



GATHERING PRAYER:

Begin this Sunday's worship with a time of silence. Our lives are far noisier than wind, fire, or earthquake. In a great paradox, God speaks to us in sheer silence. Use this chance to listen as you pray.

Lord God, you breathed the spirit of life within me.
Draw out of me the light and life you created.
Help me to find my way back to you.
Help me to use my life to reflect your glory
and to serve others as your son Jesus did. In Christ we pray. Amen.

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ “To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you.” – *C.S. Lewis*
- ❖ “Forgiveness is an act of the will, and the will can function regardless of the temperature of the heart.” – *Corrie Ten Boom*
- ❖ “Forgiveness is not about forgetting. It is about letting go of another person's throat.....Forgiveness does not create a relationship. Unless people speak the truth about what they have done and change their mind and behavior, a relationship of trust is not possible. When you forgive someone you certainly release them from judgment, but without true change, no real relationship can be established.....Forgiveness in no way requires that you trust the one you forgive. But should they finally confess and repent, you will discover a miracle in your own heart that allows you to reach out and begin to build between you a bridge of reconciliation.....Forgiveness does not excuse anything.....You may have to declare your forgiveness a hundred times the first day and the second day, but the third day will be less and each day after, until one day you will realize that you have forgiven completely. And then one day you will pray for his wholeness.....” – *William P. Young, The Shack*

PRAISE SONG: *Kyrie Eleison (music at end of bulletin)*

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: How blessed we are that God forgives us and loves us!

P: For all those times when we have fallen short of what God would have us be, we have been forgiven.

L: God makes us new in God's Spirit.

P: Now is the time to joyfully accept the newness of life which God offers to us.

L: Come, let us worship and be thankful.

P: Let us open our hearts to God's forgiveness, peace and joy. AMEN.

OUR CONFESSION/Litany of the Dust:

For those who have betrayed us...Father, forgive them.

for those who have let us down...Father, forgive them.

for those who have been indifferent to us...Father, forgive them.

for those who have crippled our lives...Father, forgive them.

for those who have doubted us...Father, forgive them.

for those who have accused us...Father, forgive them.

for those who have preferred others to us...Father, forgive them.

for family members who have hurt us...Father, forgive them.

for friends who have denied us...Father, forgive them.

for those who have walked away from us...Father, forgive them.

For my own self pity...Father, forgive me.

for my lukewarmness...Father, forgive me

for my times of despair and distrust...Father, forgive me

for my refusals to be involved...Father, forgive me

for my disbelief in your love...Father, forgive me

for my searchings everywhere but in your heart...Father, forgive me

for apologies frozen on my lips...Father, forgive me

for my words of love unspoken...Father, forgive me

for my kisses and embraces ungiven...**Father, forgive me**
for compliments never offered...**Father, forgive me**
for a heart closed in self-centeredness...**Father, forgive me**
for my own unforgiving postures...**Father, forgive me**
for not believing in your forgiveness...**Father, forgive me**

LEADER: Hear the good news. Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be forgiven and freed to live lives of love. In the name of Jesus Christ, embrace God's forgiveness and peace.

THE CONFESSION RESPONSE: *Forgiven (music at end of bulletin)*

THE LESSONS:

Colossians 3:9-17

9-11 Don't lie to one another. You're done with that old life. It's like a filthy set of ill-fitting clothes you've stripped off and put in the fire. Now you're dressed in a new wardrobe. Every item of your new way of life is custom-made by the Creator, with his label on it. All the old fashions are now obsolete. Words like Jewish and non-Jewish, religious and irreligious, insider and outsider, uncivilized and uncouth, slave and free, mean nothing. From now on everyone is defined by Christ, everyone is included in Christ.

12-14 So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it.

15-17 Let the peace of Christ keep you in tune with each other, in step with each other. None of this going off and doing your own thing. And cultivate thankfulness. Let the Word of Christ—the Message—have the run of the house. Give it plenty of room in your lives. Instruct and direct one another using good common sense. And sing, sing your hearts out to God! Let every detail in your lives—words, actions, whatever—be done in the name of the Master, Jesus, thanking God the Father every step of the way.

Luke 23:32-35

32 Two others, both criminals, were taken along with Jesus for execution.

33 When they got to the place called Skull Hill, they crucified him, along with the criminals, one on his right, the other on his left.

34-35 Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive them; they don't know what they're doing."

Dividing up his clothes, they threw dice for them. The people stood there staring at Jesus, and the ringleaders made faces, taunting, “He saved others. Let’s see him save himself! The Messiah of God—ha! The Chosen—ha!”

MESSAGE: *“Forgiveness is the First Step”*

MESSAGE RESPONSE: *Love for Enemies (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: Forgiven and Beloved Ones of God, go now in peace, sharing with others the Good News of God’s love. Forgive as you have been forgiven. Help those in need. Give and receive from each other the joy of peace. Amen.

All: Amen.

THE SENDING SONG: *Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive*
(music at end of bulletin)

THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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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 attender. Occasional attender. 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.*



Kyrie Eleison

Kyr- i - e E - lei - son on our world and on
our way. Kyr- i - e E - lei - son ev'- ry day

For That peace in the world, for the
For we may live out your im -
For your peace in it to hearts, guide, that you

health of the Church, for the u - ni - ty of all;
pass - ioned re - sponse to the hun - gry and the poor;
peace in our homes, in the friends and fam - i - ly;
cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the word;

for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,
that we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
that you nour - ish our souls with your bod - y and blood,

let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord!

Forgiven

For - giv - en, I've been for - giv - en; God has looked be -
yond my sin, Saved me from what I might have been, Gave me a new
life with - in, I am for - giv - en by His grace.

Love for Enemies

(Luke 6:27-38)

Paul Demer

Verses:



1. Your rain falls on the wick - ed ones and
 2. You lend with - out hope of gain and
 3. To love the ones who loved us first is
 4. Then let us prac - tice char - i - ty and
 5. You found us when we lost our way re -



those who seek your way Your kind - ness wa - ters
 give to all who ask Your love is not a
 fine and com - mon - place But love that asks for
 lay our judge - ment down 'till e - ne - mies are
 called when we for - got when we were foes you



all of us who grow be - neath your grace
 scar - ci - ty Your mer - cy holds us fast (Chorus)
 noth - ing back re - flects the Fath - er's face
 un - der - stood and em - pa - thy is found (Chorus)
 sent your son to be all that we're not

Chorus:



You reached a - cross the great di - vide in draw - ing near to us
 Teach us to cross our bat - tle lines and face our foes with love

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

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1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew;
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
 then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.