



JULY 5, 2020

5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Pastoral Welcome

Thought for the Day:

We have freedom to the degree that the master whom we obey grants it to us in return for our obedience. We do well to choose a master in terms of how much freedom we get for how much obedience.

To obey the law of the land leaves us our constitutional freedom, but not the freedom to follow our own consciences wherever they lead.

To obey the dictates of our own consciences leaves us freedom from the sense of moral guilt, but not the freedom to gratify our own strongest appetites.

To obey our strongest appetites for drink, sex, power, revenge, or whatever leaves us the freedom of an animal to take what we want when we want it, but not the freedom of a human being to be human.

The old prayer speaks of God "in whose service is perfect freedom." The paradox is not as opaque as it sounds. It means that to obey Love itself, which above all else wishes us well, leaves us the freedom to be the best and gladdest that we have it in us to become. The only freedom Love denies us is the freedom to destroy ourselves ultimately.

~ Frederick Buechner originally published in *Wishful Thinking* and later in *Beyond Words*

Call to Worship:

Leader: Thank you, God, for setting us free through the gift of your Son.

People: We praise you for the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Leader: Thank you, God, for the freedom we enjoy.

People: We praise you that no matter what, we can be freed and forgiven by Christ.

Leader: Thank you, God, for this time of worship.

People: Come and set our hearts on fire as we praise you for our ultimate freedom, won not through war but on a cross where our Savior died, only to rise again.

Song: *O God of Every Nation* – v. 1, 2 & 4 (music at end of bulletin)

Our Confession:

We confess to you, God of all nations, that we and our country have not lived up to your ideals for your reign. We have not cared for all people. We have not shared the resources of food, wisdom, health care and education with equity. We have not cared for the outsider and the stranger in our midst. We have allowed bullying, domestic abuse, racism, classism, sexism, heterosexism and all the other forms of division, prejudice and inequity to go on unabated. We have encouraged competition rather than cooperation, power over love, revenge over mercy. We have desired to be seen as the example of freedom and justice, and yet too often we have fostered oppression and injustice. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience in your ways — freedom that is open and generous, cooperative and reconciling, freedom that leads to your reign, O God of all the nations. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Words of Assurance: God hears our cries and covers our sins with mercy. Go to live the freedom that brings in God's reign.

Song: *Peace* (music at end of bulletin)

The Lessons: *Zechariah 9:9-12*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the warhorse from Jerusalem;
and the battle-bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30

‘But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,

“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.”

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, “He has a demon”; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, “Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!” Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.’

At that time Jesus said, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’

Message: Are We Truly Free?

Message Response: Justice Means – v. 1, 4, 6 & 8 (music at end of bulletin)

The Prayers of the Church

The Lord’s Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Sending Out:

Let freedom ring from our hearts and our lives! We have been saved. We have been forgiven. We have been set free to enjoy this life God has given us. May God help us use our freedom to help set others free. Thanks be to God.

All: Amen

The Sending Song: This is My Song (music at end of bulletin)

The Dismissal:

L: Go in peace, serve the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

OUR *Welcome* IS WIDE OPEN

Skeptic. Cynic. Certain. Believer. Confident. Fearful. Doubter. Seeker. Questioner.
Latino. Black. Asian. White. Indigenous. Immigrant. Any combination of ethnic or
racial identities. Female. Male. Straight. Gay. Bisexual. Transgender. Questioning.
Rich. Poor. Middle-class. Barely making it. Able bodied. Specially abled. Disabled.
Young. Old. In-between. Married. Single. Divorced. Awaiting trial. Served time.
On probation. Tired. Worn. Hopeful. Employed. Unemployed. Workaholic. Slacker.
Anxious. Depressed. Confused. Centered. Inked. Pierced. Both. Life long follower
of Jesus. Regular attendee. Occasional attendee. Curious onlooker. Don't quite fit the box.
Need a prayer right now. **Trinity is a faith community where we believe
in God's love, grace and mercy—illustrated most clearly through Jesus
Christ. We believe we are all children of God, created in God's image
and equal in God's sight. We believe God loves us just as we are and
way too much to let us stay this way. We are called to live in God's light
and be transformed, not through judgment but through unconditional love.
We believe God's love is all-inclusive and is stronger than the pressure
to be perfect regardless of whatever labels we carry. Saint. Sinner. Democrat.
Republican. Independent. Libertarian. Green. Socialist. Apolitical. Addicted. Recovering.
We don't care what religion or denomination you are. We are all Human. We are all Flawed.
We are all Beloved. —You are welcome here.**

COME *as you are.*

TRINITY CONGREGATION WELCOME STATEMENT | MARCH 2017



O God of Every Nation

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1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
 3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc-tion through the night,
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind-ness to your way,
 when hope and cour-age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;
 till dawns the morn-ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,

in love and mer-cy guide us and heal our strife-torn world.
 de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter-nal God, we pray.
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser-vants un - der - gird.
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923

Music: Welsh tune, 19th cent.

Text © 1958, ren. 1986 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company

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Peace

Peace is what we're ask-ing for. Peace is what we need.

Peace is what we're work-ing toward. With God's

help the world will one day live in peace.

Peace brings hap-pi-ness and har-mon-y.

God we're pray-ing for an end to war.

Peace takes cour-age and hu-mil-i-ty.

Spir-it knock down walls and o-pen doors.

The peace we're long-ing for won't come eas-i-ly.

O God we're cry-ing out come and heal our land.

Spir-it help us do our part. Peace is what we're

Spir-it help us do our part.

ask-ing for. Peace is what we need. Peace is what we're

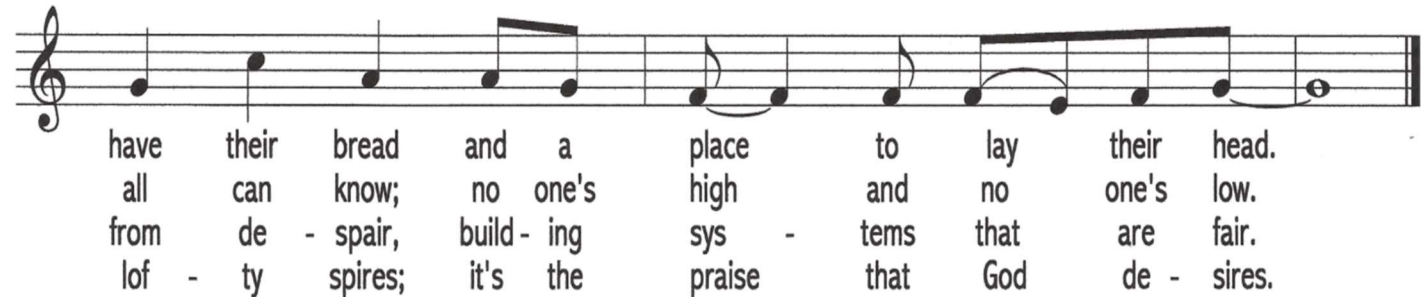
work-ing toward. With God's help, the world will one day live in

peace. With God's help, the world will one day live in peace.

Justice Means



1. Jus- tice means that all are fed; ev - 'ry - one will
4. With all peo - ple we can grow; God's a - bun - dance
6. Jus- tice means that lead - ers care to keep peo - ple
8. Jus - tice is what God re - quires, more than hymns and



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This Is My Song

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2 My coun-try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,

a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
 your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.

This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912-1993, sts. 1-2; Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, st. 3

Music: Jean Sibelius, 1865-1957

Text sts. 1-2 © 1934, 1962, Lorenz Publishing Company, st. 3 © 1964 Lorenz Publishing Company

Music © Breitkopf & Härtel

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11 10 11 10 11 10

here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

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