



### **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:**

- ❖ “Most people have come to prefer certain of life’s experiences and deny and reject others, unaware of the value of the hidden things that may come wrapped in plain and even ugly paper. In avoiding all pain and seeking comfort at all costs, we may be left without intimacy or compassion; in rejecting change and risk we often cheat ourselves of the quest; in denying our suffering we may never know our strength or our greatness.” - *Rachel Naomi Remen*
- ❖ “The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes.” - *Marcel Proust*

**PRAISE SONG:** “*Hope House*” (music at end of bulletin)

### **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Leader: God, you seek us out:

**All: In the dead of night**

Leader: And on this bright morning;

**All: In the depths of despair**

Leader: And in the valleys of worry.

**All: When we are hiding,**

Leader: Or just plain lost. Loving God, you draw near,

**All: As close as our breathing,**

**All: “Your turn, come find me.”**

**All: Surprising and persistent God, you never give up looking for us.**

**Amen.**

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 READING:***

## ***Acts 17:22-31***

<sup>29</sup> “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup> While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

## **THE GOSPEL:**

**John 14:15-21**

<sup>15</sup> “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and God will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup> “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

**MESSAGE: “On Mother’s Day, Give the Gift that Keeps on Giving”**  
- **Pastor Cristy Schoob**

**MESSAGE RESPONSE: “To Know God and to Make God Known”**  
(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: Christ is risen...

**All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Leader: Great God of love and glory, you have found us, and we have found you.

Continue to open our eyes to see you, may we never stop looking for you - now, today, this week or ever.

**All: Amen!**

**THE SENDING SONG: “Children of God”** (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.*



TRINITY CONGREGATION WELCOME STATEMENT | MARCH 2017

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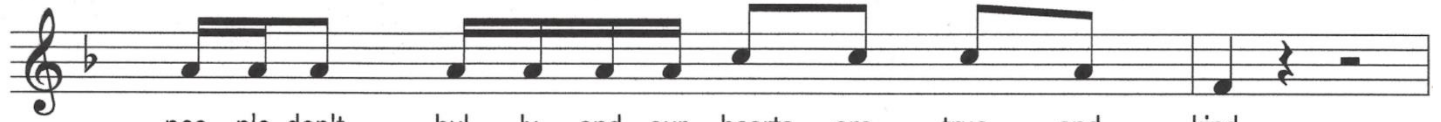
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Let's make a ti - ny lit - tle world and call it God's world, where  
Let's build a world where love and mer - cy grow like gar - dens, where



peo - ple don't bul - ly and our hearts are true and kind.  
peo - ple aren't hun - gry and no - bod - y's turned a - way.



Let's make a ti - ny lit - tle house and call it Hope House, where  
Let's build a place where we can un - der - stand each o - ther, where



peo - ple aren't greed - y and we leave our fears be - hind.  
an - ger and pre - ju - dice can nev - er rule the day.

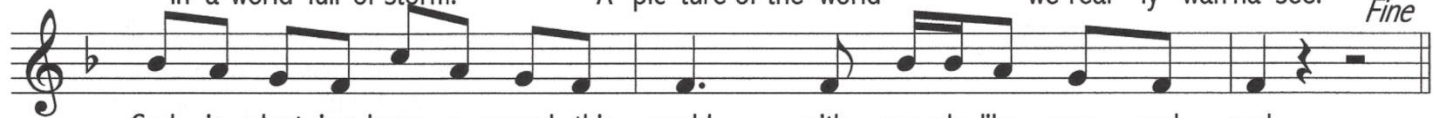


*Chorus*

A lit - tle bit of light in a world full of night. A lit - tle bit of warm



in a world full of storm. A pic - ture of the world we real - ly wan - na see. *Fine*



God is plant - ing hope a - round this world with peo - ple like you and me!



Oh,

Let's build a place where the



door is al - ways o - pen, where friend - ship and for - give - ness is sim - ply what we do.



Let's build a place where we learn the art of lov - ing. We



love our friends and neigh - bors and love the strang - er, too.

# 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

1.,3. 2.  
whole world on - ly love can break these chains. chains.

To Refrain  
Break these chains. Break these chains. Break these chains. On - ly

# To Know God and To Make God Known

Chorus

To know God and to make God known.

We are a fam - i - ly where no one is a - lone.

[Re - newed by love and changed by grace to do God's will in  
ev - 'ry place. To know God and to make God known.] Repeat between [ ] at end.)

Can you hear? The bells are ring - ing! Do you hear the  
Far be - yond the walls a - round us in - to ser - vice  
Here is light in life's con - fu - sion. Here is truth in

chil - dren sing - ing? Here is com - fort, here is car - ing.  
love has bound us. Love for friends and love for strang - ers,  
life's il - lu - sion. Here is hope where dreams are bro - ken.

Here is dream - ing, here is dar - ing. Je - sus shines in  
love for peo - ple fac - in dan - ger. In this cit - y  
Words of love and peace are spo - ken. O - pen hands and

all these fac - es. Je - sus speaks in all these voic - es.  
God has placed us. With God's Spir - it, Christ has graced us.  
sweet em - brac - ing. Sad - ness with God's joy re - plac - ing.

Come and see what God has done here in this ho - ly place.



# Children of God

Chil-dren of God, let's love one an - oth - er. Love is a gift, a bless

- ing of God. Love one an - oth - er, sis - ters and bro -thers.

1. -3. Love is a gift of God.

4. Love is a gift; love is a gift; love is a gift of God.

1. Let love be more than what we say.  
 2. Now per - fect love re - moves all fear.  
 3. Let us bear wit - ness to the Light,

Make it the way that we live each day. Oh, Oh,  
 By this we know God is al - ways near. Oh, Oh,  
 liv - ing in love, do - ing what is right. Oh, Oh,