



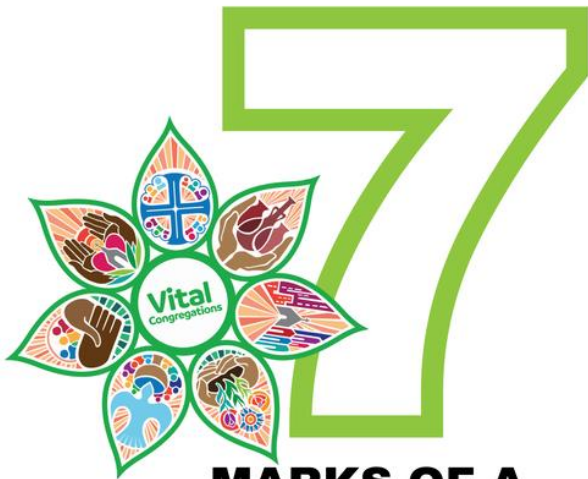
"A Community Of Many Faithing Communities Where All Belong!"

Living Waters Contemplative Life Center | Divine Intervention Ministry to the Homeless
Tippecanoe just.good.food Garden | Food Justice Site PCUSA
Arts and Science Literacy Camps for Children

Welcome To Worship

November 19, 2023

9:30 a.m.



MARKS OF A VITAL CONGREGATION



**OUTWARD
INCARNATIONAL FOCUS**



**EMPOWER SERVANT
LEADERSHIP**



**SPIRIT-INSPIRED
WORSHIP**



**LIFELONG DISCIPLESHIP
FORMATION**



**CARING
RELATIONSHIPS**



**INTENTIONAL
AUTHENTIC EVANGELISM**



**ECCLESIAL
HEALTH**



Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.

"Vitality in Community" Rev. Trish Eckert

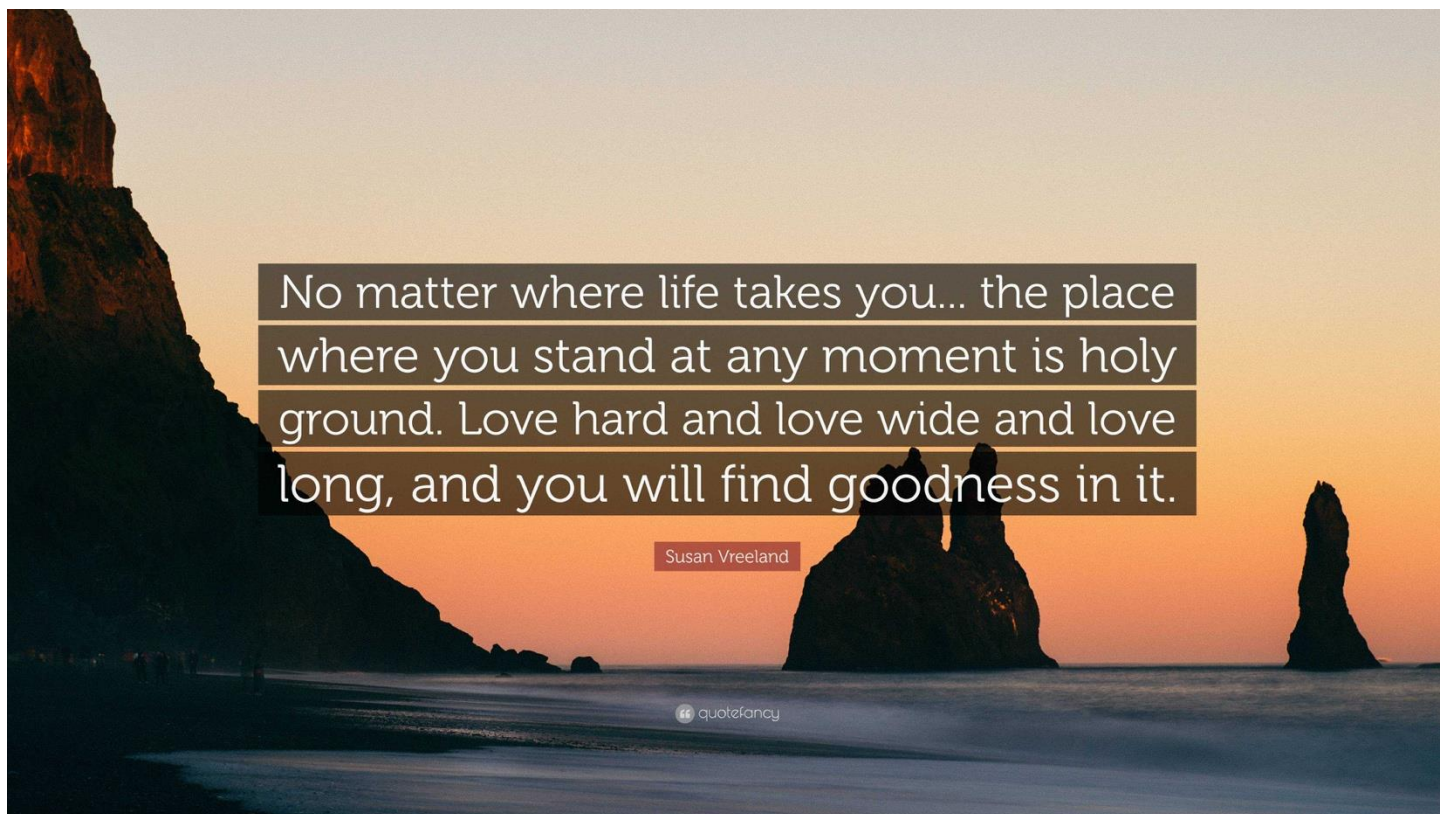
✧ **Prelude** *We Receive from Your Fullness* ~ Tippe Musicians

✧ **Welcome and community news**

- Sunday, November 19
 - Annual Congregational Meeting during worship today
 - Divine Intervention Orientation 4-5:30 pm today
- Sunday, November 26 – Hanging of the Greens immediately after worship
- Wednesday, November 29 – Amazing Faiths Dinner Dialogue 6 pm at Bay View United Methodist Church (you must register)
- Advent Sundays: Dec 3, 10, 17
- Christmas Eve, Sunday Dec 24
 - 10 am morning service at Grace Presbyterian – all of Tippe is invited
 - 4 pm Christmas Eve service at Tippe

✧ **Readying Ourselves for Worship**

Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!
Surely God is in this place,
Holy Ground!



✧ **A Blessing as we Center Ourselves in this Moment**

A Blessing Called Sanctuary ~ Jan Richardson

You hardly knew
how hungry you were
to be gathered in,
to receive the welcome
that invited you to enter
entirely—

nothing of you
found foreign or strange,
nothing of your life
that you were asked
to leave behind
or to carry in silence
or in shame.

Tentative steps
became settling in,
leaning into the blessing
that enfolded you,
taking your place
in the circle
that stunned you
with its unimagined grace.

You began to breathe again,
to move without fear,
to speak with abandon
the words you carried
in your bones,
that echoed in your being.

You learned to sing.

But the deal with this blessing
is that it will not leave you alone,
will not let you linger
in safety,
in stasis.

The time will come
when this blessing
will ask you to leave,
not because it has tired of you
but because it desires for you
to become the sanctuary
that you have found—
to speak your word
into the world,
to tell what you have heard
with your own ears,
seen with your own eyes,
known in your own heart:

that you are beloved,
precious child of God,
beautiful to behold,*
and you are welcome
and more than welcome
here.

—Jan Richardson from *Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons*
© Jan Richardson. janrichardson.com

✧ **Becoming Present to God and Each Other - Our Check-in**

~ The Joy of Passing the Peace ~

One: May the peace that surpasses all understanding be with you

All: And also with you

One: Thanks be to God

✧ **Time for Young Hearts *Caring for one another***

✧Gathering as God's People: Vitality in Community

Over the past month, we've explored how generosity impacts our relationships to self, God, and other, the ways it can shape our actions, and informs our faith. Now, as we prepare to review the proposed 2024 budget for Tippe, we also consider the ways we are called into ministry, how we support one another in community, and how we share our resources with those in need.

The generosity of Tippe and our partners in ministry is evident in the many ways we all come together and share our gifts and skills, our finances, and our time and energy. While reflecting on generosity, let us be mindful of the ways that Tippe responds to the call of our missions. Divine Intervention, Tippe gardens, and our Arts and Science Literacy Program minister to those seeking sustenance, shelter, care, and connection. These ministries are vibrant and vital. They illustrate the ways we show up in the world and we ourselves are transformed in the process.

The Presbytery describes seven different ways of showing up that are considered "marks of a vital congregation." As we enter worship and our annual meeting, I invite us to think deeply about the ways Tippe engages in these marks:

Lifelong Discipleship
Intentional Authentic Evangelism
Outward Incarnational Focus
Empowered Servant Leadership
Spirit-Inspired Worship
Caring Relationships
Ecclesial Health

✧Gathering Hymn *We are an Offering* 146

✧Opening Ourselves to God's Grace

**ALL: God, who is sovereign and loving to us all,
open our hearts and minds as we seek your wisdom and guidance.
Help us see the value in welcoming the stranger, loving our neighbor,
and seeing people the way you do.**

**God, help us shift from being centered in our fear
and open us up to the beauty of radical welcome.**

**And even when the task at hand gets difficult,
give us the strength to push past the discomfort
so that we may know more fully
the bountiful blessings of beloved community. Amen.**

✧Sharing our Innermost Lives with God

God of the chaos — In the confines of a binary and calcified world, grant us the courage to embrace nuance in ourselves and others, awaken humility that manifests generosity toward things we do not understand, unleash the creativity of our souls that expands our experience of you, and strengthen our resolve to persevere through the messiness of seeking justice in the world. This we pray. Amen.

✧ **Special Music *We are Called to Serve*** (Julie and Tim Smith) ~ Tippe Musicians

✧ **Prayer of Intention**

Holy Spirit, may we hear your precious Word for us today. May we grow in wisdom, strength, and love as we open our ears, our minds, and our hearts to the transformative message you have in store for each of us. Amen.

✧ **Bible Wisdom Teachings –
Deuteronomy 8:7-18**

⁷ For God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, ⁸ a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive oil and honey, ⁹ a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. ¹⁰ You shall eat your fill and bless God for the good land given to you.

¹¹ “Take care that you do not forget the God by failing to keep God’s commandments, ordinances, and statutes that I am commanding you today. ¹² When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them ¹³ and when your herds and flocks have multiplied and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴ then do not exalt yourself, forgetting God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, ¹⁵ who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. God made water flow for you from flint rock. ¹⁶ God fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you and in the end to do you good. ¹⁷ Do not say to yourself, ‘My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth.’ ¹⁸ But remember your God, for it is God who gives you power to get wealth, so that God may confirm the covenant sworn to your ancestors, just as God is doing today.



2 Corinthians 9: 6-15


6 The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. 9 As it is written,

“They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;
Their righteousness endures forever.”

10 Those who supply seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. 11 You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us, 12 for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. 13 Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your partnership with them and with all others, 14 while they long for you and pray for you because of God’s surpassing grace given to you. 15 Thanks be to God for God’s indescribable gift!

One: May we hear anew the origin stories of our faith and draw from the roots of our tradition.

All: **Thanks be to our God.**



Don't judge each day
by the harvest you reap
but by the seeds that you plant.

— Robert Louis Stevenson

❖ **A Meditation**

✧ **Congregational Meeting: *Vitality in Community***
Review Proposed 2024 Budget

The budget is established by Session on behalf of the Congregation, as directed by the Book of Order (G-3.0205). The Session shall prepare and adopt a budget and determine the distribution of the Congregation's benevolence. It shall authorize offerings for Christian purposes and shall account for the proceeds of such offerings and their disbursement. It shall provide full information to the Congregation concerning its decisions on such matters.



Photo by Ian Schneider via Unsplash

Time for discussion ~
Questions and Answers

- Allowing space for quiet reflection
- Sharing our wisdom

✧ **Our gifts of support**

Generous God, there is nothing we have that you have not given to us. All we have and all we are flow from your abundant love. Give us generous hearts and open hands to give freely so that our habits, our lives and our attitudes reflect your love. Through our generosity, may others come to know that your lavish love is for them and for all. And then may the whole world sing in praise and joy. Amen.



✦ Hymn *Go Make a Difference*

Steve Angrisano/Tom Tomaszek
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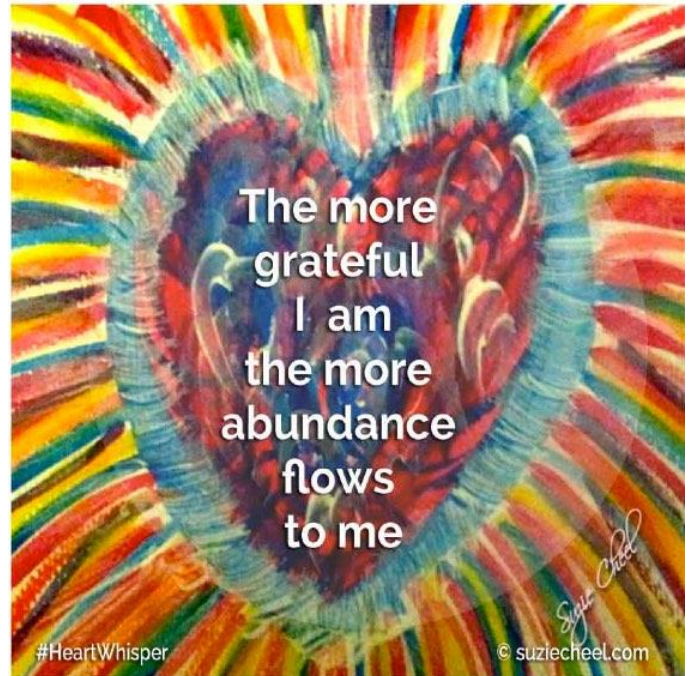
Refrain

Go make a difference.
We can make a difference.
Go make a difference in the world.
Go make a difference.
We can make a difference.
Go make a difference in the world.

1. We are the salt of the earth,
called to let the people see
the love of God in you and me.
We are the light of the world,
not to be hidden but be seen.
Go make a difference in the world.

2. We are the hands of Christ
reaching out to those in need,
the face of God for all to see.
We are the spirit of hope;
we are the voice of peace.
Go make a difference in the world.

3. So let your love shine on,
let it shine for all to see.
Go make a difference in the world.
And the spirit of Christ
will be with us as we go.
Go make a difference in the world.



✧Community Prayers & the Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**ALL: O Thou, The Breathing Life of all,
In the roar and whisper, in the breeze and the whirlwind,
we hear your name.**

**Help us let go, clear the space inside,
Creating a holy place within for your light to shine.**

**Unite our "I can" to yours,
So that we walk as kings and queens with every creature.**

**Your heart's fervent desire then acts with ours.
As in all sound and light, so in all creatures on the earth.**

**Give us the food we need to grow through each new day.
Produce in us the wisdom and understanding we need
at each new stage of our lives.**

**Help us to let go of our past, the hidden guilt of our failures,
Just as we consistently release others of the knots of their guilt.**

**Let us not become lost in busyness,
in the surface appearance of things.
But free us from what holds us back.**

**May abundance, fertile power, and glorious harmony return
again and again, in each new age.**

May this be the ground from which all our actions grow. Amen.

Aramaic Lord's Prayer: (Transliteration from the Syriac-Aramaic version by Neil Douglas-Klotz,
personalized by Virginia Melroy.)

✧Benediction

We go in faith and joy to tell the good news of God's unconditional love for all people.

God calls us to be in covenant relationships and covenant ministries:
To love and care, to share and clothe, to feed and nurture, to counsel and teach,
to be committed to the health and well-being of our communities.

We are called to be the living church in the world.
The Church is the body of Christ, beyond these walls.
In places where people are gathered or scattered, we go. Amen.

Excerpted from "Litany for Urban Ministry" by Rev. Dr. Delores Carpenter, adapt. from African
American Heritage Hymnal (Chicago, Illinois: GIA Publications, 2001)

Now that the worship has ended, may the service truly begin.

✧ **Our Response:**

Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your Word lives on in us.

✧ **Postlude *Come With Me Into the Fields* ~ Tippe Musicians**

