



March 12, 2023 10:00am
Trinity Presbyterian Church
6800 Washington Avenue
314.725.3840
University City, Missouri 63130

www.trinityucity.org

[Facebook.com/trinityucity](https://www.facebook.com/trinityucity)
trinityucity.org/worship

Living Water

By Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

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Third Sunday of Lent

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude

Suite for Piano “From Holberg’s Time”, No. 4: Air
by Edvard Grieg

Welcome & Announcements

Leader: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

* Call to Worship

Leader: All who are thirsty,

People: **those carrying heavy burdens
who’s mourning has not yet turned to dancing,**

Leader: All who are thirsty,

People: **who are curious and hopeful,
who long for community.
who are seeking God’s presence.**

Leader: Come! Draw near to the well,

All: **the source of living water!**

* Gathering Song

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken
Glory to God #81, v. 1-3

*** Invitation to Confession**

*** Prayer of Confession** (Unison)

**Holy One,
Time and again, you defy our expectations.
You cross barriers of culture and creed
and looking into the eyes of a stranger,
you welcome them as kin.
Your love and grace astonish us O God.**

**We confess that we do not always do the same.
While you teach inclusion,
we preserve division.
While you model hospitality,
we default to suspicion.
While you extend grace,
we hold on to fear.**

**Open our eyes to see your mission for what it is –
the healing of the world.
Transform us with your grace, O God,
That we might move
from surprise to service,
from division to inclusion,
from suspicion to hospitality
from fear to grace.**

**By your Spirit,
equip and empower us
to act out of love and
proclaim your good news
in word and deed.
Amen.**

*** Assurance of God's Forgiveness**

Leader: Siblings in Christ,
Hear the good news.
In the water of our baptism
we have died with Christ
and we have been
raised up with him to new life.
Believe the good news that
through Christ,
we are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*** Passing The Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you
People: **And also with you**

Please share the peace of Christ with those around you

Time With Children

Rev. Mel Smith

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

John 4.1-30

Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, ‘Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John’—² although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized—³he left Judea and started back to Galilee. ⁴But he had to go through Samaria. ⁵So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, ‘Give me a drink’. ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, ‘How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?’ (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, ‘If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, “Give me a drink”, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.’ ¹¹The woman said to him, ‘Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?’ ¹³Jesus said to her, ‘Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.’ ¹⁵The woman said to him, ‘Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.’

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, ‘Go, call your husband, and come back.’ ¹⁷The woman answered him, ‘I have no husband.’ Jesus said to her, ‘You are right in saying, “I have no husband”; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!’ ¹⁹The woman said to him, ‘Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.’ ²¹Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.’ ²⁵The woman said to him, ‘I know that Messiah is coming’ (who is called Christ). ‘When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.’ ²⁶Jesus said to her, ‘I am he, the one who is speaking to you.’ ²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, ‘What do you want?’ or, ‘Why are you speaking with her?’ ²⁸Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹‘Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?’ ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

Anthem

“Thanks be to God” from *Elijah*
by Felix Mendelsssohn

Thanks be to God! He laveth the thirsty land.
The waters gather, they rush along, they are lifting their voices!
The stormy billows are high, their fury is mighty:
But the Lord is above them, and Almighty.

Second Scripture Reading

John 4.31-42

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging Jesus saying, 'Rabbi, eat something.' ³² But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' ³³ So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' ³⁴ Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵ Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.'

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

Message

Rev. Mel Smith

Affirmation of Faith

**To be reconciled to God
is to be sent into the world
as God's reconciling community.
This community, the church universal,
is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation
and shares God's labor of healing the enmities
which separate people from God
and from each other.
Christ has called the church to this mission
and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit.
The church maintains continuity
with the apostles and with Israel
by faithful obedience to God's call.**

Song of Response

Crashing Waters at Creation
Glory to God #476, v. 1-4

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father,
Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and glory forever. Amen.**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Offering

Invitation

“O rest in the Lord” from *Elijah*

O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for Him,
and He shall give thee thy heart's desires.
Commit thy way unto Him, and trust in Him;
and fret not thyself because of evil doers.

Doxology

We Are an Offering
Glory to God #710 v. 1

Prayer of Dedication

God of mercy,
we give you thanks,
for water that refreshes our souls,
and gives us strength for the journey ahead.
Receive our offerings –
By your Spirit,
may they become a well of good news:
 hope for the weary,
 comfort for the grieving,
 food for the hungry,
 welcome for the stranger.
And in all we say and do,
may we continue to point others to you,
the source of living water.
Amen.

Song of Service

Go, My Children, With My Blessing
Glory to God #547, v. 1-3

* Commission and Blessing

Postlude

The Year: “March”
by Fanny Hensel

About the Music

Elijah begins with drought; the people have turned from God. The climax of Part 1 of the oratorio is Elijah's contest with the prophets of Baal, and in his success Elijah begins to return the people to God. He has them pray, and after a few attempts, they see storm clouds gather, signaling both the return of God's favor and of rain to end the drought; they then sing “Thanks be to God.”

Water is one of the main symbols in *Elijah*, in part representing mercy and rejuvenation; it appears at crisis points to meet both immediate physical needs (thirst, water for crops) and ongoing spiritual needs. In the story of the Samaritan woman at the well, Jesus takes this further and speaks of two kinds of water, one for the flesh and one for the spirit. But can we forsake one need for the other? The people of Israel, until their physical needs were met, weren't going to turn back to God. But what good is having just one's bodily thirst quenched if the soul is still parched? Elijah, having received rest and sustenance in the desert, is assured by the angel of the Lord that God “shall give thee thy heart's desires.” In God there is a well for both kinds of waters.

Participants in Today's Worship

Acolyte – Natalie Chen
Children & Youth Minister – Hannah Peters
Communications Coordinator – Katie Gibbons
Director of Music & Pianist/Organist – Christian Hendricks
Liturgist – George Philips
Preacher – Rev Mel Smith
Technical Support – Dylan Voss
Ushers – Corie & John Merker, DeAnne & Gordon Brown

The Trinity Choir:

Soprano – Aleta Klein, Cricket Gordon, Jenn Clodi, Madeline Black (Section Leader)
Alto – Margy Brown, Nancy Wagoner, Rachel Presti, Janelle Pierce (Section Leader)
Tenor – Pat Courtney, Evan Babel (Section Leader)
Bass – Nigel Holloway, Brian Schroer, Clayton Mathews (Section Leader)

Contact Trinity's staff and leadership by emailing admin@trinityucity.org or contacting the church office.

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS AND NOTES FOR MARCH 12, 2023

We open our doors to all persons to join in worship, fellowship, educational programs, and service.

We welcome into membership all who profess faith in Jesus Christ without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, worldly conditions, sexual orientation, disability, or any other human condition.

We elect and ordain persons who are called by God and committed to serving the Lord Jesus Christ in the Church.

Troubling the Waters: A Year of Spirituals

As Trinity wraps up its exploration of the Spiritual in our *Troubling the Waters: A Year of Spirituals* initiative, the Mission and Ministry Committee asks you to prayerfully consider what type of donation you might choose to make to our Negro Spirituals Fund as your "royalty payment" for the ability to be able to sing during worship the anonymous spirituals found in our hymnal. Aware that the evils of slavery stripped the names of the composers from the songs, we can in a small way make reparations for this wrong by gathering funds that we then pass on to the local Legend Singers choral group so that they may continue their mission of keeping the history of African-American musical traditions, including spirituals, alive. You can always write a check to Trinity with "Negro Spirituals Fund" in the memo line, or you can attend our final event--the Sunday, April 30th, 3pm Legend Singers fundraising concert in the sanctuary-- and give a free-will offering at that time.

Questions?: please ask Liz Nelson (314-359-2478)

Join us for an Adult Education in March

March 12

"An Orchestra Under Your Fingers (and Toes): An Intro to the Organ"
Led by Christian Hendricks at 11:10am in the Sanctuary.

March 19

Bible Study on Ezekiel 37.1-14
"Can These Bones Live"
Led by Mel Smith

Food Collection During Lent

Looking for a practice to help mark the season of Lent? Join us in bringing items for the Winger Food Pantry! Below is a full list of the Sundays in Lent, along with the hygiene or food items that we will be collecting on that day.

Everything that's listed is either a hygiene item or staple food which goes into grocery bags for our Winger Food Pantry clients each week. Please consider adding an item or two to your grocery list and bring it with you each Sunday – together we will work to love and serve our community.

- **Sun. Feb. 26** – Personal Care Items: bar soap, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste/toothbrush (individually packaged)
- **Sun. Mar. 5** – Protein: canned tuna, canned chicken, beans, peanut butter
- **Sun. Mar. 12** – canned veggies: peas, green beans, carrots, corn
- **Sun. Mar. 19** – canned yams, canned potatoes, instant mashed potatoes
- **Sun. Mar. 26** – canned fruit: peaches, pears, pineapple, mandarin oranges, individual servings of applesauce.
- **Sun. Apr. 2** – pasta, pasta sauce, macaroni and cheese, rice

The Food Pantry uses the local Schnucks store to purchase canned goods and other non-perishables for the pantry. We are taking part in the Schnucks reward program and receive award credits to use as credit against our food pantry purchases. If you shop at Schnucks, you too can add to this by using Trinity's phone number 725-3840 when checking out. The credit will go against future food pantry purchases. The small amounts add up!

Trinity is “broadcasting” our Sunday morning 10 a.m. worship service via our Facebook page or you can watch the recording on YouTube later on. Those who participate in this way on home computers or mobile devices can even type messages to one another during the live service, such as doing a virtual passing of the peace. Also, Facebook has captions! While watching the service, find the gear icon at the bottom of the video and click on it. When you do, an option pops up to turn on closed captioning!

While we live in this challenging time, Trinity continues to be available to all those who need us. Members desiring pastoral care are encouraged to call the church office at 314-725-3840 or to reach out to Deacon Corie Merker, 314-434-8286. Your need will be shared confidentially with our Pastor the Reverend Mel Smith. You also can email her directly at melanie.smith@trinityucity.org

Supporting the church through your financial gifts continues to be encouraged! Please mail your contributions to Trinity Presbyterian Church, Att'n: Linde, 6800 Washington Ave., University City, MO 63130, or check out the online giving instructions below.

- 1) Text the code TPCDONATE \$[your gift] to 73256. You'll receive a text back with a link that lets you complete your online donation.
- 2) Log in to your Onrealm account (onrealm.org) and click on the "Giving" tab.

Session

Diana Gray, Kevin Harkins, Diane Hemphill, Jayne Howard, Jane Kaiser, Zach Krivonak,
Sarah New Mayer (Clerk), Hannah Nutt, & Blair Rudert

Deacons

DeAnne Brown, Stacey Carman, Cricket Gordon, Jennifer Higginbotham, John Merker, Kim Merritt,
Lynn Reid, Rose Rudert, & Christy Schindler

Prayers for Peace, Healing, Strength, Safety, Hope, Comfort and Thanksgiving

- For Jayne Howard and family on the passing from this life of her father Doyne Howard in early March.
- For Madeline, Nerys, and the Black family.
- For the family of Bettye Dew, formerly active at Trinity, on her passing from this life in January. A celebration of life is set for March 18.
- For Rev. Julie March, former Minister of Equipping at Trinity Church, who passed from this life on January 27.
- For the family of Sue Lorenz's niece Janet Smith, who passed from this life on January 26.
- For Nedra Bodman Schoberlein, as she faces additional treatments and surgeries.
- For Greg Lage, friend of the Schindler family, and his wife Mindy, and his daughters, in rehab and dealing with short term memory issues but progressing physically after his serious bike accident October 1.
- For Megan Merritt, for pain relief as she seeks additional treatment for injuries involving her ankle.
- For Judy Thomsen's son Scott, who has been receiving treatment for pancreatic cancer at the Mayo Clinic. Judy and her husband have been caring for the grandkids in Denver.
- For Jen and Marty Cooke, Aunt and Uncle to John and Katie Howard, who are partnered in Marty's challenging journey with Parkinson's.
- For Elaine and Harley Gordon, Brian Gordon's brother and his wife Elaine, who are dealing with multiple health issues.
- For Art Platt, who is suffering with multiple health problems and is working with his doctors on possible solutions.
- For Sue Lorenz's niece Pat, who continues to have little appetite despite some relief from nausea.
- For Inge Crowley, friend of Jenn & Jeff Clodi, who needs prayers for healing.

Prayers for Ongoing Support

- For Kim Merritt, as she prepares for new treatment for various health issues.
- For Linda Zangara's niece Shana.
- For Anna Gordon, daughter of Brian and Cricket Gordon.
- For all those protesting racial injustice and working for equity, each in their own way.
- For Brian Gordon, living with multiple health challenges, and for Cricket who is caring for him.
- For Marilyn Swain, cousin of Jane Gibbons, at home recovering from a stroke.
- For Neil Norkaitis, living with various health concerns, and Sandy who is caring for him.
- For Kathie and Bill Cahoon and Kathie's mother Mary Schmid, as they continue to work through various health challenges.
- For Mary Dressendorfer Rivera, cousin of Linda Peterson, who has metastatic breast cancer.
- For Marge Plourde, living with memory challenges at Laclede Groves.
- For Light for the Darkness, an organization that helps to counsel people in St. Louis who have mental health issues.
- For DeAnne and Gordon's son, Joe, as they deal with the problems of schizophrenia.
- For Donna Fairchild, mother of Connie Torretta, managing health issues in Florida.
- For Bob Lorenz, who has health challenges, and for Sue, who is caring for him.
- For the Schroer family, Brian, Mary and Jo, as Mary's mother, Marianne Clark, is in hospice care.
- For Don Ware, friend of Art Platt, who is living with cancer.
- For Jean Dausch, Cricket Gordon's friend, coping with primary lateral sclerosis (PLS).
- For M'ticqah Barbour, Opal's daughter and Nasia Metcalfe's mother, who is coping with severe symptoms of Sickle Cell Disease.