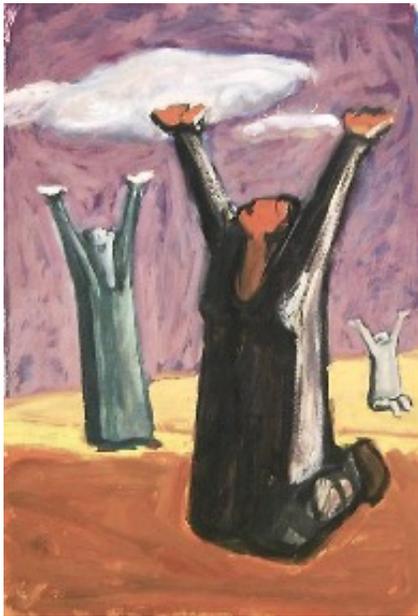


March 20, 2022



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University City, Missouri 63130

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

“Thirst” by Mahmoud Hammad

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

\* Please rise in body or in spirit.

**Prelude**

*Water Music Suite No. 1: Adagio*  
by G.F. Händel

**Question: What are we thirsty for?**

**Welcome & Announcements**

Leader: The Lord be with you  
All: And also with you

**Minute for Mission**

**Nigel Holloway**

**Introit**

**Questions on the Journey #3**

\* **Call to Worship**

Leader: Listen to God’s call:  
Come all who are thirsty;  
you that have no money, come, buy and eat!  
**People: Purchase wine and milk without money;  
eat what is good,  
that you might live!**  
Leader: Seek the Lord while they might be found,  
Call upon them while they are near  
**People: let us return to the lord with all our heart!**

**\* Gathering Song**

**Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah**  
*Glory to God #65, v. 1-3*

**\* Invitation to Confession**

**\* Prayer of Confession** (Unison)

**Almighty God,  
You call us to work for a world  
where all are fed and treated with dignity,  
But we find ourselves distracted by our own desires.  
You call us to seek justice and peace,  
But we are satisfied with injustice and discord.  
You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed,  
But we do not insist on freedom for all.**

**Forgive us, O Lord.  
Turn us to your way by the power of your Spirit,  
So that all may know your love, justice and peace;  
Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior, Amen.**

**\* Assurance of God's Forgiveness**

**Leader:** ...believe the good news;  
through Christ we are forgiven,  
And be at peace.

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

**\* Passing The Peace**

**Leader:** Just as we have been reconciled with God through Christ,  
Let us share a sign of reconciliation with each other saying  
The peace of Christ be with you,

**People:** **And also with you**

*Please share the peace of Christ with those around you*

**\* Song of Praise**

**Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me**  
*Glory to God #582, v. 1-2*

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Scripture Reading**

**Luke 13.1-9**

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more

year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.”

## **Children’s Message**

**Rev. Mel Smith**

### **\* Anthem**

**Cleft for Me**  
*by Daniel Greig*

Sweet refreshment of the soul, in my labor You are rest,  
    You the ray of light from above.  
Yet, I hunger for relief and my labor weighs me down,  
    still I stumble in the shadows of the night.  
When my weary souls needs rest, hide me, Savior, in thy cleft.  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me.  
Jesus, You’re the Rock of Ages cleft for me.  
You are coolness in the heat, You the promised fount  
    of life for us all.  
Yet the heat lingers on and when hope is almost gone,  
    still I thirst for living water in my life.  
When my heart, it cannot sing, simply to Thy cross I cling.  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me.  
Jesus, You’re the Rock of Ages cleft for me.

## **Second Scripture Reading**

**Isaiah 55.1-11**

Ho, everyone who thirsts,  
    come to the waters;  
and you that have no money,  
    come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
    without money and without price.  
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
    and your labor for that which does not satisfy?  
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
    and delight yourselves in rich food.  
Incline your ear, and come to me;  
    listen, so that you may live.  
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,  
    my steadfast, sure love for David.  
See, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
    a leader and commander for the peoples.  
See, you shall call nations that you do not know,  
    and nations that do not know you shall run to you,  
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,  
    for he has glorified you.  
Seek the Lord while he may be found,  
    call upon him while he is near;  
let the wicked forsake their way,  
    and the unrighteous their thoughts;  
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.  
For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Message "Extending the Table"

Rev. Mel Smith

\* Song of Response.

**You Thirsty Ones, Come**  
*Glory to God #78, v. 1-5*

### 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

\* Doxology #

**Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**  
*Glory to God #607, v. 1*

### Prayer of Dedication

**Holy One  
Through Christ, you have become for us a fountain of living water,  
offering new life and hope even in desert places.  
Out of gratitude,  
we offer ourselves;**

**the work of our hands,  
the creativity of our minds,  
and the talents we possess –  
that we may be partners with you;  
sharing the good news of your presence,  
and guiding others to streams of living water.  
Through Christ we pray, amen.**

**\* Song of Service**

**Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**  
*Glory to God #475, v. 1-3*

**\* Commission and Blessing**

**Postlude**

**“Ombra mai fù” from *Serse***  
*by G.F. Händel*

**Please join us for fellowship in the Chapel after the service.**

### ***About the Music***

“Never was the shade of a plant dearer, lovelier, or sweeter,” sings the Persian king Xerxes as he admires a plane tree at the beginning of Händel’s opera *Serses*. It will be about the only peace he experiences in the opera as a typical and knotty *opera seria* love triangle ensues. Now more commonly known as “Händel’s Largo,” the music is an aural epitome of repose tinged with ecstasy and melancholy. Unlike the barren fig tree of Jesus’ parable, this one bears good fruit of comfort. When our “weary soul needs rest,” where shall we find it? When, like the deer in Psalm 42, we pant for living streams, where shall our thirst be slaked? If it is to be found in “the Rock of Ages,” then a further question is asked: what do we thirst for?

### **Participants in Today's Worship**

**Pastor** – Mel Smith

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

**Liturgist** – John Merker

**Children & Youth Minister** – Hannah Peters

**Communications Coordinator** – Katie Gibbons

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

**Ushers** – Linda Peterson, Diana Gray, Corie Merker

### **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 – Nigel Holloway, Bob Wagoner*

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 20, 2022

*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.*

**"Engaging the Religious Nones", a two-part adult education offering led by Rev. Dr. Ruben Rosario-Rodriguez. Please mark your calendar for this exciting discussion on Sunday, March 13, and March 20 at 7:00 PM.**

Description: The number of religious “nones” in the U.S.—adults who describe their religious identity as atheist, agnostic, or “nothing in particular” (Pew Research Center, 2018)—has tripled. Closer analysis reveals that many nones associate organized religion with intolerance and injustice while still thirsting after some form of spirituality. As a church theologian and a Minister of the Word and Sacrament active in the mission of the Presbyterian Church (USA), Dr. Ruben Rosario-Rodreuez has concluded that the church’s own actions have contributed to the church’s current crisis, which is why so many—including many Christians—no longer consider the church an institution worth defending. So instead of focusing on what the church can do to bring Millennials and Gen Z back into the fold (very little), the church ought to listen to what these Nones are saying to take spiritual inventory and get its own house in order.

### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

The Session of Trinity Presbyterian Church has called for a congregational meeting on Sunday, March 27, immediately following worship for the purpose:

- To vote on the recommendation from Session, to revise the Trinity By-Laws' regarding the number of seats on Session and the Board of Deacons from the current requirement of twelve members each, to nine members each.
- To Receive the Annual Report.

Please mark your calendars and plan on being with us for this meeting.

### **Trinity’s Staff Needs Your Help!**

With John and Joanne Roman moving to the east coast in the next few months, not only does the Winger Food Pantry need help in filling Joanne's large shoes (see article below), but we realized that we needed one or two people to help fill John's shoes too!

John is not only our go-to guy to call when we are having technology questions or troubles, he also volunteers and sits in the back with Dylan/Katie to help make sure our Service is successfully live streamed. Currently he alternates weeks with Katie to sit in the back, but the person we are looking for does not have to do it on such a regular basis if they don't want to. They can be a substitute when either Dylan or Katie cannot make it. Their main job is to watch the Service on Facebook and make sure the sound and video feed are playing properly.

Please let Katie in the office know if you are interested in helping us out! Contact her at [communications@trinityucity.org](mailto:communications@trinityucity.org)

**With the scheduled out-of-town move of Joanne and John Roman this spring or early summer, there are several opportunities, large and small, for joining the Food Pantry team.** Thanks to Cathy Smith for volunteering to take on the WFP Senior Box Program Coordinator. We still need more help and free training is provided!!

**Bread Company Bread Donation pickup:** Once a month on Tuesday evenings. Pick up the donated bread at the Galleria Bread Company at closing time (currently 7pm, previously 9pm) on Tuesday. Drop off at

church. Assignment would be second Tuesday of the month but could be exchanged with others.

**Coordinator of Food Pantry Team volunteers:** Coordinate the assignments and duties of the regular volunteers and additional help. Can be done mostly thru email.

**WFP Wednesday Workers:** Join the team on Wednesday afternoon (12:30 - 3) team to help clients to shop and load their cars. Only need to work one Wednesday a month as part of a rotating team.

**WFP Coordinator:** Be the main contact for the Winger Food Pantry with the team, the church and the outside agencies. Do not have to be available on Wednesdays, and most work can be completed through emails and random checks at church.

If you want to discuss further the possibilities or responsibilities related to this important Trinity ministry, please contact Joanne Roman [JoanneCRom@aol.com](mailto:JoanneCRom@aol.com). You do not need to be a Trinity member to join the team! It is a very rewarding ministry and part of our Matthew 25 commitment.

**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](mailto: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](http://onrealm.org)) and click on the "Giving" tab.

#### **Session**

Diana Gray, Kevin Harkins, Diane Hemphill, Jayne Howard, Jane Kaiser, Mary Klingensmith, Sarah New Mayer (Clerk), Mary McKown, Bob Parks, Jan Schulte-Glad

#### **Deacons**

Anna Gardner-Andrews, DeAnne Brown, Stacey Carman, Cricket Gordon, Jennifer Higginbotham, Corie Merker, John Merker, Jim Person, Art Platt, Joanne Roman, Christy Schindler