



Volume 8, Issue 6
2023
JUNE

The Trinity Times

May we never forget
freedom isn't free....

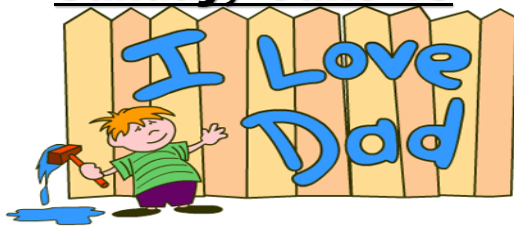


(with deepest gratitude to those
who paid the ultimate price)

FLAG DAY - Tuesday, June 14th

Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777 by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. The United States Army also celebrates the U.S. Army birthday on this date; Congress adopted "the American continental army" after reaching a consensus position in the Committee of the Whole on June 14, 1775.

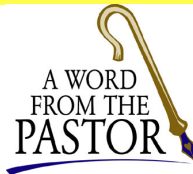
Sunday, June 18



Mark Your Calendars...



- May 28 - Pentecost Sunday
- June 4 - Worship & Holy Communion
- June 7 - Staff Parish via Zoom - 7:00 pm
- June 8 - Worship Committee via Zoom - 7 pm
- June 12 - Ad Board via Zoom - 7 pm
- June 18 - Father's Day
- June 25 - Our organist's retirement reception following the 9:15 Worship Service.
- June 30 - Trip to Longwood Gardens
(See Pastor Jessica for details.)



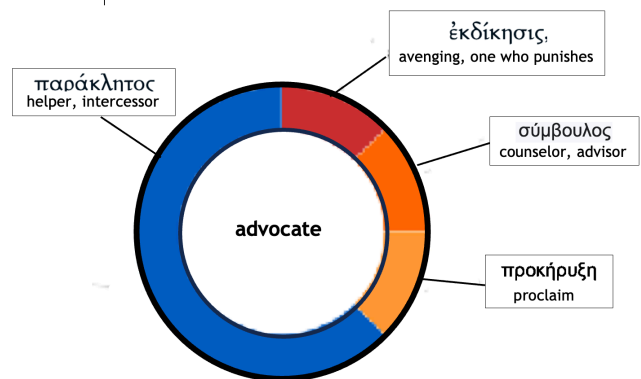
Hello Trinity

When I think of June, I think of the approaching of summer, Flag Day, a time for family vacations, and neighborhood celebrations. In short, it's the start of the summer activities we all enjoy.

According to our Church Calendar, we are now entering the season of Pentecost. And since we are celebrating... let us celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit into our lives! Jesus said In John 14: 16-17...

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you."

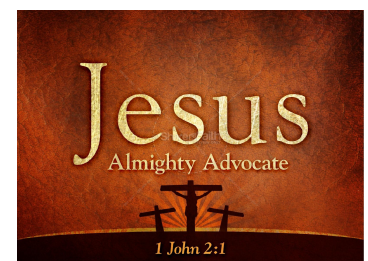
So, 'What do we have to Celebrate?' We celebrate the helper, intercessor, counselor, avenger and proclaimer of our faith. Within the circle, avenging means vindication.



Advocate means encourager and mediator. Jesus is our Counselor and the one who intercedes on our behalf before the Father. We can learn all about Jesus as our Counselor, our Comforter, and our Advocate in 1 John 2:1.

Now this is what I call something to celebrate!

Pastor Jessica



Date

June Liturgists

June 4 Barb Querry
 June 11 Dea Kishpaugh
 June 18 Phyllis Carter
 June 25 Rev. Dr. John Carter

If you are unable to serve as liturgist, please call... 717-838-2812.



TRINITY MISSIONS

...at home and around the world



May Missions & Ministries

Mother's Day on May 14 again featured live plants on the altar that were given to women who were present at the in-person worship service. Food items collected in the parlor basket were taken to LCCM and Pastor Jessica thanks Barb Querry for assisting at the May 21st service at American House and Mary Gruber who baked cupcakes for all those in attendance at the service. Sally DeJesus and the Sunday morning craft group are busily preparing 1500 items for distribution to the Lebanon School District staff. Mission Coordinator, Dea Kishpaugh announced that we will again "Stuff-the-Bus" as a July mission project. Kitty Fair continues collecting and preparing *Redner's Receipts* for submission as a part of their 1% Save-A-Tape" program. Our thanks for the generous support and work for Trinity's missions and ministries!

Reception for Our Retiring Organist



On June 25th following the 9:15 worship service, we will have a reception in the parlor for our retiring organist, Caroline Jacobs. Please be sure to say goodbye and wish her well in her retirement. We thank her for 16 years of devoted service to our Trinity congregation.



June 6	Keith Earle
June 8	Mark Umberger
June 11	Mary Gruber
June 15	Lisa Geist
June 19	Kevin Long
June 28	George Hollich

a godly Father is:



Faithful, to God and family.
Able, to discern God's will in trying times and good times.
Thankful, for all the joys and trials of life.
Happy, no matter what the life brings.
Enthusiastic, about a life lived with purpose.
Righteous, rock-solid in heart and mind, from a growing relationship with Jesus.

Trinity Directory Update



We continually receive information (updates, additions, and corrections) from those who are a part of Trinity with their presence, gifts, and/or service. A directory with updates received since last July will be part of the July newsletter and hard copies available at the church. If you would like any of your information changed before the "new" directory is printed at the end of June, please call Church Secretary, Deb Forry at the church (717-273-1970). Thanks!

*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*



<i>The Allwein family</i>	<i>The Baron family</i>
<i>Vera Brumbaugh</i>	<i>Jill Brickley</i>
<i>Brossman family</i>	<i>Penny Brown</i>
<i>The Clark Family</i>	<i>Joyce Dissinger</i>
<i>Gail Emerich</i>	<i>Kitty & Elmer Fair</i>
<i>Joan Groff</i>	<i>Kim Hollich</i>
<i>The Jacobs family</i>	<i>Wilson Justiniano</i>
<i>The Kirby Family</i>	<i>Tom Leahy</i>
<i>Katie Marchak</i>	<i>Steve Miller & family</i>
<i>Karen & Bob Neblock</i>	<i>Linda Perini</i>
<i>Alissa Plant</i>	<i>Sue & Gary Robson</i>
<i>Pastor Jessica & family</i>	<i>Marie Smith</i>
<i>Marilyn Smith</i>	<i>Snyder family</i>
<i>Pat Swartz</i>	<i>Reba Sterner family</i>
<i>Brandi Tamayo</i>	<i>Joyce Twigg</i>
<i>Tahlia Valdez</i>	<i>Judith Wentzel</i>
<i>Bill Weik Family</i>	<i>Wire family</i>
<i>Carol Yeagley</i>	<i>Dave Wease & family</i>
<i>George Wilkins family</i>	<i>Walt & Kathy Zehring</i>

*Traveling mercies for all those on the road
Our Church, Community, Country, and World
Families & recovering victims of crime & abuse
All who are sick & shut in & their caretakers
All those devastated by natural disasters
Issues surrounding Turkey & the Ukraine
Our men and women in uniform*

VOLUNTEER
all that's missing is U!

From the Rachel Circle...

The Rachel Circle after many months finally returns to in-person meetings on Mondays at 1:30 pm in the parlor at church. Hooray!



On Mondy June 12th we will be discussing *Experiencing the Spirit*, by Henry & Melvin Blackaby. All are welcome to come and enjoy, fun, fellowship, and great discussion. For more information contact, Marilyn Smith. Thanks and see you on June 12th!

Prayer for Our Church

Dear Lord,

We pray for our church family and all of those on our sick and shut-in list. Grant them healing, mercy, and grace. We pray for all who are suffering and pray for your Holy intervention into every situation that needs your loving, guiding, comforting hand. O Lord, help us to continue to magnify your name with gladness and praise you in all that we do.

We humbly pray for not just our church to grow, but for the growth of the body of Christ universal. Bless us O Lord, that we may shine your light so that others may see you clearly and follow you in the way we should go. In the Name of Jesus the Christ our Lord and Savior We Pray. Amen.



A Prayer for Growth

Dear Lord,

We praise your Holy Name. Because you live, we also shall live. As we look at the wondrous creations you have given us, may it renew our hearts. May we grow in love and holiness of heart. May we grow in love for you. We pray for growth that increases our faith, increases our giving, and increases our ministry to the least and the lost.

As we travel together at Trinity, we pray for those among us who are in need of healing, strength, and love. We pray for our community, that we are not just physically present but mission focused and spiritually centered in you. Lord we present our need for your ever present help. Equip us to grow in you and guide our hearts as we endeavor to meet the needs of our community, our conference and our world.

We pray for our country. Thank you, Lord, that we have the freedom to worship you freely. We pray for an end to fear, violence, and oppression. Equip us to share the Good News to all we meet. For we know Lord, that you did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power, of love, and a sound mind. 2 Tim. 1:7. In Jesus the Christ's Holy Name we pray. Amen.



At the Laity Session, Conference Lay Leader, Bill Thompson opened with prayer and a message. George spoke on the *Christ Servant Ministry* program and introduced Judy Ehninger, the director of the *Certified Lay Minister* program. She introduced 4 new CLMs. (CLMs are those Laity who have done additional training and are now being called upon to fill pulpits around the conference.)

Our main speaker was Mike Nelson, a 34-year-old pastor who works with youth. He said we need to have our churches be “safe” places where young people can come. It is here that we can get to know them and show that we care, teach them the Gospel, and help them grow in Christ so that they in turn can minister to other youth. His suggestion to those churches without youth ministry programs was to seek out and combine with other churches and have one strong youth ministry program.

We then heard about the Lay Academy that will be held at Eastern University on August 4th and 5th. There will be a basic course for those interested in being Christ Servant Ministers and many other courses from which to pick. We then heard about how the Deaconesses and Home Missioners programs are serving the church in justice issues. We also heard from United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women & now celebrating their 154th year) who continue to seek to turn faith, hope, and love into action. A Lifetime



Achievement Award was presented to the widow of Clifton Hubbard who passed away during COVID after years of devoted service to his church, District and Conference.

The afternoon combined session started with the Episcopal Address from Bishop Schol. His main point was that we need to welcome all people into our churches -- not just the ones who look like us! He urged us to get involved in the community, end racism, grow our youth ministry, and seek resolution to the issues that divide us and drain our time and resources. “Other people matter just like you”. He praised God for the Christ-likeness of the United Methodists of Eastern Pennsylvania who led people through the pandemic, were innovative in their leadership and continued to serve in very challenging times. He said, “I see great possibility in our future and our greatest possibility is through our congregations.” The Bishop then moved away from his traditional legislative seat and had a chair placed in center stage and had a conversation with the conference attendees. He encouraged us to ask questions and share our concerns while he sat and listened.



In addition to recognizing Clergy Retirees, a Memorial Service, and Ordination there were many resolutions discussed and passed including a leadership nominations report, equitable compensation for clergy, support for EPA Advance Special local mission projects, a modified Safe Sanctuaries policy that now extends to vulnerable adults, updates in the clergy pension program, the disaffiliation of five congregations and the discontinuance of six congregations.

A new Strategic Direction was presented that outlined the conference’s goals and pathway to increase vitality and effectiveness among its congregations and church leadership was discussed and approved. It included a collaborative affiliation between the United Methodists of Eastern Pennsylvania and Greater New Jersey and focused on growing transformational leaders, making disciples, growing vital mission congregations and transforming mission in our communities and around the world. While the proposal passed by a wide margin, the introduction of the strategic direction, new budget format and collaboration with Greater New Jersey created disruption for a number of delegates who were concerned about too much change without a full understanding of the plans and process. The Extended Cabinet and the Connectional Table pledged to continue to work with more laity and clergy to better understand their concerns and slow the pace of change.



With little time left for legislation surrounding the Conference Budget, it was decided to have another Conference meeting to finish discussing and voting on the budget as well as on any other legislative items that might be deemed appropriate. An email will be sent to all delegates to determine whether the session will be conducted in-person or on Zoom. A more detailed copy of my conference notes can be had upon request or picked up from the sharing table in the narthex. Also, a brief video of some EPA Annual Conference highlights and produced by EPA’s video producer Corbin Payne can be viewed at... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tebFR2mc8cA>.

Adult Sunday School – June



We begin the theme of the Summer Quarter, ***The Righteous Reign of God***, with a series of lessons entitled ***The Prophets Proclaim God's Power***. Scientific discoveries continue to reveal the nature, expanse, and power of our universe. As a result, many are left struggling to understand the relationship that God has with his creation. The expanse of creation gives us a hint at the power and expanse of its Creator. One way that Scripture describes the relationship between God and his creation is in terms of the relationship between a king and his kingdom. God is king! And the entire created order is under his rule. This month we explore God's rule, his kingdom, and the response of his people as revealed in the Old Testament prophets with the following lessons...

June 4

God Reigns

Isaiah 52:7–12

June 11

God's Kingdom of Peace

Isaiah 65:17–25

June 18

God's Servant-King

Ezekiel 37:21–28

This quarter of lessons highlights the righteous rule of God. His kingdom and his rule are in contrast to the temporary rule of earthly monarchs and their kingdoms. Although earthly rulers can be weak or strong, selfish or benevolent, unwise or wise, God's rule over all creation—Heaven and earth—is totally and completely righteous. God is the all-powerful king. He is not devious to gain power, because he has all the power. He is not desperate to retain power, for it cannot be taken from him. He is righteous and just. All people—then and now—are invited to enter into his righteous ruled heavenly throne. From that throne, the Lord would establish an eternal kingdom of justice.

Isaiah's message envisioned a messenger who proclaimed the good news: "Your God reigns!". Isaiah further described the kingdom as a time in the future when the Lord would establish his rule over a new heavens and a new earth. His rule would be a place where sorrow and need are no more and where harmony will be found in all places of the kingdom. The king's power will be on display in his kingdom, a place of peace where "the wolf and the lamb will feed together" (Isaiah 11:6).

The interpretation of this passage assumes it refers to Jesus' work during His time on earth. We should not think of the wolf and lamb as literal animals, but instead, we need to see the wolf as an aggressive enemy next to the vulnerable (lamb) and think about teachings and illustrations in the New Testament. Jesus uses the wolf-lamb analogy to compare the wolf-like tendencies of some individuals next to His disciples. Paul, too, says, "I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock". Without the Lord's touch on the hearts of people, some individuals will act as wolves when near God's people. The two, wolves and lambs, never calmly settle down next to the other, but Jesus radically transforms relationships. Because of the gospel, natural enemies will become lovingly committed to each other.



The prophet Isaiah lived through the Assyrian crisis, and began his prophetic ministry in about 740 BC in Jerusalem. He foresaw the coming oppression by Babylon and a time when the land of Israel would be largely emptied of its people. Even so, he offered hope for a future when "the Lord comforts his people and will have compassion on his afflicted ones". Isaiah saw a future that would involve more than a restoration of peace. He spoke of the final restoration of humanity, when "[the Lord] will make her deserts like Eden, her wastelands like the garden of the Lord". As the passing of some seven centuries would reveal, that restoration would come through Jesus the Christ, the Son of the living God. Join us in June as we discuss ***The Prophets Proclaim God's Power***.

June 4

1. The feet that bring good tidings are called what? (beautiful, joyous, holy) *Isaiah 52:7*
2. Jerusalem is commanded to sing to God even though he has not yet redeemed it. T/F. *Isaiah 52:9*

June 11

1. God promises to create new heavens and a new _____ . *Isaiah 65:17*
2. The lion and the lamb will "feed together" on God's holy mountain. T/F. *Isaiah 65:25*

June 18

1. The Lord promised that David would serve in what role? (prophet, priest, king) *Ezekiel 37:24*
2. The Lord's covenant of peace will be an _____ "covenant." *Ezekiel 37:26*

June 25

1. Zion can rejoice because the Lord has taken away _____ . *Zephaniah 3:15*
2. The Lord will show joy by doing what? (singing, dancing, both) *Zephaniah 3:17*

InterLink

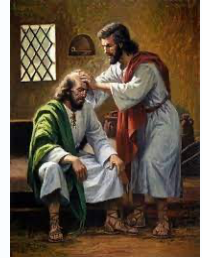
Saul of Tarsus

Sunday School Handout – May 28, 2023

(Thoughts to consider in the upcoming week.)

Study Text: Acts 9:1–31

KEY VERSE: *Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit. —Acts 9:17*



"I Once Was Blind ..."

John Newton was an 18th century Englishman who served as captain for ships that transported captured Africans to North America as slaves. The horrendous nature of that occupation included not only the acceptance of slavery but also the imposition of the inhuman conditions on the ships. To do this, one needed a callous soul. In 1748, Newton was in a terrifying storm in a ship off the coast of Ireland. Fearing for his life, he began praying in a way that led to his conversion to Christ, eventually becoming a minister in 1764. He began writing about his faith, and in 1772 published the words to "Amazing Grace," an account of how God had "saved a wretch like me." One of the most memorable lines in the hymn is "[I] was blind, but now I see." While this phrase is drawn from the story of Jesus' healing of the blind man in John 9:25, it also fits the story of Saul in Damascus.

Responsive? Hiding? Fleeing?

When my youngest was a teenager, he would hide whenever some chore needed to be done. It didn't matter if it was cleaning his room, doing the dishes, or pulling weeds—I would call his name and get cricket chirps in return. My oldest son, however, was quite the opposite. More often than not, whenever I called his name, he would answer. And even though he really didn't want to do those chores, he would come running when I called him. It was responsiveness, plain and simple. The Scriptures describe varying responses to calls from the Lord. The responses recorded in Exodus 4:13; 1 Samuel 10:21–22; Isaiah 6:8; Jonah 1:3; 2:14; Luke 1:34, 38, 46–55; and Acts 10:7–8 are quite instructive when compared and contrasted in their respective contexts. The Scriptures also tell of individuals who claimed to be obeying a call from the Lord when no such call existed; see Numbers 12:2; Jeremiah 14:14–16; 23:25–26; and Ezekiel 13 as examples. Let's make clear at this point that there are two categories of callings by the Lord. First, there are the high-profile callings of specific individuals to specific tasks and then there are the general callings given to all Christians; My child who hid from either kind of "calling" in a family-household sense always ended up with unwanted consequences for doing so. Similarly, it's easier (and better) in the long run to obey the Lord than it is to disobey. Before concerning yourself with any specific calling you may be sensing from the Lord, how responsive are you to the general callings all Christians receive?

Heads Up!

One of our favorite pastimes when we were young was tossing a Frisbee while at the beach. The sea breeze was often strong enough to carry the plastic disc far afield from its intended destination. And there were usually so many people at the beach that the disc would sooner or later strike an unsuspecting beachgoer. It was not unusual to hear "Heads up!" shouted throughout the game. Some bystanders would hear and react appropriately. Others would turn around in confusion and look for the source of the warning first—and such bystanders would be the ones to experience an unwanted Frisbee to the head! Surely Ananias didn't presume that the Lord lacked knowledge about Saul! But providentially, the Lord did not see fit to "throw a Frisbee" at Ananias's head. Instead, the Lord patiently provided an explanation that should have been unnecessary for Ananias's obedience. The same may not be the case regarding you or me the next time we hesitate to obey. When God calls on you, will your obedience depend on receiving an answer you deem satisfactory, or will you obey without question?

Thoughts to Consider

1. *Do you practice fasting as a spiritual discipline?*
2. *How do you express your availability for God's unexpected ministry opportunities?*
3. *When have you been part of God's answer to someone else's prayers?*

Saul of Tarsus

Lesson 13, Acts 9:9-17, NIV

Before and After

Look at the Scripture references below and write the summary sentence in the space provided. Talk through your responses in your group.

Scripture	What Saul Was Like
Acts 9:1-2	
Acts 9:20-22	

Here's how I know how deeply Saul's world was shaken.

Here's how I know how Saul embraced Jesus.

Called to Suffering

What unusual promise about Saul's/Paul's future ministry did God make to Ananias in Acts 9:16?

Read 2 Corinthians 6:3-10; 11:23-29. In your group, make a list of the ways Paul described how this promise came true.

Trinity United Methodist Church

757 Willow Street, Lebanon, Pa. 17046

Where "Faith, Hope and Love abide to encourage all to respond to the call of Christ."

Pentecost Sunday - May 28, 2023

(The service begins at 9:15 with the fellowship area opening at 9:00.)

To be a part of 9:15 worship on the computer go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82702149692>
or join by phone by dialing 1-646-876-9923 and entering 827 0214 9692 when prompted.

The flowers on the altar are in memory of Judy Allwein by Jim & Betsy Allwein

Gathering Music

Prelude

Veni Creator Spiritus - Smith

Organist: Caroline Jacobs

Welcome & Announcements

Liturgist: Keith Earle

Call to Worship

Psalm 104: 24-35

Hymnal #827

L: O Lord, how manifold are your works!

P: In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

L: Yonder is the sea, great and wide;

P: creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

L: There go the ships and Leviathan whom you formed to play in it.

P: These all look to you to give them their food in due season;

L: when you give to them, they gather it;

P: when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

L: When you hide your face, they are dismayed;

**P: when you take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.**

L: When you send forth your spirit, they are created,

P: and you renew the face of the ground.

L: May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works,

P: who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke!

L: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;

P: I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

L: May my meditation be pleasing to the Lord in whom I rejoice.

P: Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more!

L: Bless the Lord, O my soul!

P: Praise the Lord!



Hymn #500

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart; wean it from earth; through all its pulses move.

Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art, and make me love Thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies, no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies; but take the dimness of my soul away.

Hast thou not bid us love you, God and King, all, all thine own soul, heart and strength and mind?
I see thy cross there teach my heart to cling. O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh; Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh; Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love, one holy passion filling all my frame;
The kindling of the heaven-descended Dove, my heart an altar, and Thy love the flame.

Opening Prayer

UMH 542

God of grace, you sent the promised gift of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and the women, upon Mary the mother of Jesus and upon his brothers. Fill your church with power, kindle flaming hearts within us, and cause us to proclaim your mighty works in every tongue, that all may call on you and be saved through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

New Testament Reading

Acts 2: 1-21

page 119

New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13

page 174

Gospel Reading

John 7: 37-39

page 100

Special Music

Clarinet Solo

Grant Jacobs

Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

Hymn # 347

Spirit Song

O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love;
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul
O let him have the things that hold you, and his Spirit, like a dove,
Will descend upon your life and make you whole

Refrain: *Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs*

Oh, come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts are filled with joy
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name
Oh, give him all your tears and sadness, give him all your years of pain,
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name **(Refrain)**



**All of them were
filled with
the Holy Spirit!**
Acts 2.4

Sermon

The Gift of the Spirit

Pastor Jessica Ross

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Pastor Jessica Ross

Hymn #404

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Refrain: *Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.
Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray*

Verse 1 Upon the mountain, my Lord spoke, out His mouth came fire and smoke.
All around me, looks so shine, ask my Lord if all was mine. **(Refrain)**

Verse 2 Jordan River runs right cold, chills the body, but not the soul.
Ain't but one train on this track. Runs to heaven and right back. **(Refrain)**

Benediction

Benediction Response

America, America

*America! America! God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.*

Postlude

Fantasia On "America" - Broughton

Organist: Caroline Jacobs



Saul of Tarsus

Acts 9: 9-17