



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

MAY 20-21, 2023

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MEDITATION PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:

Lord help us look around rather than up to the heavens, because you have already assured us you will return when we are not looking? Help us look out, as well as up, to see the troubles of the world and the mission field that waits, aware at all times of our command to carry this gospel to the ends of the earth. Amen.

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ *Let us not look back in anger or forward in fear, but around in awareness.*
-James Thurber (Author)
- ❖ *At the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made, how many great things we have done. We will be judged by I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless, and you took me in.*
- Mother Teresa (Founder of the Sisters of Charity)
- ❖ *Is the rich world aware of how four billion of the six billion live? If we were aware, we would want to help out, we would want to get involved.*
-Bill Gates (Philanthropist)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! It is incredible and energizing, joyful and promising.

Leader: And now we await the coming of the Holy Spirit.

People: Look, there in the cloud, Jesus is rising. What can it mean?

Leader: Don't stand looking up into heaven — Jesus will come again.

People: Until then, let us act, for the world's need is all around.

PRAISE SONG: "Reach Out" (music at end of bulletin)

THE CONFESSION:

All: You call us to proclaim a gospel we find difficult to practice, God Most High. So we look to the heavens expecting you to come and make everything right. You have promised to come again. Yet you are also right here, ruling and watching over us. But we are hesitant to witness to your power from on high, as we are uncertain of your presence in our lives right now.

Forgive us, God of Light. Fill us with the healing presence of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your good news, as we participate in the life and suffering of our world, as did your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

CONFESSION RESPONSE: “We Have Seen the Messiah”
(music at end of bulletin)

THE READINGS

THE LESSON: Acts 1:6-14

The Christian Creeds, Apostles and Nicene, summarize what Christians believe about our Triune God, including the words that Jesus ascended to heaven. Here is one of two places in the Bible with a record of Jesus' departure from earth. This record of the incident includes the question of expectation that Jesus would create His own kingdom restoring Jewish people to greatness and then the disciples' response to Jesus' ascension.

So when they had come together, they asked him, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

THE GOSPEL:

John 17:1-11

As John tells the story of Jesus, this takes place in a the Upper Room of a house in Jerusalem before Jesus' death. This is sometimes called His High Priestly Prayer where He prays to His Father for His disciples and all future believers in Him.

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

MESSAGE: "Looking Up Sometimes Means Not Seeing Where We Are Going"
– Pastor David Schoob

THE MESSAGE RESPONSE: "God of the Movements and Martyrs" (v. 2 & 3)
music at end of bulletin)

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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: Through our baptism, we have been clothed with power from on high. We have been grafted into Christ's ways and Christ's mission. Like the disciples, we have been called to proclaim his message of love and grace to all people in all places. May we go forth from this place filled with the Holy Spirit, eyes focused on the needs of the world. **Amen.**

THE SENDING SONG: "Lead Us Out" (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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Reach Out

Reach out with hands of hope Reach out with love.

Reach out with hands of hope. Reach out, reach out with love.

To a broth - er out on the street...
To a friend or en - e - my...

to a sis - ter who needs bread to eat...
to ev - 'ry per - son who needs that we meet...

to a stran - ger lost on the road...
to ev - 'ry heart to ev - 'ry home...

to a neigh - bor who has a heav - y load...
to ev - 'ry one ev - 'ry - where we go...


We Have Seen the Messiah



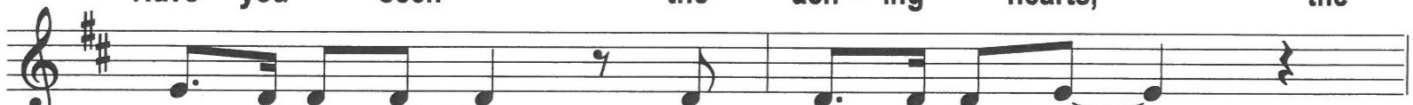
We have seen the Mes - si - ah, here for all the world.



We have seen the Mes - si - ah, here for all the world. *Fine*



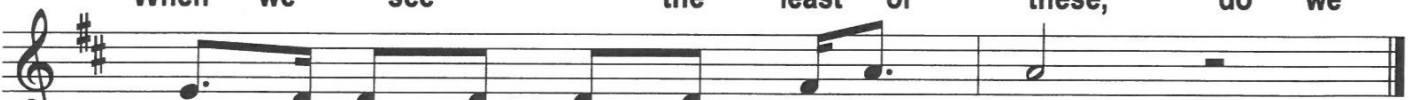
Shep - herds came to see the sight, a
Ma - ry came with the tears of grief, but
Have you seen the ach - ing hearts, the



ba - by born to be - yond the light.
she found life hurts, lives - yond torn be - lief.
hu - man hurts, lives - yond torn a - lief.
part?



Then they went and spread the word 'cause they
She found joy see where she had hurt when the
When we see the least of these, do we



had to tell all they had heard.
ris - en Lord know ap - peared to her.
real - ly who we have seen?

God of the Movements and Martyrs - v. 2 & 3



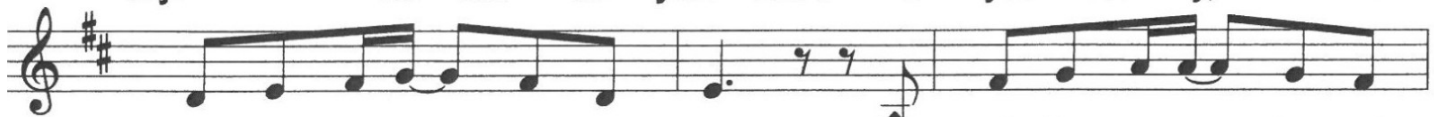
2. Now it's our turn to do jus-tice, hum-bly we rise to the
3. God of the cir-cle that holds us, God of the ones pushed a-



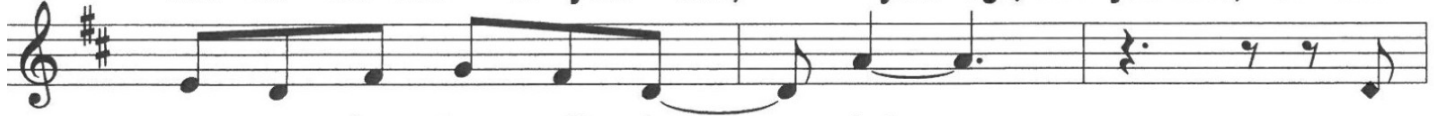
day, give us the strength and the wis-dom to walk in your
way, we will reach out to our neigh-bors, in your name we'll



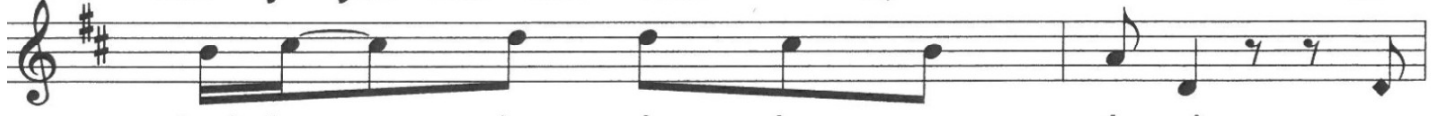
way. Gath-er the loaves and the fish-es,
say: No mat-ter your creed or your coun-try, no



share un-til all have been fed, - walk in com-pas-sion and
mat-ter the hue of your skin, your age, who you love, or the



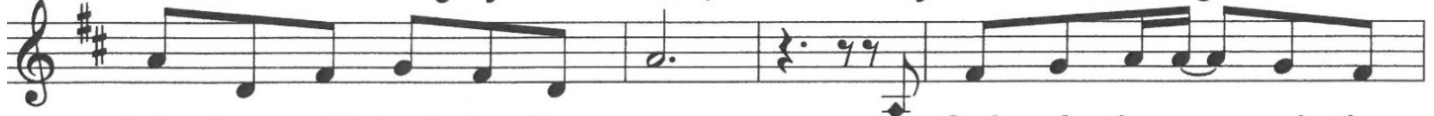
mer-cy, by love we'll be led, -
bod-y your soul was born in, no



stand-ing in the cir-cles sur-round-ing,
mat-ter the plac-es you're bro-ken, no



all hold-ing hands while we pray, when pow-ers bear down on-the
mat-ter the things you have done, - lay down that weight on the



help-less, we'll stand in the way. - God of the worn and the
al-tar, a new day's be-gun. - You are a child of the

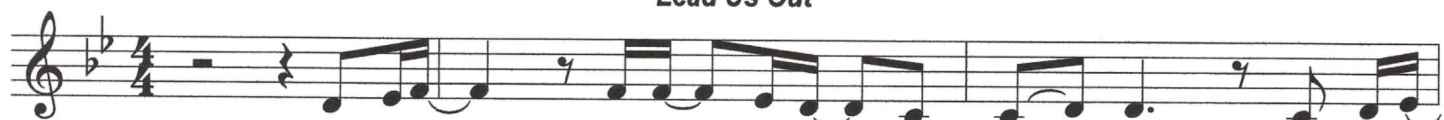


wound-ed, - let-us be healed by the truth, when
mak-er, - you are be-lov-ed and known, -



door-ways are blocked, we will low-er our friends through the roof.
join us in work of the kin-dom, we wel-come you home. *(Repeat last line v.3)*

Lead Us Out



Lead us up. We want to know You bet - ter. Lead us up.
Lead us in. We want to love like You do. Lead us in.
Lead us out. We want to be a bless - ing. Lead us out



- Fill our hearts and make us more like You. Lead us up.
- Make of us one bod - y in Your love. Lead us in.
in - to the world You gave Your life to save. Lead us out



- Ev - er grow - ing clo - ser. Oh lead us
- Lov - ing one an - oth - er. Oh lead us
to tell them all a - bout You. Oh lead us



up in - to You, Lord. Lead us up. Lead us in. Lead us out
in Your love, O Lord.
out in - to Your world.



in - to Your world. Lead us now, and we'll fol - low you to -



day. Lead us on - ward by Your grace, un - til we see Your face. Lead us



out in - to Your world. world. Lead us out in - to Your



world. Lead us out in - to Your world.