



OCTOBER 11, 2020

19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PASTORAL WELCOME

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities.
-J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
- ❖ If we do not change our direction, we are likely to end up where we are headed.
-Ancient Chinese Proverb
- ❖ Any dead fish can float down the river. GO AGAINST THE FLOW! - *Unknown*

PRAISE SONG: *Will You Come and Follow Me – Verses 1, 3, 4, 5*
(music at end of bulletin)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Tongues of fire

All: Set our hearts ablaze with love.

One: Tongues of fire

All: Kindle our passion for justice and beauty.

One: Mighty winds

All: Blow the timidness from our words and deeds.

One: Mighty winds

All: Send us along the paths of peace and reconciliation.

One: Wind and fire

All: Make us alive and surprise us with the depths of love and the heights of joy that you stir in us.

OUR CONFESSION PRAYER:

All: Holy God, you are the great inviter, always extending a welcome to us. We respond with caution, fearful of what may be required of us. We respond with narrow delight, hoping the invitation is only for us and not for "them." We respond hesitantly, not trusting or believing that you really want and invite us. We respond with excuses, waiting to make a full commitment, waiting to give more until we feel ready.

Tender God, release us from the grip of our fears and guilt. Open up our lives and help us to let go of that which hinders our love of you and one another. Dissolve our foolish fears that make us grasp things rather than hold people. Ease us into a deep promise of community. Make us dwell in your healing forgiveness. Enable us to respond to your invitation to pray, to give, to serve. Make us open to receiving what you give and to risking something new for you. Awaken us to your Spirit and help us to follow the example of Jesus in all areas of our lives. Amen.

Silence is kept

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

One: God has claimed us and will not let us go. There is no one, there is no thing that can keep God from forgiving us, loving us, and healing us.

All: **Loved, we can love the unlovable;
graced, we can be a blessing to others;
forgiven, we can forgive those who have hurt us.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

CONFESSION RESPONSE: Sanctuary (music at end of bulletin)

THE LESSONS:

Joshua 24:14 and 15

Joshua tells the people of Israel to revere God and then asks whether they will be like their ancestors who served many gods. Joshua says that he and his household will serve God. We have a similar choice to make, to serve one or many.

¹⁴“Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

Romans 12:1-5

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴ For just as each of us has one body

with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

THE GOSPEL:

John 6:66-69

Jesus' words are sometimes too difficult for humans. Because of this some left Jesus causing Him to wonder if the 12 disciples would also leave. However, they question whom they would follow and confess that He has the words of eternal life.

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

MESSAGE: ***"Choose This Day Whom You Will Serve"***

MESSAGE RESPONSE: ***Send Down the Fire (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: We are sent forth from this place to be light, hope, and strength to others, that others may know that there is indeed a way through the challenges of life to a safe haven and to a peace grounded in the assurance of God's love. May we forget ourselves long enough and thoroughly enough to be this kind of witness to our neighbor. Always and ever in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

THE SENDING SONG: ***May the God of Hope Go With Us***
(music at end of bulletin)

THE BLESSING:

P: May the God of the Heavens cause you to soar.
May the Christ of the journey light your path.
May the Spirit of power fill your heart with the courage to follow.

C: **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL:

P: 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

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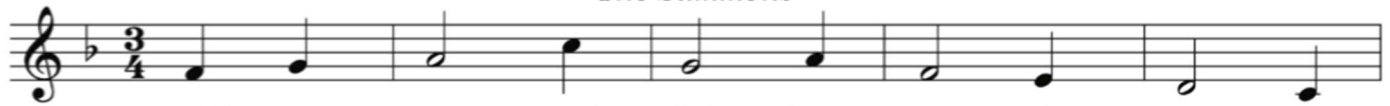
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Will You Come and Follow Me *Verses 1. 3 4. 5*

The Summons



1. Will you come and fol - low me If I but
2. Will you leave your - self be - hind If I but
3. Will you let the blind - ed see If I but
4. Will you love the 'you' you hide If I but
5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true When you but



call your name? Will you go where
call your name? Will you care for
call your name? Will you set the
call your name? Will you quell the
call my name. Let me turn and



you don't know And nev - er be the same?
cruel and kind And nev - er be the same?
pris - 'ners free And nev - er be the same?
fear in - side And nev - er be the same?
fol - low you And nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, Will you
Will you risk the hos - tile stare Should your
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, And do
Will you use the faith you've found To re -
In your com - pa - ny I'll go Where your



let my name be known, Will you let my
life at - tract or scare? Will you let me
such as this un - seen, And ad - mit to
shape the world a - round, Through my sight and
love and foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and



life be grown In you and you in me?
an - swer prayer In you and you in me?
what I mean In you and you in me?
touch and sound In you and you in me?
live and grow In you and you in me.

Sanctuary

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and
 ho - ly, tried and true; With thanks - giv - ing I'll be a
 liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you.

Send Down the Fire

Refrain

Send down the fire of your jus - tice,
 Send down the rains of your love; Come,
 send down the Spir - it, breathe life in your peo - ple, and
 we shall be peo - ple of God.

Verses

1. Call us to be your com - pas - sion,
 2. Call us to learn of your mer - cy,
 3. Call us to an - swer op - pres - sion,
 4. Call us to wit - ness your King - dom,
 Teach us the song of your love; Give us
 Teach us the way of your peace; Give us
 Teach us the fire of your truth; Give us
 Give us the pres - ence of Christ; May your
 hearts that sing, Give us deeds that ring, Make us
 hearts that feel, Give us hands that heal, Make us
 right - eous souls, 'Til your jus - tice rolls, Make us
 ho - ly light Keep us shin - ing bright, Ev - er
 ring with the song of your love.
 walk in the way of your peace.
 burn with the fire of your truth.
 shine with the pres - ence of Christ.

D.C.

May the God of Hope Go with Us

Unison

G Em Am/G

1 May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day,
 2 May the God of heal - ing free the earth from fear,

D7 C G

fill - ing all our lives with love and joy and peace.
 free - ing us for peace, both trea - sured and pur - sued.

G Em Am/G

May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way,
 May the God of love keep our com - mit - ment clear

D7 C G

bring - ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.
 to a world re - stored, to hu - man life re - newed.

* Refrain G Am Am7 D7

Pray - ing, let us work for peace, sing - ing,

C G

share our joy with all, work - ing for a

Am Am7 D7 C G

world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.