

**THE LORD’S TABLE**

**ALL: We come remembering the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. We eat of the bread, praying that its grace might strengthen us so we would become as persistent as you in confronting injustices, challenging oppressive actions, and reaching out to lift the fallen. We drink from the cup, trusting that its hope will spill out from us upon those who are lonely, lost, hungry and homeless, and especially on the outsiders.**

Leader: The Table of the Lord is open for all who would seek and accept the forgiveness Christ offers us.

*++An allergen free communion station is available in the southwest corner, near the sound booth ++*

**Order of Worship: February 26, 2017**

**COMMUNITY SINGING**

**All Creatures Of Our God And King**

All creatures of our God and King

Lift up your voice and with us sing

Oh praise him, Oh praise him!

Thou burning sun with golden beams

Thou silver moon with softer gleam

Oh praise him, Oh praise him

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong

Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along

o praise Him, alleluia

Thou rising moon in praise rejoice

Ye lights of evening find a voice

O praise Him, O praise Him

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Let all things their Creator bless

And worship Him in humbleness

O praise Him, alleluia

Praise praise the Father, praise the Son

And praise the Spirit, three in One

O praise Him, O praise Him

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

And all ye men of tender heart,

Forgiving others, take your part,

O sing ye! Alleluia!

Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,

Praise God and on Him cast your care!

O praise Him, O praise Him!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**COMMUNITY SINGING**

**How Deep The Father’s Love For Us**

How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss,  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the chosen One,  
Bring many sons to glory  
  
Behold the Man upon a cross,  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice,  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that left Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom

**CALL TO WORSHIP­­­­­­**

Leader: (Read Psalm 99: 3-5) This is the word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**Hands and Feet**

For all the strides we’ve made

For all of our blessings

We’ve fallen far away from truth

Turning our face away from this hurting race

We turned our face away from you

We want to be your hands your feet

Without words, we’ll let our actions speak.

For every broken heart, for every widow

For those without shelter from the rain

We lift our eyes to you looking for answers

When we have been called to ease the pain

Here we are

Words can only go so far

Draw us closer to your heart

Bring us back to you—bring us back to you

**COMMUNITY SINGING**

**Open Up**

You heard the cry of our hearts, and you came down

Freely you gave us your love, showing us how

Make me an instrument of your peace,

Where there is hatred let me sow love,

Where there is darkness let me shine light, and

May your love cause us to open up,

Cause us to open up our hearts.

May your light cause us to shine so bright,

That we bring hope into the dark.

All that we do without love, it means nothing.

Grant us the courage to give, as you’re calling.

Hope for the hopeless, your love is

Strength in our weakness, your love is,

May we love, as you love.

**THE BENEDICTION**

Leader: Let us go forth to walk in God's light.  
**ALL: We will show others the way to God's heart.**  
Leader: Let us go to bring hope and healing to the world.  
**ALL: With a gift as simple as a cup of water, and as complex as our lives, we will join Jesus in serving those around us.**  
Leader: Let us go to welcome the stranger into the family of God.  
**ALL: With the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are no longer strangers but God's family.**

**Trinity Church**

**6151 N. Central Ave**

**317.726.0835**

**contact@indytrinity.org**

**www.indytrinity.org**

**TRINITY’S MISSION**

Trinity is a Community following Jesus on a common mission

to love God, one another and a broken world in Jesus’ name.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Hosting Schedule:

March 5: St. Andre (Gardner) March 12: Howard (Jackson) March 19: Schnabel-Stuck (Milliken)

**Community Ministry Grant:** Thank you to all of you who came out last Sunday evening! The grant team will continue to listen to the communities we talked about and hope to hear from you. Email Elaine Schnabel at [elaine@indytrinity.org](mailto:elaine@indytrinity.org) if you have any ideas, input, or desire to help the grant team as they proceed.

**Ash Wednesday Service.** Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent, season of reflection which prepares us for Easter Sunday. Join us for our Ash Wednesday service March 1st in Trinity's sanctuary at 7 p.m.

**Trinity's Guide to Lent.**Lent begins on Wednesday, March 1st. Ideas for observing Lent (as individuals, groups, or families) may be found in Trinity's Guide to Lent, available online and in paper form at Trinity.

**Telling God’s Story.** Telling God’s Story is a short-term small group that explores the Bible as the true story of God and the whole world.  The next session begins Sunday, March 19 at 9am and continues for 8 weeks.  Led by Jeff Romack, Jeff Wise and Scott Smith.  Find more info and sign up at the entryway table or email Jeff R. at [romackjp@gmail.com](mailto:romackjp@gmail.com).

**Vases Needed:** Random Acts of Flowers delivers recycled flowers, encouragement and personal moments of kindness to people in nursing homes and hospitals throughout Indianapolis. They are currently looking for vases. If you've got some vases sitting around the house or want to find some at the local thrift store to donate, please bring them in by March 9th and drop them off in the info room at Trinity. Contact Kiley Koke at [kiley.koke@gmail.com](mailto:kiley.koke@gmail.com) if you have questions.

**TEACHING NOTES:**

**The Empowered Community:**

**A Conversation About Being Empowered as Agents of God’s Kingdom-in-Advance**

Acts 1a (Jan 8) - What does it mean to be empowered?  
The first followers of Jesus found a new level of personal and communal empowerment as the Holy Spirit formed them into a new community who would do exactly what Jesus predicted — to do even greater things than what they saw Him do. By reading their story, we can understand ourselves as an extension of the empowered community of God, the body of Christ here in Broad Ripple.  
  
Acts 1b (Jan 15) - Empowered to Make Decisions  
This is the last chapter you ever read about the decision-making vehicle of casting lots. From here, we find the spirit-filled believer is able to make decisions and discern by trusting the spirit given to them the same spirit that knows the mind of Christ. We are empowered to make decisions rather than being frozen in fear.

Acts 2 (Jan 22) – Empowered to Be God’s People in the World

Pentecost marks a stunning new chapter in the story of God for the world as God’s people—the Church—are initiated/activated as agents of God’s healing, loving, peace-bringing kingdom. God is actually saving the world by sending his Spirit empowered people with a "good news" message calling for reconciliation of all people and things to God.

Acts 3a (Jan 29) –Empowered with a New Ability to Perceive the World

Empowerment, simply put, is the receiving of the Spirit that is already present among us; it is a trust-filled proclamation of “God with us” which unleashes the power of the Spirit to be at work in the most transformative way. The story of the healing of the lame man in Acts 3 shows how the earliest community of Jesus’ followers displayed a new ability to perceive the Holy Spirit actively at work through them.  
  
Acts 3b (Feb. 5) - Discovering our Empowered Senses  
When given the Spirit, we're empowered to see, hear and experience the world like never before. Instead of engaging with the world as it is, we are responsive to a world-made-possible. We see people not as they are, but as they could be. We do not listen to what the world says about something but rather how God defines it.  
  
Acts 4b-5a (Feb. 12) - Empowered to Belong  
By taking a closer look at the New Testament early church community formed in Jerusalem, we find the Spirit's empowerment upon each of them to care for and submit to one another. There was an empowerment to belong. On our own, we so quickly fall into affinity, but the spirit moves us toward community — beyond the natural tribes into a new community where resources are shared, divisions are blurred and love is evident.

Acts 6:1-8:1 (Feb 19) – Empowered to Speak Truth to Power

The stoning of Stephen was the result of a clash between a religious system (hegemony) that benefited the wealthy religious ruling clash at the expense of the poor Jewish masses (that followed Jesus).  Stephen was empowered by the Spirit to prophetically speak truth to those in power, to call them to God’s original redemptive purpose.   As God’s people, we are also called and empowered to speak prophetic truth to culturally and religiously embedded systems of power that wield unquestioned authority.

**Action and Reflection:**

Read the remaining chapters of Acts with this question in mind: How was the Holy Spirit empowering God’s people to live as agents of new creation—of God’s kingdom-in-advance? What does this mean about how God wants to empower me, and our church, today?

**COMMUNITY CONFESSION**

Leader: All too often, we go through life blindly, refusing to see the world as God intended and pretending we’re not a part of the kingdom Jesus brought to us. Let us pray together the same prayer Jesus taught his disciples.

**ALL: 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.  Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.  For Yours is the Kingdom, the power and the glory forever.**

Leader: We are no longer alone - we are God's Beloved. We are not of this world, but residents of God's Kingdom.  We, who once had no hope, have been filled with forgiveness.

**ALL: As followers of the risen Christ, we have received God's mercy. Thanks be to God!**

**BLESSING AND PASSING THE PEACE**

**Adults:  The Lord be with you!**

**Children:  And also with you!**

*++During this time we greet one another, recognizing that we are all a part of the body, as parents lead children to their ministry spaces (nursery through Preschool are in the upstairs hallway and PreK-5th grade are downstairs).++*