



Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing. Luke 23:34

FEBRUARY 17-18, 2024

1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

MEDITATION PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:

God, we pray earnestly and expectantly that you will fill our hearts and this place with your presence. Teach us the way of the cross. It is a difficult life, but we trust that it is the only true life worthy of your mission. Teach us the words of Jesus and shape our lives by them. Teach us the deeds of Jesus and form us by them. We are eager and ready to hear the gospel and praise your holy name. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ *“It is to the Cross that the Christian is challenged to follow his Master: no path of redemption can make a detour around it.”*
– Hans Urs von Balthasar, *Unless You Become Like This Child* (Swiss Catholic Theologian)
- ❖ *“The cross is not a sign of the church's quiet, suffering submission to the powers-that-be, but rather the church's revolutionary participation in the victory of Christ over those powers. The cross is not a symbol for general human suffering and oppression. Rather, the cross is a sign of what happens when one takes God's account of reality more seriously than Caesar's. The cross stands as God's (and our) eternal no to the powers of death, as well as God's eternal yes to humanity, God's remarkable determination not to leave us to our own devices.”*
– Stanley Hauerwas, *Resident Aliens: Life in the Christian Colony* (Theologian)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Gather together to worship God!

People: We gather to reunite with God's purposes.

Leader: Gather together to walk with Christ!

People: We gather to make our way to the cross.

Leader: Gather together as disciples committed to holy life!

People: We gather to live the faith fully in our lives.

PRAISE SONG: *Cross of Christ (music at end of bulletin)*

THE SENDING OUT:

Leader: May these forty days bring you new depth of God’s vision. May you be a disciple of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, even unto the Cross. Go forth to live and love as Christ does, now and always. **Amen.**

THE SENDING SONG: *The Journey of Praise* (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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Cross of Christ



Hearts on fire with hope and grief;
Some - one has a heav - y load,
Riv - ers filled with mys - ter - y

There is doubt and there's be - lief. Some will trust, a
stran - ger hurt a - long the road. Some will walk right
flow - ing for e - ter - ni - ty. Ev - 'ry child of

bless - ed faith; oth - ers need to touch the wounds of grace.
by this place. Who will stop to be the hands of grace?
ev - 'ry race, wel - come to - God's a - bound - ing grace.

Look - ing through the cross of Christ, we die and rise a - gain.

New cre - a - tion, gift of life, love that has no end.

I Come to the Cross

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "I Come to the Cross". It consists of eight staves of music in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The score begins with a double bar line and repeat dots. The lyrics are: "I come to the cross seek-ing mer - cy and grace. I come to the cross where You died in my place. Out of my weak - ness and in - to Your strength, Je - sus, I come to the cross. Your arms are o - pen, You call me by name, You wel - come this child that was lost. You paid the price for my guilt and my shame. Je - sus, I come, Je - sus, I come, Je - sus, I come to the cross." The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

I come to the cross seek-ing mer - cy and grace. I
come to the cross where You died in my place.
Out of my weak - ness and in - to Your strength,
Je - sus, I come to the cross. Your arms are
o - pen, You call me by name, You wel - come this
child that was lost. You paid the price for my
guilt and my shame. Je - sus, I come, Je - sus, I
come, Je - sus, I come to the cross.

God, I am Beaten, Battered and Bruised

1. God, I am beat - en, bat - tered and bruised,
slan - dered and stepped on, hurt and a - bused. But
I trust in You, and I am not a - fraid. Let them
do what they will. I trust in You.

2. God there are times when I wish You would fight,
3. Day af - ter day, peo - ple plot my de - mise,
take up my cause so they'll know I am right. But
look - ing at me with con - tempt in their eyes. But
You hold my tears and You know all my pain. Let them
I trust in You and I am not a - fraid. Let them
do what they will. I trust in You.
do what they will. I trust in You.

God, I am prom - ised to You. God, now my off - 'ring I give.
Here is my heart, my soul, my all. Now in Your
light I will live. Now, in Your light I will live.
So let it be: God is for me. So let it be.

The Journey of Praise

1. We are all_ on a jour - ney_ from the cra - dle
2. We can feel_ - - suf - fer - ing; there is some - one

to the grave. We are giv - en life_
near in need. We are giv - en choice,

through the price_ our Sav - ior had to pay.
heart, hands, voice; they are with - in our reach.

Oh, let our hearts praise the Lord! Oh, let our hands praise the Lord!

Oh, let our voic - es praise the Lord! Oh, let our lives praise the Lord!_