



Trinity United Church of Christ

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Trinity United Church of Christ

April 6, 2025

8AM and 10:30AM Worship

Fifth Sunday in Lent/Communion

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 – “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” *with*
“More Love to Thee” – *B. Smith, and M. McDonald*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Family of God, we gather as who we are, and we bring what we have.

Let us encounter the new thing God is doing among us.

We bring joy and sorrow, hope and despair,
resources and need, certainty and questions.

Let us engage the new thing God is doing among us.

In this space, we meet the One who parts seas,
creates paths, and changes circumstances.

Let us encourage the new thing God is doing among us.

***PRAYER**

**Holy One, we rejoice in your presence. We acknowledge that you have
done great things in our history, in our present, and in our future.**

**Our hope rests in you. We rejoice in confidence that you abide in our
dry spaces and in our flowing streams. Lead us through troubling times
and empower us to continue to press toward you and your way.**

**In our worship, part our lips in praise, open our hearts in love,
and quench our spirits in service. Amen.**

***HYMN #1 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”**

PRAYER OF REFLECTION AND GROWTH

**Righteous God, you made us in your divine image and yet we often turn
to the gazes of others to see ourselves. We yield to the temptation of
comparison and measure ourselves according to standards not made
for us. You declared us good, and we question your judgment. We
turn from your truth and receive the lies of the enemy of our souls that
devalue and condemn even though your grace is sufficient for us.
Mend the brokenness within us. Fortify us with your love, hope,
and vision. Shield us from stagnation and despair. Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

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

ANTHEM

“I Will Never Fail You”

C. Berry

Senior Choir

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 126 (*Responsive*)

John 12:1-8

SERMON

HYMN #44 **“Beautiful Jesus”** (*Remain Seated*)

PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

*CELEBRATION OF OUR GIFTS

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #780 **Doxology**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Anoint these gifts, Generous God, that they may fulfill their purpose. Through the pouring out of our financial resources, unique passions and skills, and faithful companionship with our community, may we impart hope, render joy, and participate in your kingdom. Amen

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Our table is open & wide! All are invited to commune.

We use gluten free bread & grape juice)

God is with you.

And also with you.

Let us open our hearts.

We open our hearts to God and one another.

Let us give thanks.
We thank God with joy.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION #788 "Eat This Bread"
Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

Holy God, we see and touch your Word is Jesus Christ, who communed with outcasts, who died among sinners, and who lives among us still.

Remembering your boundless love for us in Jesus Christ,
we offer you our praise as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

(Please come forward as the Usher directs you. We will form a semi-circle around the Communion Table. You will be served the bread first, then the cup. After we commune, the pastor will offer a benediction. You will leave the chancel area, placing your cups in the tray provided & return to your seat.)

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Thank you God for refreshing our bodies and souls
around your table of compassion. As we are fed, may we feed
those around us who are also seeking renewal. Send us on
our way restored by Christ's love and willing to be
of service to your hurting world. Amen.**

*HYMN #42 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

*FINAL BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

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Some of Today's Worship Elements have been adapted from the following:
Leave Her Alone Service Prayers for the Fifth Sunday in Lent was written by the
Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of
Christ. And: **Communion Liturgy** Ruth Duck. *Finding Words for Worship.*
Westminster John Knox Press. Louisville. 1995.

Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

**²Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
“The Lord has done great things for them.”**

³The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

**⁴Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.**

⁵May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

**⁶Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Walter C. Smith, 1867; alt.

1. Im-mor-tal, in-vis-i-ble, God on-ly wise,
in light in-ac-ces-si-ble hid from our eyes,
Most bless-ed, most glo-rious, the An-cient of Days,
al-might-y, vic-to-rious, your great name we praise.

2. Un-rest-ing, un-hast-ing, and si-lent as light,
not want-ing, not wast-ing, but rul-ing in might;
Your jus-tice like moun-tains high soar-ing a-bove,
your clouds which are foun-tains of good-ness and love.

3. Your life is life-giv-ing—to both great and small;
in all life you're liv-ing, the true life of all;
We blos-som and flour-ish as leaves and as flowers,
then with-er and per-ish—but naught dims your powers.

4. So per-fect your glo-ry, so bril-liant your light,
your an-gels a-dore you, all veil-ing their sight;
All praise we now ren-der as your an-gels do:
in awe at the splen-dor of light hid-ing you.

1 Tim. 1:17; Ps. 36:6

Beautiful Jesus

Münster Gesangbuch, 1677

Transl. Madeleine Forell Marshall, 1993

1. Beau-ti-ful Je-sus,
Head of all cre-a-tion,
God and the bless-ed Mar-y's child:
I want to love you,
praise and a-dore you,
joy of my soul, so long de-sired.
2. Beau-ti-ful spring-time,
love-ly, green, and hope-ful,
all earth ex-hales its sweet per-fume:
Je-sus is sweet-er,
Je-sus is pur-er,
sad hearts at this, re-joice and bloom.
3. Beau-ti-ful sun-shine,
clear, so love-ly, moon-light,
stars shine like an-gels, ranked through space:
Je-sus shines bright-er,
Je-sus shines clear-er,
in per-fect beau-ty, love, and grace.
4. All earth-ly beau-ty,
all ce-les-tial ra-diance
fade when com-pared to Je-sus' face.
Let me not cher-ish
beau-ties that per-ish;
let me this love-ly good em-brace.

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Charles Wesley, 1740; alt.

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Re-deem-er's praise,
The glo-ries ev-er ech-o-ing
the tri-umphs of God's grace!
2. My gra-cious Sav-ior and my God,
as-sist me to pro-claim,
To spread through all the earth a-broad
the hon-ors of your name.
3. Je-sus! the name that calms our fears,
that bids our sor-rows cease
Is mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears,
is life, and health, and peace!
4. Glo-ry to God, and love and praise
be ev-er, ev-er given
By all the saints in ev-ery age,
the church in earth and heaven.