



Pastoral Welcome and Announcements

Thoughts for the Day:

- ❖ *“Miracles are a retelling in small letters of the very same story which is written across the whole world in letters too large for some of us to see.” - C.S. Lewis*
- ❖ *“When all the suns and nebulae have passed away, each one of you will still be alive.” - C.S. Lewis*

Call to Worship:

One: Searching for our true home,

All: We know we shall be led on the path.

One: Longing for the warmth of the hearth,

All: We know we shall find the fire of God's presence.

One: Looking for a place to be ourselves,

All: We know we shall find acceptance.

One: Yearning to find someone who cares,

All: We know we shall know God's love.

One: Hoping for a joy stronger than gray, cold mornings and long, dark nights,

All: We know we shall know the music of eternity and forever sing praise.

One: We know ...

All: ... because the light of Christ shows us the end of the story.

Song: God Will See Us Through (music at end of bulletin)

Our Confession:

God of wonders and the God who promises us new life, we live life with blinders on and miss the glory you share with us. We keep our shoulders to the wheel, our eyes on the ball, our stomachs tucked in, our heads held high, and wonder why life feels like we are still losing, why work feels like a drag, and why the days go so quickly by without bringing a sense of fulfillment.

God, you have revealed the end of the story and it always ends with life-new life. Give us a childlike sense of fascination and delight; like a child, let us rush to the end of the story, where we find kindness, justice, mercy, and love. Amen.

Words of Comfort:

Leader: God has promised us that at the end will we always find forgiveness and rest for our souls. Rejoice and enter the story of life in Christ.

Confession Response: Amazing Grace (music at end of bulletin)

Reading:

Revelation 21:1-7

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.'

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.'

The Gospel:

Mark 9:2-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Message: “Reading the End of the Story First”

Message Response: People of Hope (music at end of bulletin)

The Prayers

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:

Leader: You are children of God and sharers in the promise of the gospel. Go now into the world, full of hope, and reveal to all people the magnificent mystery of God's plan for creation. **Amen.**

Sending Song: May the God of Hope Go with Us (music at end of bulletin)

The Dismissal:

Leader: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

All: 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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May the God of Hope Go With Us. Words: v. 1 Alvin Schutmaat, v. 2 Fred Kaan. Music: Argentinian Folk Melody. Words (v. 2) © 1993, Hope Publishing Company. Reprinted with permission under One License #A-714192. All rights reserved.

God Will See Us Through

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are printed below the staff, aligned with the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

In times of bro-ken-ness, in ev - 'ry wil - der-ness, God has seen us through.
Times when our strength was gone, some-how we car - ried on, God has seen us
through. Look be - hind and see through - out his - to - ry, God has nev - er let us
down. Lean a - head and trust God is guid - ing us, God is with us here right
now. God will see me through, God will see you through, God will see us through some-
how. Step by step we'll be, gi - ven all we need, God will see us through this now.

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Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

779

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

People of Hope

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It consists of nine lines of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "We are peo-ple of hope a-live in the mys-t'ry, grow-ing in faith, learn-ing to love. We are peo-ple of hope through-out all of his-t'ry, held by the one who will nev-er let go. We are dead in our striv-ing for wealth and for might We are what God has made us, cre-a-a-ted in Christ but God, rich in mer-cy, has loved us to life. We are for jus-tice and mer-cy to be our way of life. We are In the jour-ney ev-'ry day we're led by the Word, saved by grace. We are". The score includes various musical notations such as rests, slurs, and triplets. It also features performance directions: "Fine" and "3rd time to Coda" above the fourth line, and "Coda" above the eighth line. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

We are peo-ple of hope a-live in the mys-t'ry,
grow-ing in faith, learn-ing to love. We are
peo-ple of hope through-out all of his-t'ry,
held by the one who will nev-er let go. *Fine* *3rd time to Coda*
We are dead in our striv-ing for wealth and for might
We are what God has made us, cre-a-a-ted in Christ
but God, rich in mer-cy, has loved us to life. We are
for jus-tice and mer-cy to be our way of life. We are
Coda
In the jour-ney ev-'ry day we're led by the Word,
saved by grace. We are

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 C 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.