



Pastoral Welcome and Announcements

Thoughts for the Day:

- ❖ *[God] works on us in all sorts of ways. But above all, he works on us through each other. [People] are mirrors, or "carriers" of Christ to other [people]. Usually it is those who know him that bring him to others. That is why the church, the whole body of Christians showing him to one another, is so important. -C.S. Lewis*
- ❖ *The will of God will never take you to where the grace of God will not protect you. -Bernadette Devlin*
- ❖ *All of God's people are ordinary people who have been made extraordinary by the purpose he has given them. -Oswald Chambers*

Call to Worship:

Leader: The time has come!

People: Christ promises to be with us,

Leader: even as he ascends beyond us.

People: The time has come!

Leader: For our spirits to find direction

People: To take the good news to the world!

Song: With Kindness (music at end of bulletin)

Our Confession:

As we travel through life, living God, we seek assurance after assurance. We wish to live in sanctuary, where all is known and all is well. Thank you for sanctuary. Yet, we know that we become comfortable in sanctuary and fail to move from the grounded place to the place of change. We fail to trust that Jesus sends the Holy Spirit so that we might move beyond comfort into invitation and adventure. We are tired. We are worn, and we stay the course.

Forgive us our same ways of doing; help us hear what you would have us be and do differently. Make us trust that there is purpose beyond the one we create in our own minds. And bring your Spirit to us, so that we are transformed and become transforming persons for the sake of your reign on earth.

Thanks be to you, living God. Amen.

Confession Response: To Be Your Presence (music at end of bulletin)

Reading: *Acts 1: 1-11 (from The Message)*

¹⁻⁵ Dear Theophilus, in the first volume of this book I wrote on everything that Jesus began to do and teach until the day he said good-bye to the apostles, the ones he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. After his death, he presented himself alive to them in many different settings over a period of forty days. In face-to-face meetings, he talked to them about things concerning the kingdom of God. As they met and ate meals together, he told them that they were on no account to leave Jerusalem but “must wait for what the Father promised: the promise you heard from me. John baptized in water; you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit. And soon.”

⁶ When they were together for the last time they asked, “Master, are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel now? Is this the time?”

⁷⁻⁸ He told them, “You don’t get to know the time. Timing is the Father’s business. What you’ll get is the Holy Spirit. And when the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world.”

⁹⁻¹¹ These were his last words. As they watched, he was taken up and disappeared in a cloud. They stood there, staring into the empty sky. Suddenly two men appeared—in white robes! They said, “You Galileans!—why do you just stand here looking up at an empty sky? This very Jesus who was taken up from among you to heaven will come as certainly—and mysteriously—as he left.”

Gospel: *Luke 24:44-53 (from The Message)*

⁴⁴ Then he said, “Everything I told you while I was with you comes to this: All the things written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets, and in the Psalms have to be fulfilled.”

⁴⁵⁻⁴⁹ He went on to open their understanding of the Word of God, showing them how to read their Bibles this way. He said, “You can see now how it is written that the Messiah suffers, rises from the dead on the third day, and then a total life-change through the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed in his name to all nations—starting from here, from Jerusalem! You’re the first to hear and see it. You’re the witnesses. What comes next is very important: I am sending what my Father promised to you, so stay here in the city until he arrives, until you’re equipped with power from on high.”

⁵⁰⁻⁵¹ He then led them out of the city over to Bethany. Raising his hands he blessed them, and while blessing them, made his exit, being carried up to heaven.

⁵²⁻⁵³ And they were on their knees, worshiping him. They returned to Jerusalem bursting with joy. They spent all their time in the Temple praising God.

Message: “He Left Us! Or Did He?” Pastor David Schoob

Message Response: May the God of Hope Go With Us
(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:

L: Go forth Christ watches over us and rules over us! Go forth, knowing that God has called you for a particular purpose! Go forth to listen and respond! Be blessed in the name of our great God!

C: Amen!

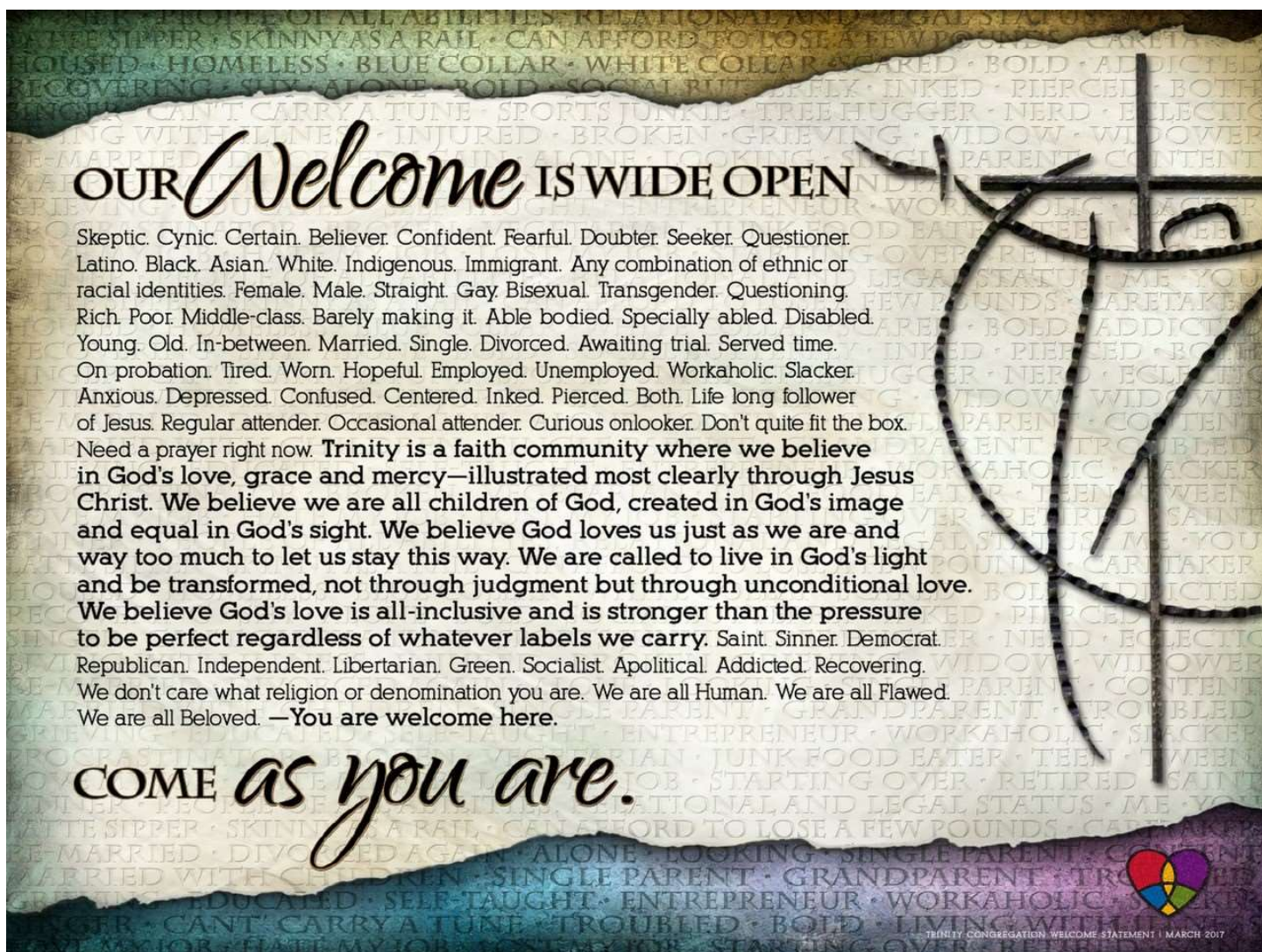
Song: Send Us Out (music at end of bulletin)

The Dismissal:

Leader: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.





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With Kindness

Christ has no bod - y here but ours. No hands, no
feet here on earth but ours. Ours are the eyes through
which he looks on this world with kind -
ness. Ours are the hands through which he works.
Ours are the feet on which he moves. Ours the voic - es
through which he speaks to this world with kind -
ness. Throughour touch, our smile, our list'-ning ear, em-bod-ied
in us, Je-sus is liv-ing here. Let us go, now, in-spir-it -
ed in-to this world with kind- ness.

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 4/4 time. It consists of 12 staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, as well as rests. There are repeat signs at the beginning of the 8th staff and at the end of the 12th staff.

ELW 546 To Be Your Presence to ELW 422

1. To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to
 2. To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to
 3. To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to
 4. We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to

show com - pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to
 feed the poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to
 speak for all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to
 serve your peo - ple is our call and choice, and

be your heart of mer - cy ev - er near, Al -
 be your hands of jus - tice right up - hold,
 be your voice of hope your love ex - pressed,
 in this mis - sion we, the church, re - joice,

le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia

May the God of Hope Go With Us

1. May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,
 2. May the God of heal - ing free the earth from fear;
 fill - ing all us our lives with love and joy and peace.
 free - ing all us for peace, both treas - ured and pur - sued.

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

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

Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our joy with all;
 work - ing for a world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

Send Us Out

1. We have been called by the Lord.
2. We who were bound by our shame,
We ruled have by been our saved fears by the with Word. in.
Now Stand let and the de - Word clare be by re - stored. name,
Now let the Gos - pel of be heard. Send us out to teach what
free - dom from all of our sin.
God has done. Send us out to reach ev' - ry
sin - gle one. Send us out. Send us out.
Teach what God has done. Reach ev' - ry sin - gle one.
Teach what God has done. Reach ev' - ry sin - gle one. Send us
out to teach what God has done. Send us out to reach ev' - ry
sin - gle one. Send us out. Send us out.