



JULY 22-23, 2023

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

MEDITATION PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:

O God of justice and righteousness: Grant that we, your children, may be instruments of justice in our families, our congregations, our communities and the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ *Christianity stands or falls with its revolutionary protest against violence, arbitrariness and pride of power and with its plea for the weak. Christians are doing too little to make these points clear rather than too much. Christendom adjusts itself far too easily to the worship of power. Christians should give more offense, shock the world far more, than they are doing now. Christian should take a stronger stand in favor of the weak rather than considering first the possible right of the strong.* - Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- ❖ *We are not to simply bandage the wounds of victims beneath the wheels of injustice, we are to drive a spoke into the wheel itself.* - Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- ❖ *We must come to see that human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability. It comes through the tireless efforts and persistent work of [people] willing to be coworkers with God.* - Martin Luther King Jr.
- ❖ *Little progress can be made by merely attempting to repress what is evil. Our great hope lies in developing what is good.* - Calvin Coolidge

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Come and worship the Holy God.

People: Shall we come with shouts of alleluia?

Leader: No! Come and worship the Holy God.

People: Shall we come with trumpet and organ?

Leader: No! Come and worship the Holy God.

People: Shall we come with cymbal and drum?

Leader: No! Come and worship the Holy God.

People: Shall we come having done justice and deeds of mercy?

Leader: Yes! Such is the worship the Holy One seeks.

PRAISE SONG: *“Dream God’s Dream” (vs. 1 & 2) (music at end of bulletin)*

THE CONFESSION:

Leader: Let us be honest with God, with each other and with ourselves about the state of our lives.

People: O God, we confess to you that your passion for justice has not been our own. We talk about justice and demand it when we feel that we have been wronged, but we fail to see the brutality exacted on others. We fume over the driver who cuts us off in traffic but ignore the mentally ill who roam our streets without proper health care. We complain about our neighbor's music being too loud while innocent lives are being lost daily in wars around the world. We think we have been ill-used because the price of gasoline for our vehicle is so high while multitudes walk wherever they need to go. Forgive us for our self-centered ways. Open our eyes to the suffering around us and give us the power of your Spirit to confront injustice and evil wherever we find them. Amen.

Leader: The God of justice is also the God of compassion. God forgives your sins and commissions you as a minister of justice.

CONFESSION RESPONSE: *“We Have Seen the Messiah (v. 3)
(music at end of bulletin)*

THE LESSON: *Amos 5:21-24*

This Old Testament prophet, or spokesperson for God, has a message of condemnation and possibility. Here Amos condemns their religious practices and God’s non-acceptance of them. Instead he suggests God desires actions of fairness or justice to others and also personal right harmonious living or righteousness.

I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

THE GOSPEL:**Matthew 25:31-46**

As Matthew tells the story of Jesus' life, this takes place in Jerusalem on the Mt. of Olives after the disciples asked Jesus about last or end things. He tells three stories and this is the final one, sometimes called the Judgement of the Nations or the Last Judgement.

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

MESSAGE: *"Justice or Mercy"*

- Pastor David Schoob

THE MESSAGE RESPONSE: *"God of the Movements and Martyrs"*
(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: Go into the world and seek to do justice. There you will find your Lord and Savior at work already. Join him and receive his blessing as you become a blessing to others. **Amen.**

THE SENDING SONG: “*Lord of Justice*” (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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Dream God's Dream vs. 1 & 2



Dream God's dream. Hol- y Spir - it help us dream of a



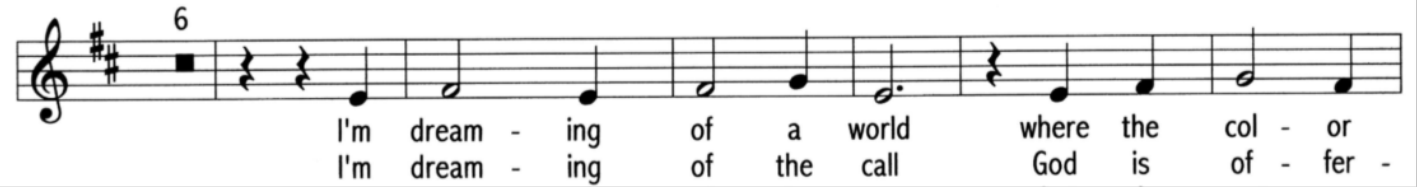
world where there is jus - tice and where ev - 'ry - one is



free to build and grow and love and to sim - ply have e -



nough The world will change when we dream God's dream.



6
I'm dream - ing of a world where the col - or
I'm dream - ing of the call God is of - fer -



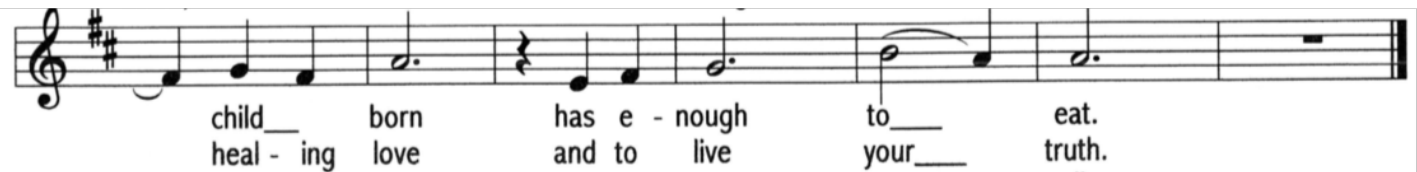
of one's skin will mean less than what's with - in that
ing to me, how to use my en - er - gy and



per - son's heart. A world where wa - ter's
my best gifts. To do the work of



clean, and where air is safe to breathe and ev - 'ry
Christ, to say God please use my life to spread your



child__ born has e - nough to__ eat.
heal - ing love and to live your__ truth.

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 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 a - lief.
hu - man hurts, lives - yond torn be 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

1. God of the move - ments and mar - tyrs, God of the pow - er - less
 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 -

child, God of the hurt and the hope - less and un - rec - on - ciled,
 day, give us the strength and the wis - dom to walk in your way.
 way, we will reach out to our neigh - bors, in your name we'll say:

- God of the just and the faith - ful, - God of the night and the
 - Gath - er the loaves and the fish - es, - share un - til all have been
 No mat - ter your creed or your coun - try, no mat - ter the hue of your

day, - God of the whole of cre - a - tion, in your name we
 fed, - walk in com - pas - sion and mer - cy, by love we'll be
 skin, your age, who you love, or the bod - y your soul was born

pray; - Man - y have fol - lowed the sav - ior -
 led, - stand - ing in cir - cles sur - round - ing,
 in, no mat - ter the plac - es you're bro - ken, no

in - to the face of the storm, - strength - ened by long gen - er -
 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

a - tions, by love they were formed. In base - ments of tall stee - pled
 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

church - es, in shadows of fen - es and walls, in al - leys and hall - ways of
 wound - ed, - let us be healed by the truth, when door - ways are blocked, we will
 mak - er, - you are be - lov - ed and known, - [join us in work of the

pow - er, they an - swered your call.
 low - er our friends through the roof.
 kin - dom, we wel - come you home.] *Repeat last phrase v. 3*

Lord of Justice

Lord of jus - tice, Lord of life, help us to do what you
know is right Oh, oh, oh, Lord of jus - tice, Lord of life,
guide us through the day and night. *Fine* To the strang - er may we give give
To the wound - ed may we give give
wel - come, to the hun - gry may we give bread. To the
heal - ing, to the voice - less may we give words. To the
nak - ed may we give cloth - ing, to the
cap - tives may we give free - dom, to the
home - less a - place to lay their head.
tor - tured re - lease from all the hurt.