

Prelude

Lighting the Candles

The Invitation

You are the Light of the World. Let your light shine in such a way that you see in your neighbor which you see in yourself. This is how to love neighbor as self!

Special Music: When We All Get to Heaven

You are the Salt of the Earth. Sing the song of Life that offers the cure for sin, which preserves Life and adds Love, flavoring the bitterness of shame, guilt, and blame.

Prayer of Confession: Who am I Following?

Lord, I believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God. I believe Jesus forgives sins, conquers death, offers eternal life, and promises me a mansion in heaven. Lord, I believe, but who am I following? Who leads my thoughts and shows me the way to fulfill the desires of my heart?

Who would you have me follow? Does following the Teachers of the Law fulfill the Law? Does following the Pharisees moral practices fulfill the Law of Moses? Is there a distinction between respecting world, national, or civil authorities and following Jesus to bring His Kingdom from heaven to earth? Lord, lead me not into temptation of following the World, but deliver me to see who I follow.

Prayer of Repentance: Denying Myself Everyone but Jesus.

Father, your son tells us to leave our sacrificial offerings at the Altar. How many times have people we thought we could trust led us like sheep to be slaughtered on the altars of justice, retribution, and restitution? Lord, in your mercy, lead us to deny our shame, guilt, and reasons for blame. Teach us to pray for those who persecute us and offer ourselves patient love when confronted by our enemies.

Prayer of Reconciliation: Taking Up My Cross

Lord, we know how to bear shame and guilt. Our lives are littered with people we have sacrificed on the altar of blame. Lord of Mercy, in your grace, show us the way to do unto our neighbors what we would have them do unto us, especially when our neighbors seek to sacrifice us.

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: Matthew 16: 24-27

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever want to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶ What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

Special Music: His Eye Is On the Sparrow

Message Series: Rest for the Journey of Life

Tithes and Offerings

Please remember that our tithes maintain Trinity's physical presence in Wise County. Sharing our witness of the Good News of Jesus Christ make Disciples. The Church grows in direct proportion to its Witness not its budget. Just as Jesus is fully human and fully God, the church thrives when it focuses on living in Wise County as the Body of Christ through the Ministry of Reconciliation.

Postlude

THE TRINITY COMPANION

FEBRUARY 14, 2021

SANCTUARY WORSHIP



For those who want to save their life
will lose it,
and those who lose their life for my sake
will find it.

Matthew 16:25, NRSV

**TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
203 E. 1ST ST., SOUTH
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**EARLY SANCTUARY WORSHIP BEGINS AT 10:00 AM
LATE SANCTUARY WORSHIP BEGINS AT 11:00 AM
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