



SEPTEMBER 20, 2020

16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## *Pastoral Welcome and Announcements*

### *Thoughts for the Day:*

- The toughest task is to live with unexpected, unwanted answers. -William Willimon
- Life is never fair, and perhaps it is a good thing for most of us that it is not.  
- Oscar Wilde
- Life becomes so unfair when you don't get what others do. But don't worry, God has decided something better for you. - Vj Nadar

### *Call to Worship:*

One: Clowns and fools,

**All: Wild ones who stretch the rules,  
God chooses them all.**

One: Thinkers and dreamers,

**All: Plotters and schemers,  
God gives gifts to all.**

One: Quiet ones, rowdy ones and those full of words and talk,

**All: Limping or skipping,  
Those who shuffle when they walk,  
They all have a place with God.**

One: Dancers and singers,

**All: Poets and bell ringers,  
Come and worship.**

One: Poor ones and lonely ones,

**All: Hoping-for-a-better-day ones.  
You will not be sent away.**

**Everyone: All God's people, come,  
Whoever you, however you got here, come.**

**Song:** *In God's Eyes (music at end of bulletin)*

**Our Confession:**

**Gracious God, overwhelming and surprising in mercy, we are overly concerned with fairness, especially when our interests are in the equation. We watch to see if others are better liked, playing by the rules, getting the proper consequences. We often approach faith as a series of achievements and results.**

**O God of grace, lessen our anxious striving, our critical gaze. Surprise us again with your free gifts of love and forgiveness. So fill us with your mercy that we can rejoice when you work in those whom we consider undeserving. Your love shows no bounds, and your grace is amazing - and includes even us. We thank you. Amen.**

**Song:** *There's A Wideness in God's Mercy (music at end of bulletin)*

**The Lessons:**

***Jonah 3:10-4:11 (The Message)***

<sup>10</sup> God saw what they had done, that they had turned away from their evil lives. He *did* change his mind about them. What he said he would do to them he didn't do.

<sup>4</sup> <sup>1-2</sup> Jonah was furious. He lost his temper. He yelled at GOD, "GOD! I knew it—when I was back home, I knew this was going to happen! That's why I ran off to Tarshish! I knew you were sheer grace and mercy, not easily angered, rich in love, and ready at the drop of a hat to turn your plans of punishment into a program of forgiveness!

<sup>3</sup> "So, GOD, if you won't kill them, kill *me!* I'm better off dead!"

<sup>4</sup> GOD said, "What do you have to be angry about?"

<sup>5</sup> But Jonah just left. He went out of the city to the east and sat down in a sulk. He put together a makeshift shelter of leafy branches and sat there in the shade to see what would happen to the city.

<sup>6</sup> GOD arranged for a broad-leafed tree to spring up. It grew over Jonah to cool him off and get him out of his angry sulk. Jonah was pleased and enjoyed the shade. Life was looking up.

<sup>7-8</sup> But then God sent a worm. By dawn of the next day, the worm had bored into the shade tree and it withered away. The sun came up and God sent a hot, blistering wind from the east. The sun beat down on Jonah's head and he started to faint. He prayed to die: "I'm better off dead!"

<sup>9</sup> Then God said to Jonah, "What right do you have to get angry about this shade tree?"

Jonah said, "Plenty of right. It's made me angry enough to die!"

<sup>10-11</sup> GOD said, “What’s this? How is it that you can change your feelings from pleasure to anger overnight about a mere shade tree that you did nothing to get? (*You neither planted nor watered it. It grew up one night and died the next night.*) So, why can’t I likewise change what I feel about Nineveh from anger to pleasure, this big city of more than 120,000 childlike people who don’t yet know right from wrong, to say nothing of all the innocent animals?”

### **Matthew 20:1-16**

‘For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.” So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, “Why are you standing here idle all day?” They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.” When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, “Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.” When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” So the last will be first, and the first will be last.

**Message:**     *“It’s Not Fair”*

**Message Response:**   *Leaning In (verses 1-3) (music at end of bulletin)*

### ***The Prayers***

#### ***The Lord’s Prayer:***

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## ***The Sending Out:***

Leader: Let us go forth as workers together with God proclaiming the Good News, performing deeds of mercy and kindness and giving evidence of Christ's love in all that we do. And may the grace of God be with us all.

**Amen.**

## ***The Sending Song: The Same Love***

## ***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

In God's Eyes



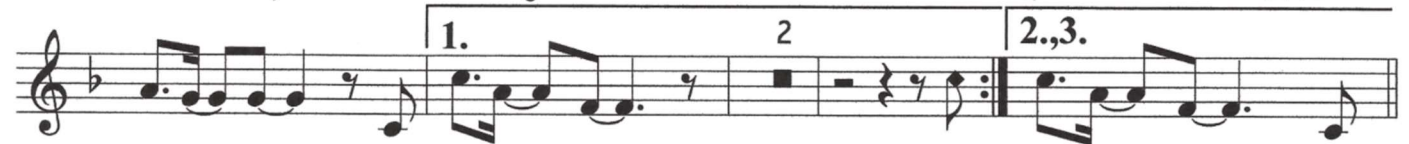
Out - side my win - dow, right a -  
(There) (I) is am a no broth - er, work - ing -  
(I) am no bet - ter and I



cross the street there is some - one new liv - ing next to me, They  
on Wall Street and a sis - ter who needs bread to eat. Now  
am no worse than a drunk who's ly - ing in the dirt. Now



might look diff - 'rent, they might talk strange Do I  
truth keeps call - ing we have fam' - ly ties cries, we're  
truth keeps cal - ing 'till we hear the cries, we're



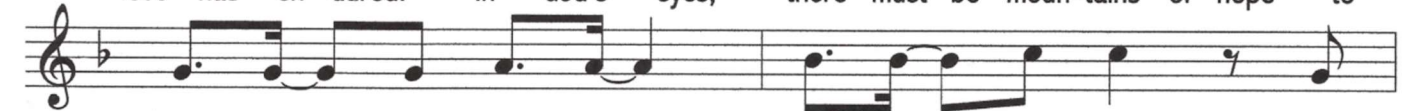
real - ly care to know their name? (There) in God's eyes. in  
all the same  
all the same



God's eyes, there must be riv - ers of tears for all the pain



love has en - dured. In God's eyes, there must be moun - tains of hope to



keep send - ing ba - bies in - to our homes with



God's eyes. (I) So quick to judge each oth - er,  
*D. S. al Fine*



so slow to love an - oth - er; oh, can our hearts ev - er see? (In)

ELW 588 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* to tune ELW 631

1. There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy like the  
 2. There is prom - ise for the sin - ner, and a  
 3. For the not love of we God is broad - er than the  
 4. 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is

wide - ness of the sea; there's a  
 prom - ised of grace made good; there is  
 mea - sures of more our than mind; and the  
 some - thing more than all; great - er

kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than  
 mer - cy of with the Sav - ior there is heal - ing  
 heart good be - cause of E - ter - nal is most won - der -  
 good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy

lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's  
 in his blood. There is is grace e - nough for  
 ful - ly the kind. But we our love, this love too  
 through the fall. Make our love, O God, more

sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.  
 thou - sands of new worlds as great as our this;  
 nar - row by let false us lim take - its of our own;  
 faith - ful; let us take you at your word;

There is no place where earth's fail - ings  
 There is is room for fresh cre - a - tions  
 and we our mag - ni - fy be thanks - strict - ness  
 and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing

have in such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.  
 with for the that a good - ness of not the bliss.  
 for the the good - ness of the the own.  
 Lord.

Leaning In - A Prayer of Intention Verses 1-3

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of eight staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: We pray for the lonely ones knowing; We pray for the wounded ones knowing; We pray for the starving ones knowing; that some of us are lonely, and; that some of us are wounded, and; that some of us are starving, and; we pray for the heart-broken ones knowing; we pray for the re-gret-ful ones knowing; we pray for the im-pris-oned ones knowing; we pray for the new-ly born ones knowing; that some of us are heart-broken. that some of us are re-gret-ful. that some of us are im-pris-oned. that some of us are ar-riv-ing. All - - our hearts and minds are lean-ing in with clear in - ten - tion, join - ing in your way of love in the world. heal-ing in the world. jus - tice in the world. love in the world. A - - - men.

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