



Trinity Presbyterian Church
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WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude

Four Songs for the Piano, Op. 6 No. 1, Andante espressivo
by Fanny Hensel-Mendelssohn

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.

Call to Worship and Snuffing the First Lenten Candle

Leader: We have entered into the season in Lent.
Sundays, however, are not a part of the 40 days of Lent.

**People: We have entered a wilderness time.
Yet this day of worship is an oasis in the desert.**

Leader: We are here to worship the God of all creation.
We gather to remember God's revelation in Jesus.

**People: Today we revisit the garden of Eden.
We remember God's overflowing generosity.**

Leader: We worship God, who gives us choices and limits.
Are we open to God's counsel and instruction?

**People: As we snuff this first candle on our Lenten wreath
today we remember the temptations Jesus faced
on his way to Jerusalem and the snuffing of his Light at his crucifixion.
In honor of him and his self-sacrifice for us,
we want to learn to make good choices.**

Gathering Song

There in God's Garden
Glory to God #226, v. 1-4

Invitation to Confession

Leader: Like a parent, our Creator sets boundaries for the children of God.
And, like children, we are stubborn enough to want to do things our own way.
So we become easy prey for the evil one.
But Jesus, our Sibling, shows us how to find the will, the strength,
to resist and to know the mercy of God.
Together, let us confess our sins, so God might fill us with hope and joy:

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

All: God of Eden's morning, we know that Lent is a hard time for us. In a culture which showcases success, you call us to sacrifice ourselves for others. In a world which promotes power, you invite us to deny ourselves. In a society which encourages us to 'feel good,' you point us to the struggles of our sisters, the burdens of our brothers, the challenges of our siblings.

By your mercy, forgive us, Hope of our lives. Remind us that as we journey with Jesus, we learn the steps of discipleship. As we listen to his call to obedience, may we learn how to say 'no' to all that tempts us. As we see his suffering, may we live out the good news which has come to us through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Silent Prayer

Leader: Through Christ we pray. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Leader: By ourselves, we would be controlled easily by sin and temptation.
But God has given us the free gift of grace,
and so we are set free to live as disciples.

**People: This is the gift which brings us hope;
this is the gift which brings us joy;
this is the gift which brings us life.
Thanks be to God, we are forgiven!**

Passing of the Peace

Leader: Since God in Christ Jesus has forgiven us,
let us forgive one another.
The peace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share with one another signs of peace.

Please greet one another with the words, "The Peace of Christ be with you."

Song of Praise

Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining
Glory to God #192, refrain only

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Young People's Message

Pastor Marilyn

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: Life-sustaining God, with us through all our trials and temptations, bear us up through this season of self-examination, that we might feed on the bread of your Word, open ourselves to your presence without demanding proof and signs, and let go of all the idols that surround us to worship and serve you with joy and delight, in uprightness of heart, through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Genesis 2:15-17

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Anthem

A Choral Flourish

based on Psalm 32 Ralph Vaughan Williams

*O be joyful ye righteous,
O be joyful in the Lord ye righteous;
For praise is comely for the upright.
Praise the Lord with harp,
Sing praises unto Him;
Sing unto Him a new song.
Sing ye praises lustily,
Sing unto Him with a good courage,
For the word of the Lord is right,
And all his works are done in truth.
O be joyful ye righteous.*

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.'"

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Message: **"Beginning Our 40 Days"**

Rev. Marilyn Gamm

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Song of Response

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

Glory to God #166, v 1-4

Offering

During the offering, please sign the Fellowship Pad and pass it to the person sitting next to you. When the pad reaches the end, please pass it back and take note of who is worshipping with you this morning.

Offertory

Christ Hath a Garden

words by Robert Bridges after Isaac Watts, arr. by Gerald Near

*Christ hath garden walled around,
a paradise of fruitful ground,
chosen by love and fenced by grace
from out the world's wide wilderness.*

*Awake, O wind of heav'n and bear
their sweetest perfume through the air'
stir up, O south, the boughs that bloom,
'til the beloved Master come.*

*Like trees of spice His servants stand,
there planted by His might hand;
by Eden's gracious streams, that flow
to feed their beauty where they grow.*

*That He may come and linger yet
among the trees that He hath set;
that He may evermore be seen
to walk amid the springing green.*

Doxology

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

Glory to God #607

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Too often, Generous God, we give into the temptation to keep everything for ourselves. But you would have us notice those who hunger for hope, as well as bread; those who are caught in the injustices of the world; those who struggle to find themselves. And in noticing, we become generous and loving, even as we have been graced by our Sibling and Savior, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Celebration of Holy Communion

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

When invited to do so, please voice joys and concerns, and after each the congregations responds "God, hear our prayer."

Leader: May the God of discipleship be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us begin our Lenten journey with open and searching hearts.

**People: We offer them to the One
who comes searching for us in the wilderness of life.**

Leader: Let our voices resound with thanksgiving to the One who shows us faithful care.

People: We worship our God, and will serve God alone.

Leader: Children of God, sing songs of justice, of peace, of kindness to our God.

People: We offer our praises to the One who fills us with grace and hope.

Leader: You held nothing songs of deliverance:

**People: Holy, holy, holy are you, God of steadfast love.
Creation sings your praises as on that first morning.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who brings grace to us.
Hosanna in the highest!**

Leader: Holy are you, gift called faith:

**People: Christ died, going into the wilderness of the grave;
Christ was raised, shattering the grip of sin and death;
Christ will come, so we might follow him to the New Jerusalem.**

Leader: Pour out your ... And now let us pray together the prayer
Jesus taught his disciples to say:

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 the glory, forever. Amen.

Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup

Sharing the Bread and Cup Together

Prayer after Communion: (Unison)

O God, send us out from our Savior's table to answer his summons into new life and to follow him with joy and gladness. Set our feet on his holy way, that our lives may be signs of his life and all we do may show forth his love. Amen.

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

Song of Service

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

Glory to God #833, v. 1-4

Commission and Blessing

Please join us following worship for a time of fellowship through the southeast Sanctuary doors to the Chapel.

Postlude

Songs without Words, Op. 19 No. 1, Andante con moto "Sweet Remembrances"
by Felix Mendelssohn

Participants in Today's Worship

Pastor – Marilyn Gamm

Liturgist - John Merker

Minister of Music & Pianist/Organist – Christian Hendricks

Children & Youth Minister – Hannah Peters

Communications Coordinator – Katie Gibbons

Acolyte – Simonne Klein

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, Aleksandar Dragojevic (Section Leader)

About the Music

Nostalgia is the temptation of the past. Long have we sought to return to some edenic situation, whether an actual Garden of Eden, a supposed time when the country was great, or something more personal, more immediate. But we can never go back. Nor, when we remember correctly, should we want to. The music today focuses less on Eden and more on a garden whose center is Christ, a man who was tempted but unlike Adam and Eve resisted, forgoing the easy delights of this world for the difficult pleasures of His father's realm. In this garden will we find true rest, and as in Psalm 32, we will then sing a new song.

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

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWS AND NOTES FOR MARCH 1ST, 2020

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To help Pastor Marilyn connect a name with a friendly face, please wear a nametag. Nametags for most regulars can be found in the clear plastic bins in the Narthex (north of the sanctuary). If yours has gone astray, just write your name on the sheet of paper next to the bins and Katie Gibbons will produce a replacement for you. Blank “sticker” nametags also are available in the pew racks.

Just a reminder we have **hand sanitizer in several locations around the church.** *Create in me a clean heart, oh God... (and clean hands).* Paraphrase of Psalm 51:10

Our **multi-week adult education series** will consider Chapters 11-13 of historian Ibram X. Kendi’s book “How to be an Antiracist” this Sunday. The final session in the current adult ed series will be held on March 8 (Chapters 14-18).

Do you have gently used clothes that 5 to 18 year olds would like to wear? Volunteers at Pinwheels, a monthly social gathering partially supported by Trinity local mission funds for kids and teens who are transgender or who do not neatly fit into the gender binary of male/female, are collecting clothes. There will be a collection box in the narthex for the 5 Sundays in March.

Are you passionate about our worship experience at Trinity? The Worship Committee is looking to add several additional members from the congregation. The goal is to think creatively about how to keep our corporate worship fresh and new, while at the same time respecting our traditions and our need for familiarity and stability during this transitional time. Talk to Jan Schulte-Glad or George VanHare if interested.

Trinity’s Winger Food Pantry continues to need volunteers for a variety of tasks. The pantry serves clients on Wednesdays, so many people are needed those days, but other work can be done when convenient for the volunteer, and training is available. Questions? Call Joanne Roman at 314-726-4592.

The women’s luncheon will be Tuesday, March 3, at noon in the dining room. Please bring a salad or dessert to share. Anyone who would like to help in the food pantry, please come at 10:30. We will work on the clothes closet before the luncheon. Any questions, please call Jane at 727-1471.

If you have not turned in your 2020 Pledge yet, it isn’t too late. Please put your completed pledge card in the offering plate or send the information to church financial manager Linde Weber Onstott (linde.dogparty@yahoo.com). Thank you for your generous support of the Mission and Ministry of Trinity!

Session

Gordon Brown, Nigel Holloway, Kris Kerr, Mary
Klingensmith, Mike Krivonak, Mary McKown
Brian Muegge (Clerk), Rachel Presti, John Roman,
Jan Schulte-Glad, George Van Hare

Deacons

Margy Brown, Bill Cahoon, Kathie Cahoon, Anna
Gardner-Andrews, Jennifer Higginbotham, Corie
Merker, Jim Person, Art Platt, Diana Regan, Joanne
Roman, Cathy Smith, Spirit Sorensen

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

If you have an addition to the prayer list, please contact the church office.

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

- For John Merker, as he recovers from surgery.
- For the family of Cathy Lind-Kern, friend of Bob & Nancy Wagoner, who died on Monday, February 10
- For Dylan Voss' aunt, following successful cancer surgery.
- For Genny Richmond, on her new life in Decatur, Illinois.
- For Art Platt, who is having a series of melanoma surgeries.
- For Patti Twellman's daughter, who has health concerns.
- For Linda Zangara, whose sister Deborah died to this life in January.
- For the Evans family on the passing of Reed's father Stu Evans on January 13.
- For Catherine Ray, who is recovering from successful knee replacement surgery on January 21.
- For Sue Lorenz, recovering from successful knee replacement surgery on February 4.
- For Jennifer Higginbotham's mother, recovering from hip replacement surgery in Florida.
- For Jay Summerville, whose mother Jean died to this life on January 22.
- For Cheryl and Reed Evans' son Ben, who has been fighting fires in Australia.
- For Rev. Thirza Sayers, as she continues her work to develop Light for the Darkness, an organization that helps to counsel people in St. Louis who have mental health issues.
- For Kelly Batt, granddaughter of Polly Brown, who is receiving hospice care after battling a rare form of cancer since March 2019.
- For John Merker's friend, Ron Heier, who is suffering from Parkinson's disease.
- For Mary Dressendorfer Rivera, cousin of Linda Peterson, who has metastatic breast cancer.
- For Inge Crowley, friend of Jenn & Jeff Clodi, who needs prayers for healing.

Prayers for Ongoing Support

- For Mary Klingensmith's mother, receiving full-time assisted care after a fall.
- For our Transitional Pastor Marilyn Gamm and our church as we move forward.
- For Brian Gordon, coping with multiple myeloma and kidney problems, and for Cricket who is caring for him.
- For Bob Lorenz, who has health challenges, and for Sue, who is caring for him.
- For Neil Norkaitis, for continued healing, and Sandy who is caring for him.
- For the Schroer family, Brian, Mary and Jo, as Mary's mother, Marianne Clark, is in hospice care.
- For Marge Plourde, living with memory challenges.
- For Jeff Clodi's mother and father as they cope with multiple health concerns.
- For Gene and Donna Fairchild, parents of Connie Torretta, managing health issues in Florida.
- For Don Ware, friend of Art Platt, who is living with cancer.
- For Doyne Haas, father of Jayne Howard, who struggles daily with dementia's diminishing effects.
- For Marty Cooke, the Howard's uncle striving to live joyfully and productively with Parkinson's disease.
- For Anna Gordon, as Cricket & Brian continue to work on her care issues.
- For Kim Merritt, coping with multiple health issues.
- For Do Kirk, coping with multiple health issues.
- 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.