



AUGUST 12-13, 2023

11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

MEDITATION PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:

O God who created all things and called them good: Grant us the grace to understand that you are a God of love and of joy. Help us to serve you with joyous hearts filled with your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ *Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and "Hallelujah!" is our song.* - Pope John Paul II
- ❖ *Praise is the means by which God reveals God's self to God's people.* - C.S. Lewis
- ❖ *Awe is what opens our finite minds to the infinite intelligence of God. Awe is what connects our limited hearts to the limitless love of the Lord. Awe is what helps us to see God's glory in the sea and the land and the moon and the sun.* - Homiletics (A Preaching Magazine)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Easter people, rejoice!

People: For God is good and faithful!

Leader: Easter people, rejoice!

People: For God brings love and hope!

Leader: Easter people, rejoice!

People: For all things work together for God! Thanks be to God!

PRAISE SONG: Let the People of God (music at end of bulletin)

THE CONFESSION:

Creating and sustaining God, who protects us in the earliest dawn and through the darkness of night, we confess we are people who often choose to live in conflict rather than use your healing power to resolve our problems. Please grant us forgiveness and give us strength to rise above our desolation and ugliness. In you lies the power and redemption needed

for a life of glorious delight in your love. Our hope rests in you and you alone, O God, and we pray in your gracious name. Amen.

CONFESSIOIN RESPONSE: *The God of Second Chances (verses 1, 4, 6)*
(music at end of bulletin)

THE LESSONS:

Psalm 146

This is sometimes called a teaching Psalm about the God we worship. It begins and ends with words of praise for this God's care of the universe and its inhabitants, greater than any human ruler.

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

 I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Do not put your trust in princes,
 in mortals, in whom there is no help.

When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
 on that very day their plans perish.

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
 whose hope is in the LORD their God,
who made heaven and earth,
 the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith for ever;
 who executes justice for the oppressed;
 who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;
 the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
 the LORD loves the righteous.

The LORD watches over the strangers;
 The Lord upholds the orphan and the widow,
 but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The LORD will reign for ever,
 your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the LORD!

Philippians 4:4-13

Here the Apostle Paul is writing to the believers in Philippi, a Greek city on the coast of the Aegean sea. They are some of his concluding words to them suggesting possible behavior and thinking practices plus his own living example.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the

peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned for me, but had no opportunity to show it. Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through the one who strengthens me.

THE GOSPEL:

Luke 24:13-35

This is Luke's record of one of Jesus' several post-resurrection appearances. It involves two of His disciples walking to Emmaus on the day of His resurrection. He joins them and they engage in mutual conversation. They invite Him to join them for the evening and they become aware He is alive. It ends with them returning to tell the other disciples Jesus appeared to them and also learning Simon had the same experience.

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then

their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

MESSAGE: "Don't Worry, Be Happy?"

- Pastor David Schoob

THE MESSAGE RESPONSE: *Always We Begin Again*
(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 in hope and praise God. Go, knowing that God is waiting to surprise you with great joy in ways you would never imagine, and remember that through you God will surprise many with hope and joy. **Amen.**

THE SENDING SONG: *May the God of Hope Go with Us*
(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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Let the People of God

1. Let the peo - ple of God, the peo - ple of
 2. Sing the mu - sic of praise, the mu - sic of
 3. Sing the mu - sic of hope, the mu - sic of
 4. Sing 'til ev - 'ry - one hears, 'til ev - 'ry - one

God, the peo - ple of God, praise and sing - ing.
 praise, the mu - sic of praise and wor - ship.
 hope, the mu - sic of hope, and the free - dom.
 hears, 'til ev - 'ry - one hears the mu - sic.

Let the peo - ple of God, praise and sing - ing,
 Sing the mu - sic of hope, and wor - ship
 Sing the mu - sic of hope, and free - dom
 Sing 'til ev - 'ry - one hears the mu - sic

all a - round the earth.
 all a - round the earth.
 all a - round the earth.
 all a - round the earth.

The God of Second Chances vs. 1, 4, 6

1. Come now, O God of sec - ond chanc - es;
 4. Come now, O God, shake our re - sent - ment;
 6. Come now, O God, of sec - ond chanc - es;

o - pen our lives to heal.
 o - pen our way to choose
 may we for - give our - selves;

Re - move our hate, and melt our rage.
 the way of be - love, o - ver re - venge.
 may we be - come your liv - ing sign:

Save us from our - selves.
 Show us a new way.
 Chil - dren of God's love.

Always We Begin Again

1. Al - ways we be - gin a - gain, where we are and been be - fore.
2. Al - ways we be - gin a - gain, reach - ing out to those in pain,
3. Al - ways we be - gin a - gain, grow - ing ev - 'ry day more strong,
If we stum - ble and if we fall, we rise each day to soar.
show - ing grace and for - giv - ing those, who've hurt us time a - gain.
grate - ful for this com - mu - ni - ty, who with us walk a - long.
Al - ways we be - gin a - gain, liv - ing ful - ly in our time.
Al - ways we be - gin a - gain, with the Spir - it as our guide,
Al - ways we be - gin a - gain grate - ful for the seeds we sow,
Lis - ten - ing with our heart's own ear, hear - ing God's own rhyme.
bal - anc - ing in our work and prayer, hum - bly with - out praise.
wit - ness - ing God's own work at hand, blos - som - ing and grow.

May the God of Hope Go With Us

1. May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,
2. May the God of heal - ing free the earth from fear;
fill - ing all our lives with love and joy and peace.
free - ing us for peace, both treas - ured and pur - sued.
May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way
May the God of love keep our com - mit - ment clear
bring - ing light and hope to ev - 'ry land and race.
to a world re - stored, to hu - man life re - newed.
Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our joy with all;
work - ing for a world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.