



Trinity United Church of Christ

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Trinity United Church of Christ

March 16, 2025

8AM and 10:30AM Worship

Second Sunday in Lent

Awakening joyful service guided by our still speaking God!

** please stand as you are able; **bold** print congregational response*

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TIME OF SHARING/GREETING

PRELUDE MUSIC – “Jesus Paid it All” – *R. Sterling*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

God desires to gather us,

She gathers us together.

Her wings spread out before us,

Her presence, all around us.

To nurture is her nature,

To mother is her gift.

For our safety, she reaches,

For our good, she moves.

Sheltering over us,

She is our fortress.

Deep in her underwing,

She is our strength.

Because of us, she is wounded,

By her wounds we are saved.

Until all fear is gone,

Until the work is finished.

In her, we find our justice,

In her, we find our peace.

***PRAYER**

***HYMN #185 “Savior, When in Tears and Dust”**

PRAYER OF REFLECTION AND GROWTH

O Wounded Healer, Mighty and Merciful,

Nothing we say can undo the damage we have done.

**As you wept over Jerusalem, we now weep over our world.
You see what we have done with the gifts you have freely given us.**

**You sought to gather us, but we were not willing.
Your prophets spoke, but we did not have ears to hear.**

**Now, in our desperation, we pray.
Our lives are in chaos, but we long for your joy. Beyond our
rationalized violence, we yearn for a peace that makes no sense.
Forgive us, God of mercy and grace.
Come again to us, we pray. Then we will surely say,
“Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.”**

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

SUNG RESPONSE

#188 “Give Me a Clean Heart”

*Give me a clean heart so I may serve you.
God, fix my heart so that I may be used by you.
For I’m not worthy of all these blessings.
Give me a clean heart and I’ll follow you.*

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Hear and receive the good news. Our God has been faithful
through generations. Our God makes all things new. Our God makes
gardens spring and wounds repair. In God’s love, we are made whole.
In God’s mercy, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

“Hope of the World”

by L. Larson

Senior Choir

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Rev. Sue Fritz

Rev. Sterling Fritz

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 27 (**Responsive**) (*Insert*)

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 13:31-35

SERMON

HYMN #195 “On a Hill Far Away” (*Remain Seated*)

PRAYER/LORD’S PRAYER

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #881 **The Apostles Creed** (*Insert*)

*CELEBRATION OF OUR GIFTS

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #780 **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, you heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Ever Present, Life Giving God, may these gifts be used
to pass on your peace, justice, and healing. Amen.**

*HYMN #193 “**In the Cross of Christ I Glory**”

*FINAL BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

Some of Today’s Worship Elements have been adapted from the following:

Finish the Work: Service Prayers for Lent 2C was written by Michael Anthony Howard, who serves as Minister of Faith in Action for the Living Water Association, Ohio North East, of the Heartland Conference, United Church of Christ.

PRELUDE: *Jesus Paid it All.* Music by John T. Grape. Arranged by Robert Sterling. ©1985 GlorySound, a division of Shawnee Press, Inc.

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In The Cross of Christ I Glory. Text by John Bowring. Tune by Ithamar Conkey. Public Domain.

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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

881 The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen

† † † † † † † † †

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 27 (Responsive)

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**²When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—
my adversaries and foes— they shall stumble and fall.**

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

**⁴One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in
the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the
beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.**

⁵For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will
conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

**⁶Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.**

⁷Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

**⁸“Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!” Your face, LORD, do I
seek.**

⁹Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in
anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not
forsake me, O God of my salvation!

¹⁰If my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will take me up.

**¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD,
and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.**

¹²Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses
have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.

**¹³I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.**

**¹⁴Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!**

Robert Grant, 1815; alt.

1. Sav-ior, when in tears and dust, low we bow to you in trust,
When re-pen-tant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep-ing eyes,
Mind-ful how you suf-fered pain that God's love in us might reign—
Help us claim what we would be, hear our sol-emn lit-a-ny.

2. By your help-less in-fant years, by your life of want and tears,
By your days of sore dis-tress in the sav-age wil-der-ness,
By the dread mys-te-rious hour of the in-sult-ing tempt-er's power:
Turn, O turn a fa-voring eye, hear our sol-emn lit-a-ny.

3. By your hour of dire de-spair, by your ag-o-ny of prayer,
By the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc-ing spear, and tor-turing scorn,
By the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread-ful sac-ri-fice:
Lis-ten to our hum-ble cry, hear our sol-emn lit-a-ny.

4. By your deep ex-pir-ing groan, by the sad se-pul-chral stone,
By the vault whose cold a-bode held in vain the ris-ing God:
O from earth to realms of light, Christ re-stored in power and might,
Lis-ten, lis-ten to the cry of our sol-emn lit-a-ny.

On a Hill Far Away
(The Old Rugged Cross)

George Bennard, 1913; alt.

1. On a hill far a-way stood an old rug-ged cross,
the em-blem of suf-fering and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dear-est and best
for a world of lost sin-ners was slain.

Refrain:

So I'll cher-ish the old rug-ged cross,
till my tro-phies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rug-ged cross,
and ex-change it some-day for a crown.

2. Oh, that old rug-ged cross, so de-spised by the world,
has won-drous at-trac-tion for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left the glo-ry of heaven
to bear it to cold Cal-va-ry.

Refrain:

3. In that old rug-ged cross, which bore Love so di-vine,
a won-drous beau-ty I see,
For up-on that old cross Je-sus suf-fered and died
to par-don and sanc-ti-fy me.

Refrain:

4. To the old rug-ged cross I will ev-er be true,
its shame and re-proach glad-ly bear;
When God calls me some-day to my home far a-way,
there God's glo-ry for-ev-er I'll share.

Refrain:

John Bowring, 1825

1. In the cross of Christ I glo-ry,
tower-ing o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sa-cred sto-ry
gath-ers 'round its head sub-lime.

2. When the woes of life o'er-take me,
hopes de-ceive, and fears an-noy,
Nev-er shall the cross for-sake me:
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.

3. When the sun of bliss is beam-ing
light and love up-on my way,
From the cross the ra-diance stream-ing
adds more lus-ter to the day.

4. Bane and bless-ing, pain and plea-sure,
by the cross are sanc-ti-fied;
Peace is there that knows no mea-sure,
joys that through all time a-bide.

5. In the cross of Christ I glo-ry,
tower-ing o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sa-cred sto-ry
gath-ers 'round its head sub-lime.

Gal. 6:14