



Trinity Presbyterian Church  
March 30, 2025

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Pat Thomblison

Introit

“Die Gedanken Sind Frei”  
Youth and Children Bells

Responsive Call to Worship

Our Lord is the Good Shepherd. In his goodness he supplies our every need.

**The Lord is our Shepherd, and he takes perfect care of us.**

Our Lord is the Good Shepherd. He leads us into safety and gives us strength for the journey.

**The Lord is our Shepherd, who grants us rest and restores our souls.**

Our Lord is the Good Shepherd. He sought us out when we were lost, calling us by our names.

**The Lord is our Shepherd, and he has carried us home. Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

\*Hymn No. 509

“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, we confess that we have strayed from your ways. Like the Prodigal Son, we have wasted our inheritance. You gave us the earth for our home, but we squander earth’s resources and hoard its bounty. You gave us neighbors to love, but we pursue selfish**

**ambitions. You gave us the commandments that lead to human flourishing, but we break your law and forsake your love. Forgive us our sin and bring us to repentance. Draw our wandering hearts back to you that we may find freedom in obedience to your love. Through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.**

*(A time for silence is observed)*

Sung Response GTG 851

“Come, Bring Your Burdens to God”

Assurance of Forgiveness

Jesus restores our souls and leads us in right paths for his name’s sake.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord our whole lives long.**

We are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God!**

**THE WORD.**

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

Sermon on the Steps

Bev Thompson

Prayer for Illumination

The Psalter

Psalm 23

The Manhattan Psalter

My Lord watches over me as carefully as a shepherd, I have nothing to fear. I stretch out peacefully on fresh green grass; we stroll together along quiet streams. Just being with him refreshes my weary soul. He advises me on how best to please him and on ways to follow him more closely.

Even if I had to face death, I would do so with a quiet heart, secure in the knowledge of your comforting presence. A presence so real that it is like a strong staff to lean on and like a stout club of defense.

My enemies watch all this, so green with envy as I sit down to the magnificent spread prepared for me, just for me. Perfumed oils for my hair, food aplenty, and a dazzling array of choice wines, more than I could ever eat or drink.

Oh, the Lord will see to it that I always enjoy the best of everything, even a favored place in his own house to the very end of my days.

Holy Wisdom, holy word.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

"Behold the Lamb"  
from Lift High the Cross  
Lloyd Larson  
Trinity Heritage Choir

**QUESTION FOR REFLECTION**

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

Gospel Lesson

Luke 15:1-3,11-32

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable:

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.' So he divided his assets between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to his senses he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

“Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”

The Gospel of our Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: “Table Talk”

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

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

Moment for Reflection and Contemplation

\*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

“The Lord is My Shepherd”  
Allen Pote  
Trinity Heritage Choir

\*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. 774, vv. 1-4

“There is Now a New Creation”

\*Charge and Blessing

\*Sung Response Hymn 227

“Jesus, Remember Me”

\*Postlude

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

Participants in Worship:

Rev. Meredith, Preacher

Pat Thomblison, Liturgist

Bev Thompson, Sermon on the Steps

Brad Stipcak, Organ

Jaron Marcus, Keyboard/Piano

Heritage Choir

Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual

Peter Blum, Audio/Visual

Matt Blum, Audio/Visual

Words to hymns reprinted with permission under Onelicense.net # A-715286  
CCLI Songs-1205798; CCLI Streaming-20738157

New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicized Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.