



Trinity Presbyterian Church  
March 23, 2025

GATHERING

*We gather as the Body of Christ to encounter God in worship.*

Gathering Music

"Let Us With a Gladsome Mind" GTG 31, vv1-3  
"O God, You Are My God (Step by Step)" GTG 743  
"Your Love is Better Than Life" (screens)

Carol Thomas  
Jaron Marcus, piano

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

O God, you are our God;  
**our souls thirst for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.**

We have looked upon you in the sanctuary;  
**we have seen your power and glory.**

Our lips will praise you as long as we live;  
**we lift up our hearts and call on your name. Let us worship God!**

Prayer of the Day

\*Hymn No. 65

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,  
you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.**

**We humbly confess our sins and ask for your mercy.  
We have not loved you with a pure heart,  
nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We have not done justice, loved kindness,  
or walked humbly with you, our God.  
Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.  
In your great compassion,  
cleansing us from our sin.  
Do not cast us away from your presence,  
or take your Holy Spirit from us.  
Restore to us the joy of your salvation  
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.**

*(A time for silence is observed)*

Sung Response GTG 851

“Come, Bring Your Burdens to God”

Assurance of Forgiveness

Listen, so that you may live: the steadfast love of the Lord never fails.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God!**

**THE WORD.**

*The Word of God in scripture and interpreted in proclamation is the center of worship.*

Prayer for Illumination

The Psalter

Psalm 63: 1-8  
NRSVUE

O God, you are my God; I seek you;  
my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you,  
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.  
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,  
beholding your power and glory.  
Because your steadfast love is better than life,  
my lips will praise you.  
So I will bless you as long as I live;  
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.  
My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips  
when I think of you on my bed  
and meditate on you in the watches of the night,  
for you have been my help,

and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand upholds me.  
Holy Wisdom, holy word.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

"To Mock Your Reign"  
from Lift High the Cross  
Lloyd Larson

**QUESTION FOR REFLECTION**

*Have you ever wondered about what God's face might look like?*

Gospel Lesson

Luke 13: 1-9

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus[a] 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 other people 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 man working the vineyard, '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.'

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: "The Spared Fig Tree"

Greg Lee

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

*We respond to the Word of God in prayer and by offering ourselves and our substance.*

\*Hymn No. 703 (vv. 1-2)

"Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me"

\*Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

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.**

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

Jaron Marcus, piano

\*Doxology GTG 607

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

\*Prayer of Dedication

**SENDING FORTH**

*Worship equips us to go forth to serve God in the world.*

\*Hymn No. 441

"Hear the Good News of Salvation"

\*Charge and Blessing

\*Sung Response Hymn 227

"Jesus, Remember Me"

\*Postlude

"DUKE STREET"  
Attr. John Hatton  
Brad Stipcak, organ

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

Participants in Worship:

Greg Lee, Preacher

Connie Hubbell, Liturgist

Brad Stipcak, Organ

Jaron Marcus, Keyboard/Piano

Heritage Choir

Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual

Peter Blum, Audio/Visual

Matt Blum, Audio/Visual

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