Announcements
-The congregation council has determined that based on current circumstances, our church building will continue to be closed through May 31. In May, council will consider our situation to make decisions for June. Our congregation’s health and safety are high priorities.

-Zoom Coffee Hour: After Sunday worship online, we’ll have an opportunity to connect over a video calling program called Zoom. There’s also an option to dial in with a regular phone. The conversation will start at 11 every Sunday when we’re apart.

On your computer or smartphone:
https://zoom.us/j/601353237?pwd=YjhXSE5rZ2hPaUg1SIzMUNMNV12dz09
To call in: dial (1) 312 626 6799 When prompted, enter Meeting ID: 601 353 237, followed by #

-If you need pastoral care, have prayer requests, or otherwise need to be in touch with Pastor Beth, please let her know by calling 785-656-2348 or emailing pastor@trinitytipton.org

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM
Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are raised with him to new life.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you created us in your image and planted us in a well-watered garden.

In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched, and you gave us water from the rock.

When we did not know the way, you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

At the cross, you watered us from Jesus’ wounded side, and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We praise you for your salvation through water, for the water in the font of our baptism, and for all water everywhere.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

O Zion, Haste

1 O Zion, haste, your mission high fulfilling,
to tell to all the world that God is light;
one soul should perish, lost in shades of night.

2 Publish to every people, tongue, and nation
that God, in whom they live and move, is love;
and died on earth that we might live above.

3 He comes again! O Zion, ere you meet him,
made known to every heart his saving grace;
through your neglect, unfit to see his face.

Refrain
Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace,
tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.

Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834–1923
Music: ANGELIC SONGS, James Walsh, 1837–1901
GREETING
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY
O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.
In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of

CHILDREN’S SERMON

WORD

Acts 1:1-14

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their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

John 17:1-11
Jesus looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

SERMON
For the next several weeks, we’re going to read through parts of the book of Acts, sometimes called Acts of the Apostles. This book tells how the community of believers grew from dozens to thousands. There are miraculous healings, moving sermons, and mass conversions. There are also arguments among the community, wrongful imprisonments, and a shipwreck.
This first chapter takes us to the early days after the resurrection, a period of many weeks while Jesus spent time with his followers, teaching and encouraging them. Then, Jesus returned to heaven, promising his followers that they would receive the Holy Spirit, who would give them power to witness not only in Jerusalem, but all throughout Judea; not only in Judea but also in neighboring Samaria; not only in Samaria but indeed throughout the whole world. Like a stone dropped into a pond creates ripples that spread over the whole surface of the water, so will the witness about Jesus Christ spread.

The promise of the good news about Jesus Christ spreading through the world is tied in with the prayer that Jesus prayed: “that they may be one.” Whatever separates us- whether it’s geography, disagreement, denomination, language, or even quarantine- in Jesus we are united as one. Even when we feel most alone, we belong to Jesus Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

You Are Mine

1 “I will come to you in the silence,
2 “I am hope for all who are hopeless,
3 “I am strength for all the despairing,
(4) I am the Word that leads all to freedom,

I will lift you from all your fear.
I am eyes for all who long to see.
I am the peace the world cannot give.

You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
shadows of the night, I will be your light.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
I will call your name, embracing all your pain. Stand
PRAYERS

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

O God, call your people to be one, as you are one. Unite your church in the truth of your gospel, the love of our neighbor, and the call to proclaim your reign to all people. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Breathe life into your creation. Guide your people as we explore the mysteries of the universe. We pray for the work of scientists and mathematicians whose skill enriches our understanding. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Make your justice known among the nations of the earth. Protect the vulnerable. Redirect those who use violence and greed as weapons. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
Come to the aid of your children. We pray for those engulfed in grief, those without supportive families, and for all who are isolated, powerless, or afraid, that all may rest their anxieties in your care. Watch over those suffering from COVID-19 and those who provide them care. Lord, in your mercy, 

hear our prayer.

Give courage to all who embark on new ventures. We especially remember this day those who risked their lives to serve in our armed forces. Grant safety to those serving at home or abroad, and assure them of your never-failing strength. Lord, in your mercy, 

hear our prayer.

Raise all your saints to eternal life. Until that day, we give you thanks for the faithful examples of those who have listened to your voice and now rest in you. Lord, in your mercy, 

hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord. 

Amen.

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.

PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.
To share the peace today, after worship, flip through our church directory and call or text someone you miss.

OFFERING
God has given to each of us—our selves, our time, and our possessions. God gives also the delight of springtime, the comfort of a phone call from a loved one, the reassurance of prayer. What God has given to us, God expects us to share. If you are in a position to make a financial contribution to support our congregation’s ministry, you can mail your check to the church; the mail is being checked regularly. Thank you for your support.

OFFERING PRAYER
Merciful God, our ordinary gifts seem small, but you make of them an abundance, just as you do with our lives. Let all that we offer be in service to you to the glory of the risen Christ.
Amen.

BLESSING
May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL
Christ is risen, just as he said. Live in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
2 Before our Father’s throne we pour our ardent prayers;
3 We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear,
4 From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

the unity of heart and mind is like to that above,
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

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