



AUGUST 7-8, 2021

11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Pastoral Welcome and Announcements

Thoughts for the Day:

- ❖ *“The kingdom is not an exclusive, well-trimmed suburb with snobbish rules about who can live there. No, it is for a larger, homelier, less self-conscious caste of people who understand they are sinners because they have experienced the yaw and pitch of moral struggle.”*
– Brennan Manning, [The Ragamuffin Gospel: Good News for the Bedraggled, Beat-Up, and Burnt Out](#)
- ❖ *Always set a place in your life for the unexpected guest.* – unknown source
- ❖ *“Hospitality is the practice of God's welcome by reaching across difference to participate in God's actions bringing justice and healing to our world in crisis.”*
– Letty M. Russell
- ❖ *“Hospitality means primarily the creation of free space where the stranger can enter and become a friend instead of an enemy. Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place. It is not to bring people over to our side, but to offer freedom not disturbed by dividing lines.”*
– Henri J.M. Nouwen, [Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life](#)

Call to Worship:

Leader: Here we come within the shelter of God's holy presence.

All: God is truly strength and protection against life's harm.

Leader: Here we celebrate God's healing grace.

All: Here it is that we seek well--being for body, mind, and spirit.

Leader: We rejoice that God accepts all who come.

All: None is turned away; all are included in God's hospitality.

Leader: Praise be to God, who makes a place for all.

All: Praise be to God, who makes a place for us.

Song: For Everyone Born (Vs. 1, 4 & 5)

Our Confession

Call to Confession:

Though God seeks to meet our every need, this with mercy and an abundance that is truly amazing, we so often find pride and a lack of generosity usurping these godly traits as we confront the needs of others. We seek first a place for ourselves before we in any way show concern for our neighbor. Moreover, what we share is hardly abundance; rather, it is but a shriveled part of the whole. Let us confess to the hospitable God the many ways in which we have failed to show hospitality, asking God's forgiveness and a redirecting for our future.

Prayer of Confession:

All: O most holy and gracious God, your message made known to us in Jesus the Christ is clear enough: we are to share ourselves with others in the same compassionate, caring way as you share yourself with us. Rather than using our energies to seek a place for self, we are to provide welcome, acceptance, and a place at the table of life to others - to *all* others that we encounter along life's way. What an assignment that is! What a challenge! Surely we cannot do it on our own. But with the love, the insight, the strength that you both promise and provide, the story can be different. Forgive us the folly of focusing on self. Widen our vision - to include all those many others around us. Moreover, grant us the wisdom to rely on the resources that you make available to us, for they will be more than enough for both self *and* neighbor. By so doing can our lives be remade - into the compassionate, caring servants you mean us to be. Let this be done, we pray, as we hold the example of Jesus ever before us. Amen.

Leader: God does love us all and freely forgives us and welcomes us into community with God and all God's creatures.

Confession Response: On the Edge of Tomorrow, vs. 3 & 4
(*music at end of bulletin*)

Gospel: Luke 14:7-14 (*The Message*)

As Luke tells the story of Jesus life, this incident takes place at a meal in the home of a religious leader, a Pharisee. While the invited guests may be concerned about where they sit, showing their importance to the host, Jesus suggests it is not where you sit, but whom to invite. Whom you include becomes more important than where you are placed.

Jesus went on to tell a story to the guests around the table. Noticing how each had tried to elbow into the place of honor, he said, "When someone invites you to dinner, don't take the place of honor. Somebody more important than you might have been invited by the host. Then he'll come and call out in front of everybody, 'You're in the wrong

place. The place of honor belongs to this man.' Embarrassed, you'll have to make your way to the very last table, the only place left.

"When you're invited to dinner, go and sit at the last place. Then when the host comes he may very well say, 'Friend, come up to the front.' That will give the dinner guests something to talk about! What I'm saying is, If you walk around all high and mighty, you're going to end up flat on your face. But if you're content to be simply yourself, you will become more than yourself."

Then he turned to the host. "The next time you put on a dinner, don't just invite your friends and family and rich neighbors, the kind of people who will return the favor. Invite some people who never get invited out, the misfits from the wrong side of the tracks. You'll be—and experience—a blessing. They won't be able to return the favor, but the favor will be returned—oh, how it will be returned!—at the resurrection of God's people."

Message: *"Would Jesus Approve Our Seating Plan?" - Pastor David Schoob*

Message Response: *Build Us a Table (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 Blessing

The Sending Out:

Leader: Let us depart this place of worship to be about our business as Christians - that of practicing hospitality. Let us remember that in God's sight there are no throwaway people. Thus, let us share ourselves in Christ's name with *all* those whose paths shall this week intersect with ours. For such will be our greatest joy.

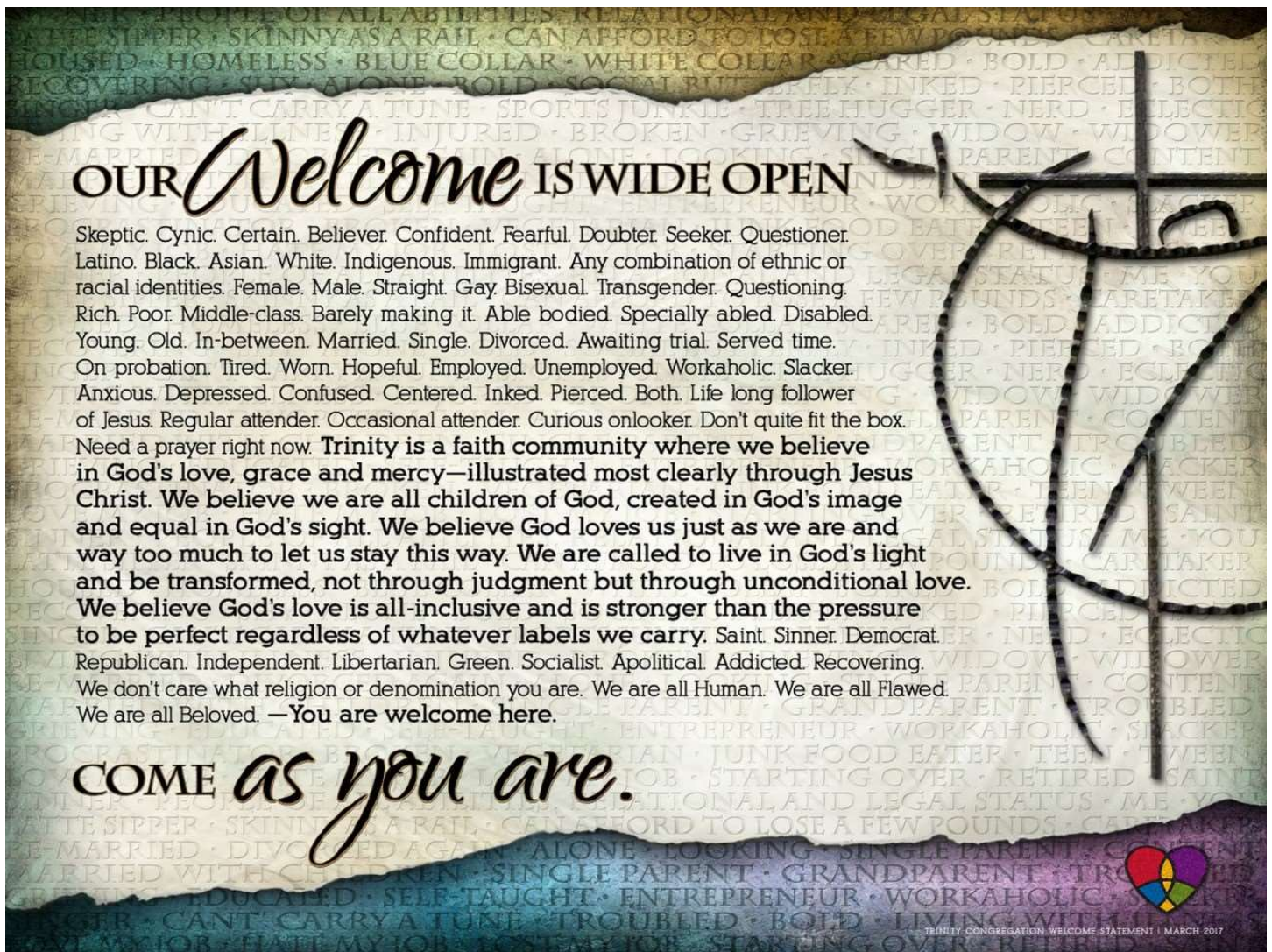
All: Amen!

Song: *Stand With You (music at end of bulletin)*

The Dismissal:

Leader: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



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For Everyone Born

1. For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
4. For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
5. For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,

for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
a - bus - er, a - bus - ed, with need to for - give,
to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,

a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,

for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head. And
for just and un - just, a new way to live.
for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free.

God will de - light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and
joy com - pas - sion and peace; yes,
God will de - light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice, jus - tice and joy.

On the Edge of Tomorrow

Stand - ing on the edge of to - mor - row, stand - ing on the edge of ad - ven - ture, stand - ing in the place of dis - cov - 'ry, learn - ing ev - 'ry step of the way. Thank - ful for the path - ways be - hind us, look - ing to the fu - ture be - fore us, guid - ed by the Spir - it a - mong us, stand - ing at the dawn of the day.

(Stand - ing at the dawn of the day.) *Last phrase sung 3X at end.*

3. Ho - ly Spir - it, teach us how to live as friends,
4. Ho - ly Spir - it send us out be - yond these walls;

found and freed by God's love, love that nev - er ends.
bless - ing, shar - ing, giv - ing, an - swer - ing God's call.

Liv - ing out our u - nion, learn - ing loy - al - ty,
Burst - ing with God's pres - ence, so God's grace we prove.

pa - tient - ly dis - cov - 'ring ho - ly fam - i - ly.
Shar - ing God's re - sourc - es, shin - ing with God's love. *Repeat Chorus*

Build Us a Table



1.Walls mark our bound-ries and keep us a-part;
2.Walls make us sure who is in and who's out;
3.Once we were stran-gers, di-vid-ed, a-lone.



walls keep the world from our eyes and our heart.
walls keep us safe from all ques-tion and doubt,
Hate and dis-trust built a wall stone by stone.



Ta-bles are round, mak-ing room for one more,
but at a ta-ble in o-pen ex-change
Now at a ta-ble the bread that we share



wel-com-ing friends we had not known be-fore. So
new ties are formed as our lives re-ar-range. So
joins us to Christ in a cir-cle of care. So



build us a ta-ble and tear down the wall! Christ is our host. There is



room for us all! Build us a ta-ble and tear down the wall!



Christ is our host. There is room for us all!

Stand With You



1.If you find that you're locked out just be - cause of who you are or be -
2.If you're told that who you are is of - fen - sive in God's sight, if you're



cause of how you look or who you're with. Well I
mocked or dis - re - gard - ed or dis - graced, If you're



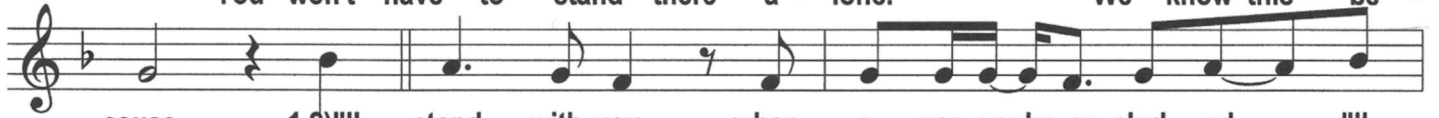
may not have the pow'r to un - lock the doors my - self, but I
pow - er - less or poor, if you're left out or de - spised, if you're



do vic - be - lieve God wants you to know this.
tim - ized by pre - ju - dice or hate.



You won't have to stand there a - lone. I know this be -
I'll stand up for your dig - ni ty un - til we're all be -
You won't have to stand there a - lone. We know this be -



cause, free. 1,2)I'll stand with you when - e - ver you're ex - clud - ed. I'll
cause. 3)We'll We'll



stand with you when you can't stand on your own. I'll stand with you when
We'll



you're put down or wound - ed, 'cause that's what I know that



To Coda

1.

2.

D.S. al Coda

Coda

Je - sus would do do. Je - sus would do.



That's what we know that Je - sus would do.