

Offertory Anthem: “A Lenten Prayer” music by Robert J. Powell, text by Billie Echols

Lord, I ask a blessing for my soul today; Give me peace from heaven as I kneel to pray. Forty days did Jesus face temptation strong; Give me strength to conquer, knowing right from wrong. Lord, I ask a blessing for my soul today; Give me peace from heaven as I kneel to pray. I would be like Jesus turning from all sin, With His love to keep me true and faithful within. Lord, I ask a blessing for my soul today; Give me peace from heaven as I kneel to pray. When I look to Jesus, he will show the way; Help me come to meet Him pure on Easter Day.

Doxology UMH #94

Prayer of Thanksgiving: – *Bell Worship Resources ~ 2025*

Living God, thank you for the chance to give in your name. Through these offerings, help us embody the life-giving power of your grace. Let our hearts be shaped by your Spirit, our hands directed by your mercy. May our giving reflect the depth of your sustaining love. **Amen.**

***Hymn:** “Sing with All the Saints in Glory” UMH# 702

Benediction

Postlude: “Fantasia in g minor” Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Today, during our worship service, the youth are leading the music. The Choristers (grades 1 - 5) will sing an introit focusing on Jesus' kind, helping hands. The Youth Handbell Choir will ring a complicated piece which features various ringing techniques. The Chamber Choir (grades 6- 12) will sing a Lenten choral piece accompanied by Lynnette Varnon, flutist.

We welcome Rev. Megan Stowe, our District Superintendent to the pulpit today. Rev. Stowe earned a Master of Divinity at Boston University School of Theology and a Bachelor of Science in Anthropology at the University of New Mexico. Her continuing education includes a spiritual pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Marcia McFee’s worship planning retreat, “Tending the Fire” and the General Board of Discipleship’s Young Adult Leader’s Summit. Rev. Stowe and her husband, Stephen Schad, have two sons, Galen and Desi Schad.

We thank those who participated in today’s service:

Acolytes: Adeline and Anje Berke and Audrey Crawford

Altar Ministry: Vera Baker

Carillonneur: Thomas St. Marie

Fellowship Hour: Worship Committee and volunteers

Flutist: Lynette Varnon

Liturgist: Greg Andros

Ushers: Head Usher, Lisa Bakowski; Asst. Head Usher, Sheila Womble, Ray Miller, Rita Auchy, Holly Blair

Video Team: Brian and Samuel Crawford, Eric Mazzarella, Nic Odell, Anthony and Nicholas Skridulas

Please Pray for: Bridget B, James B, Janet B, Meri B, Natalie B, Mary C, Pat D, David F, Sophia G, Donna G, Courtney H, Pete L, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, Arlene M, Carlos M, Pat N, Les P, Rev. Dr. Bob P, Catherine Ann R, Shawn R, Jen R, Jim S, Brenda S, Carl S, Lynn T, Tina W, Allie W, our service members and their loved ones, those affected by gun violence and natural disasters.

Trinity United Methodist Church

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Bishop, Thomas J. Bickerton

District Superintendent, Rev. Megan Stowe

Minister, Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Bruce Glenn

Director of Family Ministries & Connections, Rob Powell, M.Div

Spiritual Director, Cathy MacGovern

FIFTH SUNDAY IN
LENT



Believing that all persons are created in God's image and are of sacred worth, that Jesus' message was one of inclusion of those rejected by mainstream society, and that each member makes inherent and valuable contributions to the Body of Christ, we of Trinity Church welcome into this congregation people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic condition, family structure, and physical or mental ability.



Celebrate God’s love

Nurture relationships with God and one another

Serve our community and world, as we share the light of Christ

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2026

10:30 a.m.

WELCOME

We worship using this liturgy & two songbooks: The United Methodist Hymnal (UMH) & The Faith We Sing (TFWS). Please silence your electronic devices. Nursery care is downstairs for children birth - 4 years.

Please stand in body or in spirit. **Items in bold are read in unison. Items italicized are sung by the choir.*

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE FOR A TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

“Be gentle with yourself, learn to love yourself, to forgive yourself, for only as we have the right attitude toward ourselves can we have the right attitude toward others” – Wilfred Peterson

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “Erbarm Dich Mein”, O Herre Gott, BWV 721, J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Introit: “Kind Hands” Old French Melody, words by Margaret Cropper

Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all. Healing pain and sickness, blessing children small.

Washing tired feet and saving those who fall. Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all. Take my hands,

Lord Jesus, let them work for you. Make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do. Let me watch you, Jesus, till I'm gentle too. Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all.

***Call to Worship:** – *Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Director of Worship Arts, July 2025.*

One: Some of us come to worship today, weary and worn, heavy with all the circumstances that are too much to bear alone.

Many: We gather to travel God's redemption road together.

One: Some of us come to worship today, dry and thirsty, longing for relief and peace from the troubles that surround us.

Many: We gather to travel God's redemption road together.

One: Some of us come to worship today with stories to tell of little resurrections, moments of new life that sprang up when we least expected them.

Many: We gather to travel God's redemption road together.

One: Beloved, whatever we bring with us to worship today, God welcomes us and calls us to work together as we travel God's redemption road together.

Many: We gather to be truth-tellers and life-bringers as we travel God's redemption road together. Amen.

***Hymn:** “All Hail the Power of Jesus Name” (vv. 1,2,4,5) UMH# 154

***Unison Opening Prayer:** – *John Indermark: Ministry Matters ~ March 2023*

God of life, present and promised, you are the One to whom we call: for you are the One who hears, and you are the One who acts, bringing us new life with your grace and love and power. Lead us in our time of worship, that we may be prepared to follow your lead in places where life is at risk—places where hope seems far away, places where dreams die during sleep. When we leave these walls, help us live the teachings we proclaim within this place of worship, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Response:** “Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley” Spiritual arr. by Nancy Wertsch TFWS #2112

1. Jesus walked this lonesome valley; he had to walk it by himself.
Oh, nobody else could walk it for him; he had to walk it by himself.
2. We must walk this lonesome valley; we have to walk it by ourselves.
Oh, nobody else can walk it for us; we have to walk it by ourselves.

Anthem: “The Power of the Cross” Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Children's Moment

“Be a star! When the lights go down, pull out your phone and turn on the flashlight to create a sea of stars in the pews.”

Pastoral Prayer, Joys and Concerns

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 trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Choral Response: “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

I want Jesus, O Lord, to walk with me. All along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

***Hymn:** “Breathe on Me, Breath of God” UMH# 420

(5-13 yr. olds are invited to Grace Chapel for Chapel Kids. Parents please escort your children & pick them up.)

Old Testament Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14 (NRSV) p. 759

Response to the Word:

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

Many: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: “Can These Bones Live?” Rev. Megan Stowe

RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT'S PROMPTINGS

Invitation to Offering: – *Discipleship Ministries*

Life-Giving Spirit, you breathe hope into our valleys of despair and call forth life where we saw only dry bones. We come today not out of habit, but out of longing to be part of your work that restores, renews, and redeems. Take these gifts and use them to roll away the stones that keep your people bound. Let them be signs of trust, symbols of resurrection, and tools of transformation in a weary world. May our offering, like our living, lean into your Spirit and testify that life—abundant, eternal, and holy—is possible in you. In Christ, who calls us out of the grave and into your grace, we pray. **Amen.**