm—Community Board Meeting
7:00 pm— Girl Scouts
7:00 pm—NOW Team

Wednesday September 5

6:00 pm—Prayer Team
6:30 pm—Fellowship Potluck Dinner
7:00 pm—Choir Practice (canceled)

Thursday September 6

11:00 am—Susanna Wesley/Wesleyan Circle

Friday September 7

9:00 am—MEOC

Saturday September 8

11:00 am—Baby Shower for Luke & Haley Spurlock

Sunday September 9

10:00 am—10:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am—12:00 pm Morning Worship
5:00 pm—UMYF

“The Kingdom of Heaven may be compared to...”

The image of the Kingdom of Heaven comes into view when we shift our focus from what we believe Heaven to be like to see the King, who is always more important than what and where. Jesus is the King (Who) of the Kingdom of Heaven. (What and Where?) To set our eyes upon the King let us first hear His Words. He taught us to repeat after him, “Thy “Kingdom” come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” The Kingdom of Heaven comes into our hearts and minds every time we live God’s “will.”

In today’s Parable we hear a sobering comparison to God’s Will! A man sows Good seed. We are told the seed is wheat. Since this is a parable we know that Jesus is talking about Himself. Jesus is the Son of Man. He is the King of the Kingdom of Heaven. (See the Parable explained in Matthew 14: 36-43.)

One way of experiencing His Kingship is to participate in Holy Communion. Here we encounter Him as Bread of Life. In the Lord’s Prayer Jesus taught us to ask for “Daily Bread.” Bread, a staple of physical life, is made of wheat. Through Holy Communion he fulfills the prayer. He took a loaf of bread, blessed it, broke it, saying; “This is my Body broken for you, take and eat.”

Returning to the parable we discover that someone had sown weed seed among the wheat. The servants were likely worried that the weeds would take over and ruin the harvest. (Isn’t this what we think and feel when our beliefs, doctrines, and traditions are challenged?) They asked if they should pull up the weeds. The sower said, “No, lest in gathering the weeds you up root the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until the harvest...” Yes, he is saying that the fruit of salvation grows in the presence of evil. This is God’s Will. The question is how do we keep our eyes on the King, not the evil?

In the Lord’s Prayer Jesus taught us to ask, “Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.” The “Daily Bread” is Jesus’ body broken for our sins. The Cup of Forgiveness takes our eyes off of the weeds/evil/sin. This is Jesus’ purpose for the New Covenant. His blood was poured out for the forgiveness of sins.

I teach that forgiving our neighbor has little to do with setting our neighbors free. Their freedom comes from God alone!!! Forgiving your neighbor for sowing weeds in your life sets you free from the tendency to let him or her be lord, king, of your life. When we focus on either our personal trespasses or those of our neighbors’ we soon find ourselves clothed in selfishness or enslaved to our neighbors thoughts, words, and deeds. This is how we so quickly fall from living the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. (See Matthew 7: 21-23.)

Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ calls us to wait. We are to wait for the harvest. Jesus is the Lord, King, of the Harvest. While we wait we live and grow in Christ with weeds all around us. While we wait we are called to do “Good Works.” The Good Works are to eat Daily Bread, and Drink the Cup of Forgiveness. These works turn belief into faith. Faith always gives us hope.

Our Hope in Christ never exempts us from experiencing broken hearts and troubled minds. Sitting our hearts and minds on Christ opens our eyes to see that Jesus suffered for our neighbor too. This is why Jesus tells us we not to judge our neighbor. Judgment that leads to condemnation is the temptation to pull the weeds and up root ourselves from the abundance of God’s fruitful grace.

Lord, “lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the KINGDOM...” While we wait for Heaven’s Harvest; Jesus, King of kings, opens our eyes to see your Kingdom coming even now as our suffering is swallowed by peace, joy, kindness and love. Amen.

One in Christ,

Robert