GATHERING MUSIC

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRINITY WELCOME

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

Jesus is God spelling Godself out in language that men can understand.

-S.D. Gordon

Fundamentally, our Lord's message was Himself. He did not come merely to preach a Gospel; He himself is that Gospel. He did not come merely to give bread; He said, "I am the bread." He did not come merely to shed light; He said, "I am the light." He did not come merely to show the door; He said, "I am the door." He did not come merely to name a shepherd; He said, "I am the shepherd." He did not come merely to point the way; He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." **-J. Sidlow Baxter**

"I like your Christ, I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ." -Mahatma Gandhi

CALL TO WORSHIP:

- Leader: God's Son entered our world, but the world did not recognize him.
- People: Would I know Christ if I saw him? Am I familiar enough with him to recognize him as God?
- Leader: The Word Jesus Christ became flesh. That means he became fully human.
- People: If God was human in Christ, he was like me. He must know what it's like to be tempted in this life.
- Leader: Christ not only knows he understands. Let us pray...
- ALL: Holy God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we bow in your presence celebrating the humility of your Son, the King of Kings, who became human to die as our Savior. He makes these bodies holy because he came in the flesh. He makes this life sacred because he fills us with his Spirit. He makes this life meaningful because he teaches us how to live. Thank you for the Word made flesh, and we pray in his name. Amen



OUR CONFESSION

ALL: Loving God, you know me. You know the inner thoughts of which I am ashamed and the visible actions I regret. You know my struggle to live faithfully: being generous to those in need; being forgiving to those who have hurt me; being patient when there is so much to do; taking time for prayer in the midst of busyness; being loving, when judging and criticizing are my first thoughts.

> Loving God, you know me, love me, forgive me, trust me, and I stand in awe of your amazing grace. Keep me on the path of Christ and lead me to deep joy and abundant gratitude. In his name. Amen.

Leader: When our sins cause us to fall, in Jesus God stoops down and lifts us up. In the name of Christ, you are forgiven. Walk in newness of life.

CONFESSION RESPONSE



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (sit)

THE FIRST READING

Acts 15:1-2; 22-29

15 Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." ² And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders.

²² Then the apostles and the elders, with the consent of the whole church, decided to choose men from among them and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leaders among the brothers, ²³ with the following letter: "The brothers, both the apostles and the elders, to the brothers and sisters of gentile origin in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings. ²⁴ Since we have heard that certain persons who have gone out from us, though with no instructions from us, have said things to disturb you and have unsettled your minds, ^[a] ²⁵ we have decided unanimously to choose men and send them to you, along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, ²⁶ who have risked their lives for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁷ We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. ²⁸ For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to impose on you no further burden than these essentials: ²⁹ that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled^[h] and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell."

THE GOSPEL

Mark 9:38-41

³⁸ "Teacher," said John, "we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us."

³⁹ "Do not stop him," Jesus said. "For no one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me, ⁴⁰ for whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹ Truly I tell you, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to the Messiah will certainly not lose their reward.

John 14:23-24

²³ Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.

MESSAGE "Are we sure we are following Jesus?" **Pastor Cristy Schoob**

THE MESSAGE RESPONSE (Stand)



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.

SPECIAL MUSIC "The Well-Loved Traditions" CTP Choir

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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 are a resurrection people!

- People: We come to share in the table Jesus has prepared for us. We come to lean on the power that brings new beginnings out of painful endings.
- Leader: We are Easter people
- People: Just as we share his death, we share his life. We are freed to live without fear. We, too, will be raised from death to life.
- Leader: We are Good News people!
- People: We are caught up in the activity of our life and need to pause and be refreshed. In these elements of love, we find strength to live lives that reflect God's light. We are not left alone with the darkness that terrifies us, or the sin that separates us. The body and blood of Jesus are a very real presence among us. We come to the table to find forgiveness, healing, acceptance and strength.
- Leader: Our Lord Jesus, on the night in which he was betrayed took bread, and gave thanks. He broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, *"Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this to remember me."* Again after supper he took the cup, he gave thanks and gave it for all to drink saying, *"This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me!"* Following our Lord's command and responding to our need for forgiveness, we come!

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 DISTRIBUTION

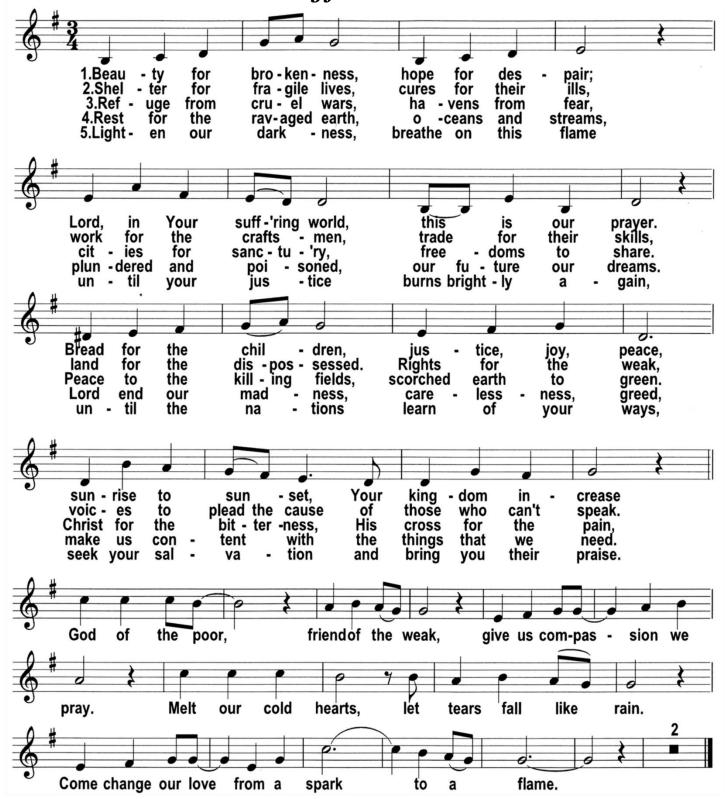
All who celebrate Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to commune today.

When you receive the bread, you may either dip the wafer 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.

(We also have individually packaged gluten free wafer/wine.)

COMMUNION SONGS

"Beauty for Brokenness"







THE COMMUNION BLESSING

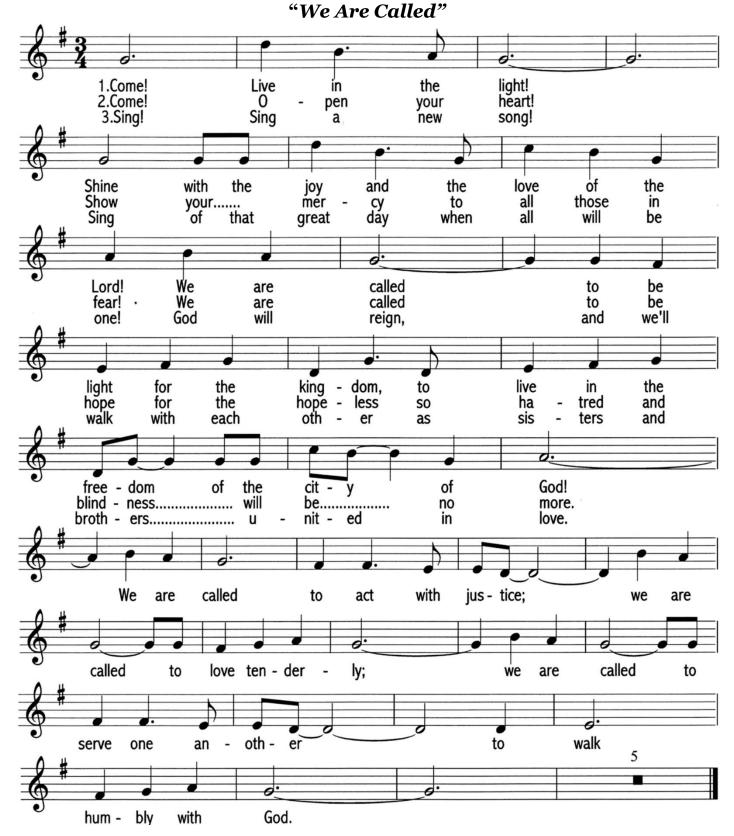
THE SENDING OUT

Leader: In the person of Jesus Christ

People: God shows us who God is.

- Leader: Get to know Christ, and you will know God. You are free to be the people of God! You are free to risk for the sake of love and life and faith! You are free to celebrate each moment as a gift from God. You are free from fear and slavery to worldly illusions of security. No matter what the future brings, you are safely held in the love of God. Alleluia!
- All: Amen!

THE SENDING SONG



THE DISMISSAL Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Following worship, please join us in the Heritage Room for a coffee hour

WE THANK OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS Pastors: Pastor David Schoob, Pastor Cristy Schoob Worship Assistant: John Kenworthy Ushers: Jim Klatt, Nate Kenworthy Reader: Vern Hasenstein Communion Set Up: Cindy Tikusis Communion Servers: Vocalists: Paul Anderson, Rick Gilbertson, Gaytha Hillman, Lori Hassig Keyboard: Hazel Griffin Video: Peter Nelson Audio: Greg Griffin Counters: Tammy Nelson, Cyndee Bruder Coffee Hour: Cindy Tikusis, Denise Kenworthy

Trinity Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Ho-Chunk and Potawatomi people. As such, we wish to give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home. It is our sincere desire that this acknowledgement initiates an ongoing instructive, and constructive journey toward respect, truth and healing regarding colonialism, the church community, and inclusivity for all children of the Great Spirit. We commit ourselves as God's children to pray for our indigenous siblings, to pray for God's blessings on them and for strength for them and for us as we work together for justice, dignity, respect and peace for all the diverse people of the land.

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