

2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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:

- ❖ The word Ubuntu can be translated as "a person is a person because of or through others" (Moloketi, 2009:243; Tutu, 2004:25-26). Ubuntu can be described as the capacity in an African culture to express compassion, reciprocity, dignity, humanity and mutuality in the interests of building and maintaining communities with justice and mutual caring (Khoza, 2006:6; Luhabe, 2002:103; Mandela, 2006:xxv; Tutu, 1999:3435). - PhD Thesis: J.K. Khomba
- ❖ There is no English word that totally encompasses the meaning of Ubuntu think about that.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ

who finds us and saves us, All:

Leader: The love of God All: who unites us,

Leader: And the communion of the Holy Spirit

All: who transforms us

Leader: be with you all.

All: And also with you.

PRAISE SONG: "Shalom" (music at end of bulletin)

CONFESSION AND BAPTISMAL RENEWAL:

Leader: In answer to the question "What does baptism mean for daily living?" The Small Catechism responds: "It means that our sinful self, with all its evil deeds and desires, should be drowned through daily repentance; and that day after day a new self shall arise to live with God in righteousness and purity forever." I ask you to confess your sin and turn away from the darkness of evil and its power in the world.

All: We find ourselves separated from our siblings. There are lines drawn between us that are racial, economic, and educational. These lines show themselves through cliques, consumption and a lack of caring for those outside our circles.

Leader: We live cut off from the grace given to us in the waters of baptism and the freeing power of God's forgiveness. We often feel that we cannot change our world or even ourselves.

All: We live in a world overwhelmed with war and violence. We are not committed to learn your lessons of peace, eager to set our weapons down, or walk in paths of justice.

Leader: So many things call us, grab for our attention, that we find ourselves stretched to a fragile thin line, grasping for things that do not satisfy.

All: We live in a world capable of abundance yet we do not freely share with those in need.

Leader: Our time is fragmented. Our families are fragmented. Our lives are fragmented. Our lives are broken.

All: Yet in the face of all this, we seek out Your forgiveness that we may be reconciled and healed to do your will and live in your ways.

Leader: In Christ, the grace and mercy of God are revealed!

In Christ, your sins are forgiven!

Walk then with courage as children of the light,

Freed to love your siblings as God loves us.

THE CONFESSION RESPONSE: "Mercy" (music at end of bulletin)

THE READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:11

So speak encouraging words to one another. Build up hope so you'll all be together in this, no one left out, no one left behind. I know you're already doing this; just keep on doing it.

THE GOSPEL:

John 13:34-35

³⁴⁻³⁵ "Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other."

MESSAGE: "And They'll Know We Are Christians..." - Pastor Cristy School

MESSAGE RESPONSE: "On a Quiet Night" (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:

One: Lord Jesus, Son of the living God,

All: Teach us to walk in your way more truthfully,

One: To accept your truth more faithfully,

All: And share your life more lovingly.

One: Guide us in our work as the church,

All: So that we may fully be one family.

One: Go, knowing God's grace,

All: Sharing God's peace,

One: Living God's justice,

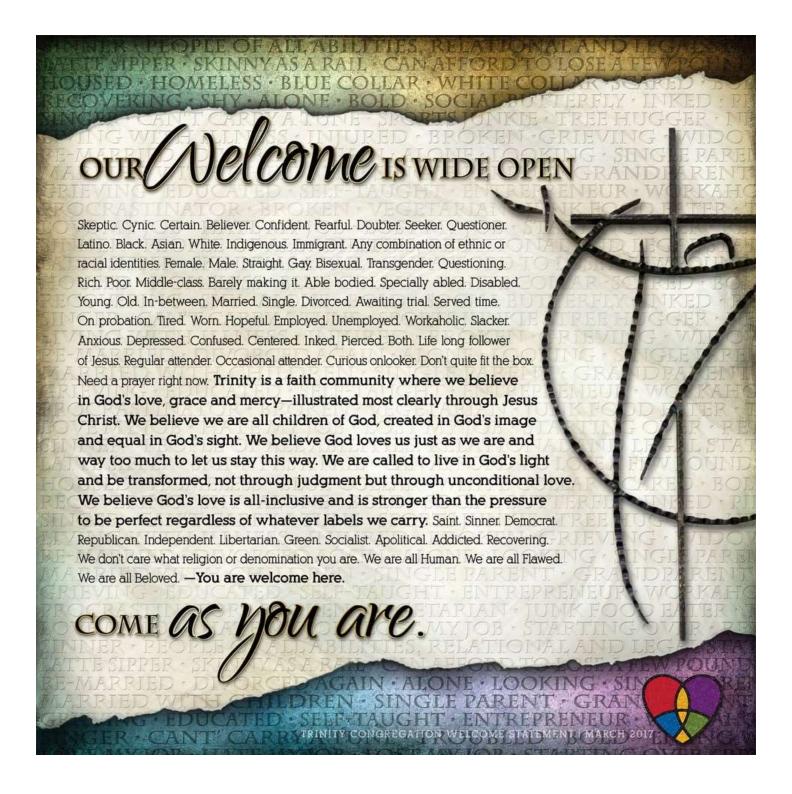
All: Bearing God's blessing to all.

THE SENDING SONG: "Ubuntu" (music at end of bulletin)

THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



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Ubuntu



Verses (echo song leader)

- 1. ... Sisters and brothers ... made for communion ... bound to each other ... one holy union ... Drawn by a vision ... drawn by desire ... drawn to the circle ... round God's holy fire,
- 2. ... Called now we follow ... Jesus our brother ... Who gathers his children ... just like a mother ... Tenderly holding ... this new creation ... Making and molding ... a new holy nation,
- ... This is our vision ... life's in the sharing ... Holding back nothing ... dreaming and daring,
 ... To live this communion ... that breaks us and binds us
 - ... Holds us and heals us ... frees us and finds us

