



OCTOBER 2-3, 2021

19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### **MEDITATION PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:**

Loving God, give us open hearts, as open and eager as a toddler's first steps. Give us open ears, that we may hear your words fresh and wild, comforting and challenging us. Give us open hands, ready to receive a blessing and willing to offer gentle care. Loving God, show us the depths of your grace in these precious moments and in your holy Word. Amen.

### **PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:**

- ❖ *If I had influence, I should pray that the gift to each child in the world be a sense of wonder so indestructible that it would last throughout life. - Rachel Carson*
- ❖ *"To be more childlike, you don't have to give up being an adult. The fully integrated person is capable of being both an adult and a child simultaneously. Recapture the childlike feelings of wide-eyed excitement, spontaneous appreciation, cutting loose, and being full of awe and wonder at this magnificent universe." - Wayne Dyer*
- ❖ *"You'll never be bored when you try something new. There's really no limit to what you can do!" - Dr. Seuss*

**PRAISE SONG:** *Child of the Water (music at end of bulletin)*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: Come close. Look. Listen.

**All: Giggles, squiggles and beaming faces -**

One: Pure delight.

**All: Leaping into waiting arms -**

One: Childlike trust.

**All: Messy hugs and gooey kisses -**

One: Unashamed affection.

**All: "Why this? What's that?" -**

One: Boundless curiosity.

**All: “Come quick, look at this!” -**

One: Endless fascination.

**All: A child's world,**

One: A window to God.

**All: Child's play,**

One: Praise to our Creator.

### ***OUR CONFESSION:***

**God of grace, we praise you for the gift of children in our community. We thank you for their energy, enthusiasm and simple wisdom. We confess that we have been slow to learn from them, looking over their heads and ignoring their comments. We have forgotten that faith is more than facts that are repeated back. We have forgotten that faith is a relationship with you and trusting that you will listen and care as we go through life. Faith is living joyfully and expectantly with a large measure of patience and forgiveness.**

**Guide us, O God, in creating a faith community that forgives, loves, heals, trusts, cares. Amen.**

***THE CONFESSION RESPONSE: Don't Let Your Heart be Hardened***  
***(music at end of bulletin)***

### ***THE READINGS: 1 John 3:1-3 (The Message)***

*This was written to an early Christian community to give them a better understanding of what it means to be called a Christian and a community of believers. Here the writer talks about their identity as children of God.*

What marvelous love the Father has extended to us! Just look at it—we're called children of God! That's who we really are. But that's also why the world doesn't recognize us or take us seriously, because it has no idea who he is or what he's up to. But friends, that's exactly who we are: children of God. And that's only the beginning. Who knows how we'll end up! What we know is that when Christ is openly revealed, we'll see him—and in seeing him, become like him. All of us who look forward to his Coming stay ready, with the glistening purity of Jesus' life as a model for our own.

### ***John 3:1-9 (The Message)***

*Here is a story of one religious teacher, Nicodemus, a Jewish Pharisee, meeting another one, Jesus. Nicodemus is trying to better understand Jesus' teaching about the presence of God's reign and rule in the life of people. Jesus suggests it involves the Spirit of God coming into people, giving them a new sense of God.*

There was a man of the Pharisee sect, Nicodemus, a prominent leader among the Jews. Late one night he visited Jesus and said, “Rabbi, we all know you're a teacher straight from God. No one could do all the God-pointing, God-revealing acts you do if God weren't in on it.”

Jesus said, “You’re absolutely right. Take it from me: Unless a person is born from above, it’s not possible to see what I’m pointing to—to God’s kingdom.”

“How can anyone,” said Nicodemus, “be born who has already been born and grown up? You can’t re-enter your mother’s womb and be born again. What are you saying with this ‘born-from-above’ talk?”

Jesus said, “You’re not listening. Let me say it again. Unless a person submits to this original creation—the ‘wind-hovering-over-the-water’ creation, the invisible moving the visible, a baptism into a new life—it’s not possible to enter God’s kingdom. When you look at a baby, it’s just that: a body you can look at and touch. But the person who takes shape within is formed by something you can’t see and touch—the Spirit—and becomes a living spirit.

“So don’t be so surprised when I tell you that you have to be ‘born from above’—out of this world, so to speak. You know well enough how the wind blows this way and that. You hear it rustling through the trees, but you have no idea where it comes from or where it’s headed next. That’s the way it is with everyone ‘born from above’ by the wind of God, the Spirit of God.”

Nicodemus asked, “What do you mean by this? How does this happen?”

### ***THE GOSPEL:***

**Mark 10:13-16**

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.’ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

**MESSAGE: “You’re Acting Like a Child! ABOUT TIME!” - Pastor David Schoob**

**MESSAGE RESPONSE: *I Believe in That Love (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 it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and 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, and the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.***

#### ***THE SENDING OUT:***

Leader: And now may you who are led by the Spirit of God, claim your inheritance as children of God's heavenly kingdom. Rejoice! Our God is with us forever and ever.

**ALL: Amen.**

**THE SENDING SONG: *This Little Light of Mine***

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev-'ry-where I go, I'm gonna let it shine;  
ev-'ry-where I go, I'm gonna let it shine;  
ev-'ry-where I go, I'm gonna let it shine;  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine;  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

**THE DISMISSAL:**

**Leader:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**People:** **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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This Little Light of Mine. Text and music: African American Spiritual. Public Domain.

*Child of the Water*

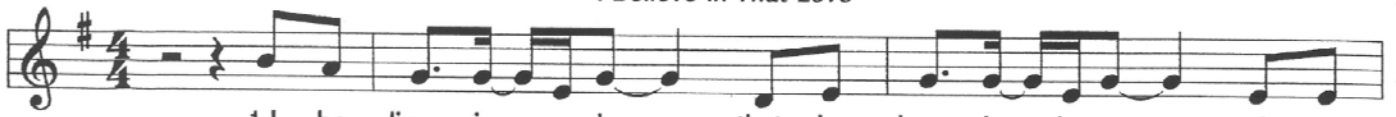
The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of nine staves of music. The lyrics are: "You're a child of the wa - ter, child of the word, guid - ed by prom - ise and sto - ries you've heard. God of the wound - ed knows you by name and car - ries you home ev' - ry - day. 1.From your first breath gift 2.Life is a gift to the last step, all of the dance; down a - time car - ries on, and you will grow; deep in your laugh - ter ing what - ev - er your fears midst your be - liev - ing and through - out your doubt, try to re - mem - ber. sure. day. 3.We jour - ney to - geth - er as child - ren of God sealed by the\_\_ cross." The score includes first and second endings for the "ev' - ry - day" line and a third ending for the "day. 3.We" line.

*Don't Let Your Heart Be Hardened*

Don't let your heart be hard - ened; Don't let your  
love grow\_ cold. May it al - ways stay so\_ child\_ - like;  
May it nev - er grow too old. Don't let your  
heart be hard\_ - ened; May you al\_ - ways  
know the cure. Keep it bro\_ - ken be - fore Je\_ - sus;  
Keep it thank - ful, meek,\_\_\_\_\_ and pure.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Don't Let Your Heart Be Hardened". It consists of seven staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes various musical notations such as rests, slurs, and a repeat sign at the end.

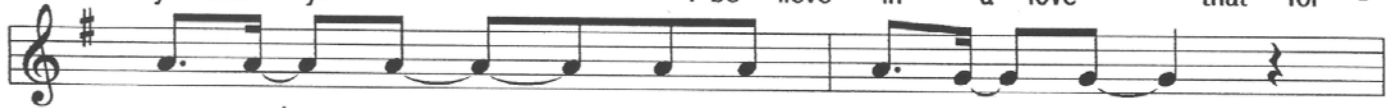
*I Believe In That Love*



1. I be - lieve in a love that is born in the song of a  
2. I be - lieve in a love that is felt in the touch of a  
3. I be - lieve in a love that is here at the heart of a



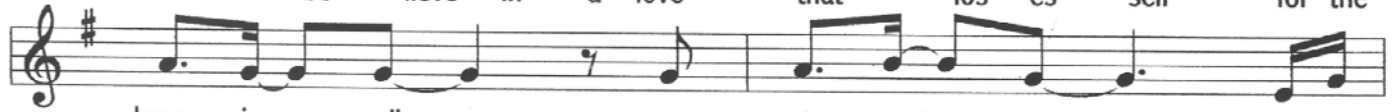
ba - by's cry. I be - lieve in a love that lives  
help - ing hand. I be - lieve in a love that sees  
my - ster - y. I be - lieve in a love that for -



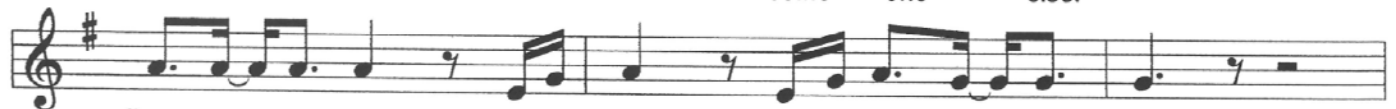
on and on e - ven when we die.  
diff' - renc - es and seeks to un - der - stand.  
gives, for - gets heals and sets us free.



I be - lieve in a love that reach - es out em -  
I be - lieve in a love that has no bounds, no -  
I be - lieve in a love that los - es self for the



brac - ing all our pain and doubt. I be -  
class or race to hold it down.  
sake of life for some - one else.



lieve in that love, I be - lieve I be - lieve in that love.



I be - lieve in that love. I be



- lieve I be - lieve in that love.