

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TRINITY WELCOME**

**THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY**

*Love all of God's creation, both the whole of it and every grain of sand. Love every leaf, every ray of God's light. Love animals, love plants, love each thing. If you love each thing, you will perceive the mystery of God in things. Once you have perceived it, you will begin tirelessly to perceive more and more of it every day. And you will come at last to love the whole world with an entire, universal love.* ~Brian McClaren

*Yes, God loves you this very day and always. God is not waiting to love you until you have overcome your weaknesses and bad habits. God loves you today with a full understanding of your struggles. God is aware that you reach up to Him in heartfelt and hopeful prayer. God knows of the times you have held onto the fading light and believed-even in the midst of growing darkness. God knows of your sufferings. God knows of your remorse for the times you have fallen short or failed. And still God loves you.* ~ Dieter F. Uchtdorf

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Follow the star;

**All: Kneel to worship.**

One: Bring the best gifts;

**All: Bring yourself.**

One: Come to the water;

**All: Come to joy.**

One: Be raised to new life.

**All: Live as God's beloved.**

One: Come to the table;

**All: Here, taste the Bread of Life,**

One: Here, be filled with the cup of blessing.

**All: Rise, forgiven, renewed and healed.**

One: Come, follow the star to new birth, touch the water of life, sit at the table of holiness, and sing your praise.

**PRAISE SONG**

**“Let This Be The Time”**

**Verse 1:**

- L: When the song of your people rings out from each steeple, (C: *let this be the time.*)
- L: When our praise and devotion set lives into motion, (C: *let this be the time.*)
- L: When the heart of our labor promotes love of neighbor, (C: *let this be the time.*)
- L: When the care for each nation brings peace to creation, (C: *let this be the time.*) **CHORUS**

**Verse 2:**

- L: When we see in each face those we need to embrace, (C: *let this be the time.*)
- L: When we turn and forgive those the world won't let live, (C: *let this be the time.*)
- L: When our care for creation becomes our vocation, (C: *let this be the time.*)
- L: When our deeds and good actions become our true passion, (C: *let this be the time.*) **CHORUS**

**Verse 3:**

- L: When the voice of the Spirit transforms all who hear it, (C: *let this be the time.*)
- L: When we turn from obsession and needless possessions, (C: *let this be the time.*)
- L: When we give recognition to the one, true physician, the healer who bears all our pain, when we stop and remember that you are our God, (C: *let this be the time.*) **CHORUS**

**CHORUS**

Come and tear down the old ways and build up the new  
be the God of our promise; all hope rests in  
you. With the fire of your Spirit, blaze a kingdom of  
truth. Prepare us for action, let nothing dis -  
tract us from you! Let this be the time!

## OUR CONFESSION

**All:** Divine Light, illuminating our shadows and darkness, we turn to you in hope and fear. We long to be freed from times of bewildering darkness when depression and despair haunt our days and perplex our nights. We hope for clear answers and readily marked paths. Yet, we fear your refiner's fire that illumines our bad choices, our cautious spirits, our angry hearts. When you look deep, we feel shame for what we have done and for things we have left undone. Loving God, Healing Light, remind us that you desire not our punishment, but our salvation. Your light is gracious and brings insight and renewal, hope and blessing. Restore our courage and make us your light for others. Amen.

**Leader:** The light of God's love that comes in Jesus has set us free from darkness. Let us then live in the light each every day.

## CONFESSION RESPONSE "We Are Called" vs 1 & 2

1. Come! Live in the light!  
2. Come! O Sing - pen a, the your new heart!  
3. Sing! Sing a, new song!

Shine Show Sing with your of the joy mer - and cy the love all of those the in  
your..... that great - cy day when all all will be

Lord! We are called to be  
fear! We We are are called to and we'll  
one! God will reign,

light hope for the king - dom, to live in the  
walk for with the the hope - less so as ha - tred and

free - dom of the cit - y of God!  
blind - ness..... will be..... of no more.  
broth - ers..... u - nit - ed in love.

We are called to act with jus - tice; we are  
called to love ten - der - ly; we are called to  
serve one an - oth - er to walk

hum - bly with God.

5

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **THE READING**

**Isaiah 60:1-3**

“Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.  
<sup>2</sup> See, darkness covers the earth  
and thick darkness is over the peoples,  
but the LORD rises upon you  
and his glory appears over you.  
<sup>3</sup> Nations will come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

### **THE GOSPEL**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem village, Judah territory— this was during Herod's kingship—a band of scholars arrived in Jerusalem from the East. They asked around, “Where can we find and pay homage to the newborn King of the Jews? We observed a star in the eastern sky that signaled his birth. We're on pilgrimage to worship him.”

<sup>3-4</sup> When word of their inquiry got to Herod, he was terrified—and not Herod alone, but most of Jerusalem as well. Herod lost no time. He gathered all the high priests and religion scholars in the city together and asked, “Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?”

<sup>5-6</sup> They told him, “Bethlehem, Judah territory. The prophet Micah wrote it plainly:

It's you, Bethlehem, in Judah's land,  
no longer bringing up the rear.  
From you will come the leader  
who will shepherd-rule my people, my Israel.”

<sup>7-8</sup> Herod then arranged a secret meeting with the scholars from the East. Pretending to be as devout as they were, he got them to tell him exactly when the birth-announcement star appeared. Then he told them the prophecy about Bethlehem, and said, “Go find this child. Leave no stone unturned. As soon as you find him, send word and I'll join you at once in your worship.”<sup>9-10</sup> Instructed by the king, they set off. Then the star appeared again, the same star they had seen in the eastern skies. It led them on until it hovered over the place of the child. They could hardly contain themselves: They were in the right place! They had arrived at the right time!

<sup>11</sup> They entered the house and saw the child in the arms of Mary, his mother. Overcome, they kneeled and worshiped him. Then they opened their luggage and presented gifts: gold, frankincense, myrrh.<sup>12</sup> In a dream, they were warned not to report back to Herod. So they worked out another route, left the territory without being seen, and returned to their own country.

**MESSAGE RESPONSE**     *“Wise Men Came Journeying”*


1. Wise men came jour-ney-ing, once, long a-go,  
 2. Wise are the trav-el-ers led to move on  
 3. Wise are each one of us look-ing for change,  
 4. Wise ones keep jour-ney-ing all through their days,

cam-el hooves swirl-ing the sand dune and snow,  
 fol-low-ing signs where the Christ light has shone,  
 star-gaz-er peo-ple, re-spect-ing the strange,  
 bring-ing their gifts to the source of their praise,

gold in the sad-dle-bag, myrrh in the jar,  
 fac-ing the des-erts and cross-ing the lines,  
 in-ner and out-er worlds o-pen to light,  
 risk-ing the Prom-ise with all they hold dear,

in-cense to hon-or the Child of the star.  
 heed-ing no lim-its that cul-ture de-fines.  
 cen-tered on see-ing the real and the right.  
 seek-ing God's peace at the door of the year.

**THE OFFERING**     *Please remember that your offerings of money, time and talents enable Trinity to “share the love and promise of God” through its ministries.*

**THE PRAYERS**

P: As God’s people called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the church, the human family, and all of creation.

(Petitions end: “God of mercy”; “Hear our prayer.”)

P. All these things and whatever you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ, who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

## ***THE COMMUNION SENTENCES***

Leader: We declare we are Christmas people and as Jesus is born in the stable, we are born again to everlasting life.

**All: We come to worship and bow down. We come to kneel and give thanks. We come to worship Jesus.**

Leader: In the waters of Baptism, you have claimed us – both light and darkness - and called us your own.

**All: We come to be strengthened, reshaped, and made new to shine with your light.**

Leader: In this family meal we celebrate the gift of God in Christ Jesus.

**All: In sharing of the bread and wine we find forgiveness of sin and God's resurrection presence.**

Leader: God gives us this gift to share.

**All: We come to eat and drink and to be changed.**

Leader: Our Lord, Jesus, on the night of his betrayal, in a quiet room with his disciples, took bread and gave thanks. When he had blessed it, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat, this is my body given for you. Do this to remember me." And then he took a cup and when he had given thanks he gave it for all to drink saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this to remember me"

**All: Jesus, let your body and blood flow through us to remold us and renew us with your presence.**

## ***THE LORD'S PRAYER***

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. 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 DISTRIBUTION***

*All who celebrate Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to commune today.*

*When you receive the bread, you may either dip the bread in the first chalice of wine or the second chalice of grape juice*

*Please indicate to the pastor if you need a gluten free wafer.*

*There are individually packaged gluten free wafer/wine in the front pews.*

COMMUNION SONGS

"I Believe in That Love"



1. I be - lieve in a love that is born in the song of a  
2. I be - lieve in a love that is felt in the touch of a  
3. I be - lieve in a love that is here at the heart of a



ba - by's cry. I be - lieve in a love that lives  
help - ing hand. I be - lieve in a love that sees  
my - ster - y. I be - lieve in a love that for -



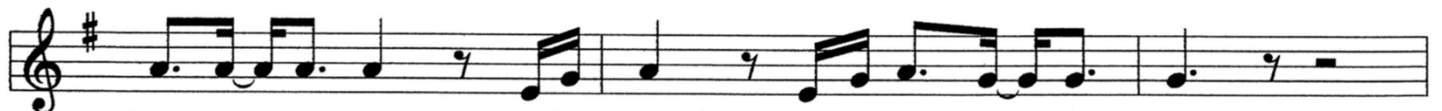
on and on e - ven when we die.  
diff' - renc - es and seeks to un - der - stand.  
gives, for - gets heals and sets us free.



I be - lieve in a love that reach - es out em -  
I be - lieve in a love that has no bounds, no  
I be - lieve in a love that los - es self for the



brac - ing all our pain and doubt. I be -  
class or race to hold it down.  
sake of life for some - one else.



lieve in that love, I be - lieve I be - lieve in that love.



I be - lieve in that love. I be



- lieve I be - lieve in that love.

# "Pass It On"

1. It on - ly takes a spark to get a fire  
2. I wish for you my friend this hap - pi - ness that

go - ing And soon all those a - round can  
I've found You can de - pend on Him, it

warm up in its glow - ing That's how it is with  
mat - ters not where you're bound I'll shout it from the

God's love Once you've ex - pe - ri - enced it you  
moun tain top I want my world to know; The

spread His love to ev - 'ry - one; You want to pass it on.  
Lord of Love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

1. I'll shout it from the moun - tain top  
2. I want my world to know The Lord of love has

come to me, I want to pass it on.



## "Your Kingdom Come"

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words split across lines. The lyrics are: "Your king - dom come. Your king - dom come. Your king - dom come. Your king - dom come. Do I real - ly and want your king - dom come? It is you see and I light in a trou - bled land. I can see the light in a child's eyes. When I see the light I or reach out and run We can close our doors still in the old and our hands It is shin - ing still in the old and wise. from the truth, from the life, from the sac - ri - fice, to the high, to the low, to the in - be - tween; It's the hope, it's the love, stir - ring deep with - in; from the will that must be done. feel the nail that we don't see. it's the love that con - quers sin."

### ***THE BLESSING***

### ***THE SENDING OUT***

Leader: God has given you a new identity and a holy call.  
Receive God's gift, unwrap it, savor its surprise.  
Be confident of your release,  
Be encouraged in your growth,  
Be empowered to shine.

**All:** **Amen.**

# THE SENDING SONG

## "Ubuntu"

*Chorus*

U - bun- tul U - bun- tul  
 shar- ing our vi - sions and dreams. U - bun- tul where  
 jus- tice flows like a life giv - ing stream. The  
 peo- ple to - geth- er join - ing our hearts and our  
 hands to wel - come the strang - er and cher - ish the friend and to  
 work for the peace of the land and so we do lifel

*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,
3. ... 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

*Bridge*

1. Made by God's po - wer to live as God's own;  
 2. Marked by the wa - ter and giv - en our name,  
 3. God, give us cour - age to do what we say,  
 made to be seen and be heard and to be known  
 moved by God's Spir - it, re - vived by hol - y flames  
 Christ, give us strength for the liv - ing of these days.

## ***THE DISMISSAL***

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please join us in the Heritage Room for a coffee hour after the worship service.*



*Scanning our QR code takes you directly to Trinity's giving page where individuals can make a one-time donation, set up automatic giving and/or visit as many times as they wish to help support the costs of Trinity's ministries.*

## ***WE THANK OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS***

**Pastors:** Pastor David Schoob, Pastor Cristy Schoob

**Worship Assistant:** Paul Bauman

**Ushers:** Denise and Nate Kenworthy

**Communion Set Up:** Jill Hasenstein

**Communion Servers:** Nate Shubat

**Reader:** Jill Hasenstein

**Vocalists:** Tony Brodzeller, Cyndee Bruder,  
Ruthann Dorn, Rick Gilbertson

**Keyboard:** Hazel Griffin

**Video:** Peter Nelson **Audio:** Sue Gilbertson

**Counters:** Shirl Curreri, Diane Ferstadt

**Coffee Hour Baker/Host:**

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