

Trinity Church
March 10, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Lent

WELCOME AND LITURGY OF GATHERING

Leader: Reading of [Psalm 23](#). This is the word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Trinity is fostering a haven of belonging where wanderers and wonderers gather to discover and embody the love of Jesus in the world.

COMMUNAL SINGING

Wake Up

We have seen the pain
That shaped our hearts
And in our shame
We're still breathing, 'cause
We have seen the hope
Of your healing
Rising from our souls
Is the feeling
We are drawing close
Your light is shining through

Wake up, wake up, wake up
Wake up all you sleepers
Stand up, stand up
Stand up all you dreamers
Hands up, hands up
Hands up all believers
Take up your cross, carry it on

All that you reveal
With light in us
Will come to life
And start breathing, 'cause
We have seen the hope
Of your healing
Rising from our souls
Is the feeling
We are drawing close
Your light is shining through

Here we stand our hearts are yours
Not our will but yours be done

God Our Mother

God our Father
Giver of daily bread
Blessing our hands and covering our heads.

God our mother
Leading us into peace
Blessing and comforting all those in need

Hallowed, hallowed be thy name
Hallowed, hallowed be thy name
Hallowed, hallowed be thy name in all the earth

Jesus, Brother
Guiding our every step
Deliver us and grant places of rest
Jesus, Savior
Grabbing us from the grave
Cheating the fall and breathing the light of day

COMMUNITY CONFESSION AND LENTEN CANDLE READING

Leader: As God's beloved children, we will not hide our sins or remain silent, but confess them to the One who will restore us with goodness and mercy. We cry out as the psalmist did, "create in us pure hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us."

ALL: Beloved One, though you are as close as our own breath, still, we treat you as a distant stranger.

Forgive us for the ways we other you because we cannot bear the possibilities of recognizing you in our own flesh.

Leader: More comfortable with a god we cannot imagine than one who is queer, or detained, falling in love, or just learning to walk, we deny the holy of our neighbors. We bury the Sacred in us.

ALL: Forgive us for believing the ones who tell us there's somewhere you'd rather be than here:

In these bodies.

On this land.

In our neighbors.

Leader: Great Liberator,

Mother of Life,

Gentle Spirit,

You dwell within.

You linger around.

You are always within reach.

ALL: That Love is so close,

That Justice is so near –

We can hardly believe,

But God, we desire to.

Leader: God rolls away everything that stands in our way -

our past, our sin, our pain, our hesitation, and reshapes us into new people living in the Light.

Snuff out the Lenten candle

ALL: Thanks be to God, we are forgiven!

BLESSING AND PASSING THE PEACE

Adults: The Lord be with you!

Children and Kids Ministry Leader: And also with you!

During this time we greet one another, recognizing that we are all a part of the body, as PreK-5th grade children are led to their ministry space. Younger children and youth remain, and are welcome, in the Gathering. Materials for toddlers are available and we understand that their presence means they will be heard, no need to worry about their vocal contributions.

SERMON NOTES

Wrestling in the Shadows: Bad Spiritual Leaders

Matthew 23.1-39

**[For discussion prompts visit the series page here.](#)*

LORD'S TABLE LITURGY

Leader: Gentle One, in the midst of all the world's noise,

we struggle to hear your whispers of care.

"Come and rest,"

You beckon.

ALL: Our never-ending lists, days too short, pressures so high, they make us weary.

Whether our labor is paid, or the search for work is our toil.

Whether we tend with care to the needs of our loved ones at home

or gift time to the collective cries for justice,

there are so many ways we grow tired.

Leader: Reaching out, patient and inviting.

"Come and rest,"

you beckon, again and again.

ALL: To trust in You is to remember limitations,

release control, and let our earnest offerings be enough.

Leader: You do not ask any one person to lift the burdens from the world.

The Sacred labors of life

belong to all of us and none of us.

For everything that doesn't get done..

For all that we desire to protect but cannot...

For every hurt we cannot tend...

Fill us with a deep assurance,

of your presence that abides in all things,

Through all things.

You abandon no one in their struggle.

ALL: Let your Sabbath be our renewal of body, of mind, of spirit.

Leader: Now, we come around the Lord's table, speaking these words to one another:

ALL: Come, if your faith is blossoming and full, and come, if it is but a tiny seed planted in your heart; come, if you always show up for this Meal, and come, if this is the your very first taste; come, if you have always walked with Christ, and come, if you have stumbled along the way. But come - for our God awaits to serve you with joy, with affirmation, with hope, with peace.

Leader: For all who seek to experience new life in Christ - eat and drink – the body of Christ broken for you and the cup of the new covenant shed for you.

**communion elements are gluten free, not allergen free*

RESPONSE & OFFERING OF WORSHIP

The [Offering Basket](#)

Prayer requests may be posted in the Zoom chat (Zoom participants) or written and placed in the offering basket.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy!

Lord God Almighty

Early in the morning

Our song shall rise to Thee

Holy, holy, holy!

Merciful and mighty

God in three persons

Blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy!

Though the darkness hide Thee

Though the eye of sinful man

Thy glory may not see

Only Thou art holy

There is none beside Thee

Perfect in power, in love and purity

Holy, holy, holy!

Lord God Almighty

All Thy works shall praise Thy name

In earth and sky and sea

Holy, holy, holy!

Merciful and mighty

God in three persons

Blessed Trinity

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Finance role and Leadership Team officer roles update. Please join in thanking Matthew Pierce for his years of service in handling Trinity's finances and accounting! He has now transitioned out of this role and it has been transferred to Steve Edinger, who may be reached at finance@indytrinity.org with any Trinity accounting questions. Given the transition to Steve, he is no longer the Leadership Team president, though he will remain on the Leadership Team as an Administrative Elder. Officer roles on the Leadership Team are now as follows. Emily Yarman, President. Michelle Bell, Treasurer. Autumn Schulze, Secretary. Any questions about these changes in roles may be sent to contact@indytrinity.org.

Community Conversation after the Gathering TODAY. In conjunction with, and follow up to, our seasonal small groups, we'll be conversing about aspects of sacred self-care as they apply to communal care. Please see your email for more details and preparation.

Sermon Series. The sermon series and resources for our new year series are posted online at www.indytrinity.org/sermon-series.

Lent resources, along with [Trinity's Guide to Lent](#), can be found at the bottom of the [sermon series page](#).

Holy Week. We will make our way through Holy Week together by gathering virtually on weekday mornings to center ourselves around the days leading to Christ's crucifixion (March 25-29th). Each morning we will be participating in morning prayers, reflecting on art around this season, and listening to music that Trinity Church is sharing throughout this season. Join us weekday mornings at 7am on [Zoom](#) or catch up throughout the day on [FB](#) or [YouTube](#). Questions? email joel@indytrinity.org.

On March 29th, join us for our Good Friday service at COhatch Broad Ripple at 6:30 p.m. Good Friday marks the betrayal of Jesus and his death at the hands of the state. In this time we will walk with Jesus in his last days on the way to the cross. Join us at CoHatch the "Big Room" as we continue to make our way through Holy Week. If you aren't able to join us in person, you may also join via [Zoom](#). Contact joel@indytrinity.org with any questions.

THE BENEDICTION

Leader: Goodness and mercy go with us from here.

ALL: Relentlessly, they pursue us.

Leader: Even in the midst of valleys that make us tremble,

ALL: even when evil draws near,

Leader: still the gifts of God will not yield.

ALL: Sacred provisions surround us.

Leader: Let us go in the confidence of God's care for us as we follow Christ wherever Love leads.

(Some liturgies adapted from lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com and enfleshed.com - Rev. M Barclay)

COMMUNAL CONNECTION

Guide and Service Dog Training. As we welcome Guide/Service Dogs at Gatherings, please familiarize yourself with resources under on these two websites <https://www.guidedogs.com/resources/blindness-and-guide-dog-etiquette> and <https://www.guidedogsofamerica.org/best-practices-when-around-a-service-dog/> and discuss main points with those in your household. If you or anyone in your household has severe allergies or any fear of dogs, etc. please contact us (contact@indytrinity.org) so we can do our best to keep Gathering spaces welcoming for all.

Covid Guidelines: We are in a season of preparing for possible gathering changes due to the resurgence of Covid. Gatherings may look a little different according to the needs of our leaders if Covid affects them or their teams. We ask that everyone remain flexible if and/or when this is the case. **If a gathering is going to be virtual, we will send an email by 8am on Sunday**, or earlier. We are also asking that those who have tested positive or develop symptoms not attend the gathering in person, but join online via Zoom. If you have been exposed, you can follow the guidelines from the CDC by using this [calculator](#) to determine what are your best precautions to take.

Land Acknowledgement. We acknowledge that the land on which we gather for worship was stolen from Native peoples, who were driven out of the area and of their native lands by genocide, force (through broken treaties and laws imposed upon their nation), and systematic dispossession. The Myaamiaki, Kaskaskia, and Kickapoo peoples* and their sovereign Nations have cared for, and are deeply a part of, this land - past, present, and future. (ref: [Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery. Trinity Church](#))

Gathering Hosting Schedule. As an act of service and care, please join staff, leaders, and others from your parish in hosting Sunday Gatherings. These are great times to connect and welcome others to converse while serving as well. Arrival at 9:45am is great, 9:30am is super helpful for assisting with audio equipment and/or indoor set up. Cleaning up on the back end should only take 10-15 minutes. The hosting checklist is in the Trinity office. Thank you!

March

3rd: North/Carmel

10th: Fishers

17th: Midtown/Downtown

24th/Palm Sunday: Broad Ripple

31st/Easter: North/Carmel

April

7th: Fishers

14th: Midtown/Downtown

21st: Broad Ripple

28th: North/Carmel