



He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. MATTHEW 28:6

APRIL 15-16, 2023

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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.

Wellspring of eternal life, we come to you this day having drunk deeply the waters of anxiety and despair. Bring to us your living water. Quench our thirsting souls, for we offer this prayer in Your Name. AMEN.

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ Everyone takes the limits of his own vision for the limits of the world.
- Arthur Schopenhauer
- ❖ It is only with the heart that one can see rightly, what is essential is invisible to the eye.
- Antoine Saint-Exupéry
- ❖ It is a terrible thing to see and have no vision.
- Helen Keller

PRAISE SONG: "He Has Been Raised" (music at end of bulletin)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: The work of our hands,

All: Our labor of care.

One: Our open hand,

All: Our tender embrace,

One: Loving God, we serve you...

All: By loving the world,

One: Caring for all people,

All: Especially the poor, the young, the forgotten.

One: We serve God not by being "right",

All: But by being loving.

One: By this they will know we are your disciples.

All: May our love glorify our Savior.

OUR CONFESSION:

All: Holy God, when Jesus knew he was about to be crucified, he left his disciples with one command: Love one another as I have loved you. How simple it seems, and yet how hard it is to do what he asked. Instead of love, our hearts harbor self-righteousness, resentment, self-sufficiency and envy. We wish to be better than others rather than one with them. You know our hearts, and you know the many ways we violate your command to love. Forgive us for how often and how far we fall short. Teach us what love truly is so that by your grace, we may show ourselves to be the disciples we want to be. Amen.

Words of Assurance:

The waters of mercy and healing are poured over you. God is loving and faithful to those who come to God. Come, seek the loving presence and be healed. AMEN.

**THE CONFESSION RESPONSE: *“Break These Chains”*
 *(music at end of bulletin)***

THE GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

MESSAGE: *“Loving is Believing”* *Pastor Cristy Schoob*

MESSAGE RESPONSE: *“Blessed are Those” (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, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT:

Leader: Christ is risen...

All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Leader: Now, as you leave this place, may the Lord help us: follow Jesus' way, see and celebrate God's presence everywhere, and love our neighbors as we love ourselves. In the name of Christ.

All: Amen!

THE SENDING SONG: "I Walk By Faith" (music at end of bulletin)

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 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.*

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He Has Been Raised

Lost and fright - ened, feel - ing sad - ness, some - one you loved has
We are strug - gling, we are wond - 'ring, can we walk the
gone a - way. Seek - ing an - swers, find - ing quest - tions.
streets of faith? We are loved and we're for - giv - en.
Could it be true what the peo - ple say?
Why don't we trust in these arms of grace?
He has been raised. He is not here. Can you be - lieve your ears?
Let go of all your hurts and fears. Je - sus is a - live.
1. *Fine* 2.
Our mourn - ing and weep - ing have
turned to re - joic - ing, the stones from our tombs have been
rolled a - way. Life has come from death to - day now!

D.S. al fine

Break These Chains



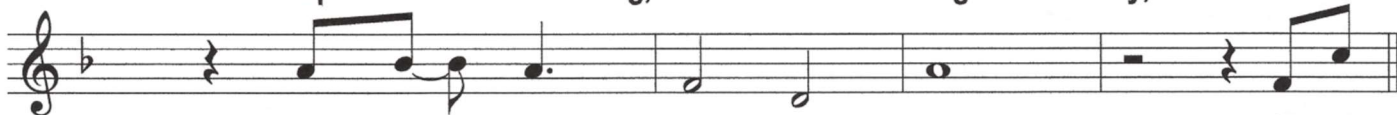
Wrapped in con - fu - sion, trapped in life's cage,
I hear you call - ing, call - in my name.



tied to the cra - dle and grave.
Why do I turn from you?



Cap - tive to ques - tions, shack - led by fear,
I keep on run - ning, run - ning a - way,



touch - ing the edge of faith. On - ly
far from your grace and truth.



Refrain

love can break these chains. On - ly love can break these chains. In this



whole world on - ly love can break these chains. chains.



Break these chains. Break these chains. Break these chains. On - ly

To Refrain

Blessed Are Those

Bless - ed are those who do be - lieve, Bless - ed are those who do be - lieve.
Though they have not seen they trust God faith - ful - ly.
Some peo - ple doubt what they have not seen.
As I've been giv - en so I give you
They will not blind - ly fol - low what is said.
to the world, - for - give the sins of all,
Oth - ers view this as a weak - ness
bring - ing hope to doubt - ing fac - es,
but it can au - then - ti - cate in - stead.
tear - ing down where hat - red builds a wall.
See my nail pierced hands.
And as you bring life
Come touch my wound - ed side. I
to plac - es here and far, -
give what you need for faith as you give your trust com - plete - ly
al - ways keep in mind you are not loved for what you do
but - my Spi - rit will guide.
for whose rit you are.

I Walk by Faith

Chorus

I walk by faith, each step by faith; To live by
faith, I put my trust in You. I walk by faith, each
step by faith; to live by faith, I put my trust in You.
1.
trust in You, I put my trust in You, I put my
(much slower)
trust in You; I put my trust in You, I put my trust in You. (Song ends)

Verse

Ev' - ry step I take is a step of faith, no
wea - pon formed a - gainst me shall pros - per; Ev' - ry prayer I make
is a prayer of faith, and if my God is for
me, who can be a - gainst me?