



Trinity Presbyterian Church  
6800 Washington Avenue  
314.725.3840  
University City, Missouri 63130  
[www.trinityucity.org](http://www.trinityucity.org)

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#### FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

#### “DIFFERENT PICTURES” SUNDAY

#### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

*People gather around Jesus as his reputation becomes known from town to town.  
As we gather virtually, we too are yearning for presence, for peace, for help.*

#### Prelude

**“March: Song of the Lark”** from *The Seasons*  
by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

#### Welcome & Announcements

Leader: This is a day that God has made!  
All: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

*Time for sharing news of the church.*

#### Crossing the Threshold into Worship

Leader: We continue our Lenten “season of recovery”  
as we focus on health as essential to our spiritual lives.

#### Crossing the Threshold into Worship Music

**Holy Vessels**  
*Words by Marcia McFee; Music by Chuck Bell*

Leader: Prolonged times of difficulty can impede our ability to stay creative.  
The picture of our lives is dulled and hope for a brighter future can fade.  
People: **We need a touch of inspiration to awaken us from our sleep,  
as we hear in one of this week’s healing stories.**

Leader: We also awaken to our agency to seek out the Divine Healer,  
reaching out to touch the power we know can restore our intellect and imagination.  
People: **We emerge ready to re-engage with the world, seeking and seeing solutions,  
creating different pictures of life renewed  
just as a mosaic artist creates beauty from broken pieces of glass.**

**Crossing the Threshold into Worship Music Reprise**

**Holy Vessels**

**Gathering Song**

**O Love That Will Not Let Me Go**  
*Glory to God #833, v. 1-4*

*People opened their lives to Jesus.  
We are drawn to the Healer – opening our hearts with honesty about our lives  
and finding assurance that offers peace.*

**Invitation to Confession**

Leader: Let us acknowledge our need to restore, repair, renew our Holy Vessels  
so that we might be able to create and imagine new possibilities, new solutions.  
Let us pray:

**Prayer of Confession** (Unison)

**God of All Possibilities, made in your image, you have tasked us as co-creators of a better world. You bestowed imagination and the ability to learn and progress. But we are tired. Our energy wanes and enthusiasm wanes. The call for ideas, solutions, work-arounds and adaptations has been non-stop for us all – whether we are needing to find ways to keep children engaged and well, or figuring out how to maintain a passion for our work in the midst of trying times, or needing desperately to undo systems of oppression too long affecting our lives and the lives of our neighbors. Not only our livelihoods, but our liveliness is at stake. Too often we want to give up, declare it all too hard and simply isolate, waiting out the time for better days. It all feels overwhelming and so we look away, sometimes even from the need in our own community.**

**Help us, Healer. Show us our energy reserves. Forgive our cynicism. Move us to move one step at a time toward greater care for one another.**

**In this silence, we sense and acknowledge our yearning for wholeness.**

*Silence*

**Crossing the Threshold into Worship Music Reprise**

**Holy Vessels**

**Assurance of God's Forgiveness**

Leader: I invite you to imagine a warmth begin to arise within the core of your body.  
It may help to keep your eyes closed.  
This warm orb of light is deep within you,  
a flame always there and ready when you need it.  
This warm glow begins to emerge  
from the recesses of your inner being to ignite and spark inspiration.  
It floods your whole body until your skin is glowing with it, radiating outward.

This light from you offers a beacon for those around you,  
whose own light reflects and multiplies your own.  
There is now exponentially more radiance.

Know this: We are gifted with agency to affect healing in the world.  
No. Matter. What.  
We are not alone and we can join with others to magnify hope.  
Christ will answer when we call, when we reach out for what we know can help.  
For you, for me, for all.

Take a deep breath in to let this truth fill you...  
and breathe out with the relief of assurance.

### Passing The Peace

Leader: I invite you to imagine the warmth that surrounds you  
extending to those who may be next to you in close proximity.  
Imagine it extending beyond your walls to  
the neighborhood...  
the wider community...  
the church...  
and seeing it spread like the rising sun, let it expand to all the world.  
Let this be our peace.

**People: Amen.**

Leader: If you have not already, I invite you to open your eyes.  
The peace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: As our greeting and passing of the peace today,  
I invite you to type into the comments "You have Agency."

### Song of Praise

**Sing, Praise, and Bless the Lord**  
*Glory to God #635, v. 1*

### WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

*People were fortified by Jesus' words and deeds that revealed care for all –  
especially those marginalized.  
We strengthen our belief in the possibility for renewed health and vigor for all.*

### A Contemporary Word

"When one realizes one is asleep, at that moment one is already half-awake."  
— **P.D. Ouspensky**

Curiosity is the first step down the path of awakening."  
— **Anonymous**

"The path of awakening is not about becoming who you are.  
Rather it is about unbecoming who you are not."  
— **Albert Schweitzer**

## Musical Proclamation

**Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun**  
*Glory to God #663, v. 1-3*

### An Ancient Word

**Matthew 9:18-26**

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, or she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Message

**"Emerging with New Life"**

**Rev. Marilyn Gamm**

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Song of Preparation

**O God, Who Gives Us Life**  
*Glory to God #53, v. 1-3*

*People who were healed by Jesus were not afraid to ask.  
And so we come before the Holy One, making our petitions and desires known,  
trusting the work of the Spirit.*

Prayers of the People

*A time for silent prayers will be offered during the Prayers of the People.*

The Lord's Prayer

**John Galczynski recording**

**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 the glory forever. Amen.**

*The parting words Jesus gave to those he healed  
were often as much balm as the healing act itself.  
We hear words of encouragement from the One who makes beauty from brokenness.*

Offering

Invitation

Doxology

**In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful**  
*Glory to God #654, v. 1*

**Prayer of Dedication** (Unison)

From our human and material resources, we offer our gifts to you, Generous Heart, so that the hungry might be fed, so that the broken might find healing, and so the grieving might be comforted. As you heal our bodies, minds and spirits, help us to remember our agency to share your healing power in our hurting world. We pray through Jesus, your gift of Healing Grace and Presence. Amen.

**Ritual Action for the Week**

- Leader: The words of Jesus we highlight this week from the healing story are “the girl is not dead, but sleeping.”
- People: We have touched today on our need to be rejuvenated in spirit, to awaken with new vigor for creativity and curiosity.**
- Leader: This is the intellectual healing that is a spiritual healing.
- People: We may feel like we have been slowly dying away these last few months, but Jesus affirms that we are not dying... we perhaps are sleeping.**
- Leader: It is the healing we yearn for... to be awakened, brought back to life with vitality and vigor for the days ahead.

And so this week, I invite you begin to play with creating a “different picture” from the brokenness. I invite you to take your broken pieces and move them around on a flat surface as a mosaic artist would try various configurations when making a work of art.

- People: Even when the raw materials of our lives that we have to work with feel broken, we can get a new perspective that can awaken a new vision for life within us.**

- Leader: When you are ready and have found placement of your pieces that bring a spark of delight, you are invited to take a photo of it. If you use a “wallpaper” on your phone, consider using your photo this week in this way, a reminder that we are capable of reworking, remaking, the pictures of what “life” can be. If this technology is not part of your world, keep your mosaic creation on the table where you can see it frequently, using it as a focal point for prayer.

**WE GO FORTH TO SERVE IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST**

*Scriptural accounts of healing often end with responses from the “crowd” of witnesses.  
How will we proceed into the brokenness of this world  
and respond as the Body of Christ?*

**Song of Service**

**Be Thou My Vision**  
*Glory to God #450, v. 1-4*

## Commission and Blessing

## Crossing the Threshold into the World “Holy Vessels” Reprise

## Postlude

**Andante espressivo from *Three Romances***  
*by Julius Röntgen*

### Participants in Today's Worship

**Pastor** – Marilyn Gamm

**Director of Music & Pianist/Organist** – Christian Hendricks

**Liturgist** – George Van Hare

**Children & Youth Minister** – Hannah Peters

**Communications Coordinator** – Katie Gibbons

**Technical Support** – Dylan Voss and John Roman

**Soloist** – Janelle Pierce

### **The Trinity Choir:**

*Soprano – Aleta Klein, Cricket Gordon, Jenn Clodi, Madeline Black (Section Leader)*

*Alto – Connie Torretta, Margy Brown, Nancy Wagoner, Rachel Presti, Janelle Pierce (Section Leader)*

*Tenor – Brian Schroer, Pat Courtney, Evan Babel (Section Leader)*

*Bass – George Van Hare, Nigel Holloway, John Galczynski*

Contact Trinity's staff and leadership by emailing [admin@trinityucity.org](mailto:admin@trinityucity.org) or contacting the church office.

## TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS AND NOTES FOR MARCH 14, 2021

*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.*

### **“Holy Vessels: A Lenten Season of Recovery” Worship Series**

The Worship Committee has chosen as our Lenten series theme beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing through Good Friday: “Holy Vessels: A Lenten Season of Recovery.”

According to the worship series resources:

Each of us is created a precious and holy vessel of embodied love. We have been through a challenging year since last Lent that has shattered our sense of wholeness – body, mind, and spirit – like a glass vessel fractured into pieces. In this Lenten “season of recovery” for our physical, communal, mental, intellectual, and environmental health, we will explore the healing narratives of Jesus that tell of divine solidarity with human suffering and remind us that we can begin a journey toward creating something beautiful from that which is seemingly broken.

Each week of our new “Holy Vessels: A Lenten Season of Recovery” worship series will have a different emphasis:

Ash Wednesday, February 17 – “Shattered”

February 21 – “Treasure”

February 28 – “Safe Keeping”

March 7 – “Stories”

March 14 – “Different Pictures”

March 21 – “Restoration”

Palm Sunday, March 28 – “Holy, Wholly”

Good Friday, April 2 – “Healed and Still Healing”

**Hymns are the bread and butter of our church music experience, and Trinity has a strong tradition of congregational involvement in worship through music. Now’s your chance to get a crash course on their whys and wherefores.**

Christian Hendricks, our Director of Music, will lead an adult education online Zoom gathering on this genre, including a brief history, an overview of different styles, a bit of music theory, and a look at the various information our hymnals contain. Think of it as a hymn appreciation seminar!

Please mark your calendar for March 14 at 7:00 p.m. and join us then!

### **Holy Week Worship Services 2021**

**Although our Holy Week services this year will still be online only, our Staff and the Creative Worship Committee are planning special Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter observances to live stream via Trinity’s Facebook page or watch at your convenience on either our Facebook or YouTube pages.**

Our Palm Sunday worship will be at our usual 10 a.m. on Sunday, March 28.

Our Good Friday worship will be at our usual 7 p.m. on Friday, April 2.

Both of these services will incorporate themes from our current “Holy Vessels: A Lenten Season of Recovery” worship series.

Then our joy-filled Easter Sunday worship will be at our usual 10 a.m. on Sunday, April 4 and will include the celebration of Holy Communion.

Details for each of these services are otherwise still being finalized, but keep watching the weekly newsletter and bulletins for more information.

**Trinity Families: Remember last year when Miss Hannah challenged families to create a stained glass window in your home for Easter? Well she’s at it again! Only this time she has purchased the finger paint for you! All you need is tape.**

If interested, please let Hannah know by March 17 and she will deliver the paint and cross to your home!

**Friends of Trinity Church, this is a reminder that if you are looking to reach out to someone within our congregation, feel free to contact Katie at the [communications@trinityucity.org](mailto:communications@trinityucity.org) email account, she can get you phone numbers, emails and addresses. You can also use our online directory Onrealm at [onrealm.org](http://onrealm.org). If you do not have login information for this online database, Katie can help you with that, just send her an email and she will set you up!**

**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 Sundays.** 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!

Kids and parents probably already know about this, but if you are not a parent of a young person and have **wondered what goes on in “Children’s Church,” now you can experience it!** Hannah Peters has taped a YouTube video, and updated links will be posted regularly on the “Sundays at Trinity” section of our website homepage.

**As 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 Deacons Corie Merker, 314-434-8286, or Cathy Smith, 314-725-0586. Your need will be shared confidentially with our Transitional Pastor the Reverend Marilyn Gamm. You also can email her directly at [Marilyn.gamm@trinityucity.org](mailto:Marilyn.gamm@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](http://onrealm.org)) and click on the "Giving" tab.

#### **Session**

Gordon Brown, Diana Gray, Kevin Harkins, Nigel Holloway, Mary Klingensmith, Sarah New Mayer, Mary McKown, Brian Muegge (Clerk), Rachel Presti, Tim Rand, Jan Schulte-Glad, George Van Hare

#### **Deacons**

DeAnne Brown, Bill Cahoon, Stacey Carman, Anna Gardner-Andrews, Corie Merker, John Merker, Jim Person, Art Platt, Diana Regan, Joanne Roman, Cathy Smith, Spirit Sorenson