



**TRINITY**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Trinity Presbyterian Church

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth.

## Words for Reflection

Lent gives the only answer there is to the problem of evil: A cross that triumphs over evil, a death that tramples death.

- Peter Leithart

Our suffering as believers connects us to Christ. This connection to Christ by means of suffering makes our suffering meaningful—it transforms our suffering into something redemptive rather than destructive. This is so not because our suffering itself is redemptive, but because it connects us to Christ's suffering. And *Christ's* suffering certainly means something.

– Dan McCartney

We don't know what's best for us. The things I'm most afraid of are often the very things that will set me free. The desolate places in my life that I most want to avoid are the very places God waits to meet me. The things I want most—and which I grip, white knuckled—are often the things that, were it not for God's gracious intervention, would diminish me, even kill me. The way to save my life is to lose it.

-Tish Harrison Warren

For the most part, North American Christianity lacks a theology of suffering. We major in praise songs and minor in lament.

- Chuck DeGroat

# Order of Worship

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

— March 19, 2023 —

## The LORD Calls Us

*God invites and calls us into His presence to worship Him. He enters into our busy lives to speak to us.*

### The Call to Worship

O God, you are my God; earnestly 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;  
in your name I will lift up my hands.

—Psalm 63:1-4 ESV

# Hymn of Praise | Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*We sing praises to God and proclaim through song the good news of what He has done in Jesus' death and resurrection. Some songs might be initially unfamiliar, but we believe the rich, true, beautiful words of these hymns will make their way into your heart.*

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
Sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
Mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
Hither by Thy help I'm come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wandering from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Words: Robert Robinson; Tune: Folk Song

## Opening Prayer & Lord's Prayer

*We ask for God to be present among us and conclude with the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray.*

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Doxology

*Doxology means "glory words." We lift our voices and our hands to give God glory for who He is and all that He has done.*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

# The LORD Cleanses Us

*God cleanses and restores us through Jesus' death and resurrection. We fight the temptation to hide our sin and instead acknowledge it openly to God, but we do so in light of the grace that is ours in Jesus.*

## Confession of Sin

Most Merciful Father,

We give You thanks that You are a God who has good purposes for us even in our most difficult trials. We praise You that as we share in Christ's sufferings, we can rejoice. Yet, we confess the ways we doubt Your good purposes and Your good character. Rather than looking to You in our trials, we often believe that You are distant and uncaring. Forgive us through the Cross of Christ and enable us by Your Spirit to entrust ourselves to a faithful Creator while doing good. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Silent Confession

## Assurance of Forgiveness

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

—1 Peter 2:24-25 ESV

# Hymn of Response | By Thy Mercy

*We respond in thanks and praise for God's redemptive work in Christ.*

Jesus, Lord of life and glory,  
Bend from heaven thy gracious ear;  
While our waiting souls adore thee,  
Friend of helpless sinners, hear:

From the depth of nature's blindness,  
From the hardening power of sin,  
From all malice and unkindness,  
From the pride that lurks within,

*By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord  
By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.*

When temptation sorely presses,  
In the day of Satan's power,  
In our times of deep distresses,  
In each dark and trying hour.

When the world around is smiling,  
In the time of wealth and ease,  
Earthly joys our hearts beguiling,  
In the day of health and peace. *(Chorus)*

In the weary hours of sickness,  
In the times of grief and pain,  
When we feel our mortal weakness,  
When all human help is vain.

In the solemn hour of dying,  
In the awful judgment day,  
May our souls, on thee relying,  
Find thee still our Rock and Stay. (*Chorus*)

Words: James John Cummins; Music: Greg Thompson

## Confession of Faith | Philippians 2:5-11

*We join the church in history by confessing this basic statement of what Christians believe.*

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## The LORD Converses with Us

*God speaks to us by His Word, and we respond with prayer, gratitude, and offerings.*

### The Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-5

*God speaks to us by His Word.*

**11:1** There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. **2** And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

3 And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, 4 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

5 Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## The Offering

*In gratitude, we offer our gifts to God.*

## The Prayers of the People

*We lift up our requests to God knowing that He hears us when we pray and conclude with a Lenten prayer that focuses on Jesus' suffering.*

**Rev. Justin Smith**  
UNT RUF Campus Minister

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## The Reading of the Word

1 Peter 4:12-19

*God speaks to us by His Word.*

**4:12** Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. **13** But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. **14** If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. **15** But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. **16** Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. **17** For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? **18** And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

**19** Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## The Preaching of the Word

Pastor Brian Davis

*Life in Exile: A Study of 1 Peter*  
"Glory in Suffering"



# The LORD Communes With Us

*God invites us to feast with Him at His Table.*

## The Celebration of Holy Communion

*Communion (also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist) is the family meal of baptized Christians. It's not a meal for good people. It's a meal for desperate people who trust in Jesus alone for salvation, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength and grace to live more faithfully with Jesus. You will be invited to come forward. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal today, we encourage you to use the prayers printed below and spend this time in reflection or prayer.*

*Children who have not received their first communion are welcome to come forward with their families. We invite children who are ready to make a public profession of faith in Christ to arrange a meeting with the elders, and thus become "communicants" at the Lord's Table.*

*\*Note about communion wine: We serve wine during communion. If you'd prefer non-alcoholic grape juice, please indicate by pointing at the tray.*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**  
Pastor: Lift up your hearts!  
People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:  
People: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.  
Hallelujah!**  
Pastor: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.  
Hallelujah!  
People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast.**  
Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God.

## Prayers During Communion

### *A prayer for those searching for truth:*

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me the ability to follow you no matter what it might cost me. Give me an understanding for you that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

### *A prayer of belief:*

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead and are now representing me at the Father's right hand in heaven, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen.

### *A prayer for those struggling against sin:*

Lord Jesus, give me the ability to see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and desires, and help me to turn from every false source of satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me, and run with perseverance the race that you have set before me, looking only to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

### *A prayer for covenant children who have not yet made a profession of faith:*

Lord Jesus, thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow up in a Christian family where I am surrounded by the good news of the gospel. Help me to grow in my understanding of who you are and what you have done for me on the cross. Help me learn what it means for me to turn from my sins and trust in you alone for my salvation. Teach me what it means to follow you as one of your disciples. Amen.

# Hymns for Communion

## How Long?

How long? Will You turn Your face away?  
How long? Do You hear us when we pray?  
On and on, still we walk this pilgrim way - How long?

How long 'til Your children find their rest?  
How long 'til You draw them to Your breast?  
We go on holding to Your promises - How long?

*'Til You wipe away the tears from ev'ry eye  
'Til we see our home descending from the sky  
Do we wait in vain? Jesus, give us hope again!*

How long 'til Your word will still the storm?  
How long 'til You bare Your mighty arm?  
How we groan 'til You snatch us from the thorns - How long?  
(Chorus)

How long? Sweet the dawn that ends the race.  
How long? Weak our hearts but strong our legs.  
Looking on - great that cloud of witnesses! How long?  
(Chorus)

Words: Samuel John Stone; Music: Brian Moss

## God the Spirit

Holy Fount of inspiration  
By whose gift the great of old  
Spoke the Word of revelation  
Marvelous and manifold

*God the Spirit we adore Thee,  
In the Triune Godhead One  
One in love and power and glory  
With the Father and the Son*

Author of the new creation,  
Giver of the second birth  
May thy ceaseless renovation  
Cleanse our souls from stains of earth  
(Chorus)

When we wander, Lord direct us,  
Keep us in the Master's way  
Let thy strong swift sword protect us  
Warring in the evil day  
Shall the church now faint or fear  
When the Comforter is near?  
(Chorus)

Words: Samuel J. Stone; Music: Matt Boswell

# The LORD Commissions Us

*God blesses us and sends us out to be a part of His mission to Fort Worth & the world.*

## Departing Hymn | O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

*We respond in faith and song.*

\*Children are invited to come to the front to lead & sing. Parents are also welcome.

O Love that will not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in Thee;  
I give Thee back the life I owe,  
That in thine ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O light that followest all my way,  
I yield my flickering torch to Thee;  
My heart restores its borrowed ray,  
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day  
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to Thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
And feel the promise is not vain,  
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,  
I dare not ask to fly from Thee;  
I lay in dust life's glory dead,  
And from the ground there blossoms red  
Life that shall endless be.

Words: George Matheson; Music: Christopher Miner

## The Benediction

*God sends us out with his blessing. A benediction is not a prayer. We don't bow our heads. We lift them up and even lift up our hands to receive his blessing as we are sent out as participants in His mission to Fort Worth.*

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

— Numbers 6:24-26 ESV

## The Sending

*The people of God are sent into the world to love God, love people, and love Fort Worth.*

Pastor: Let us go forth to serve Fort Worth and the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## Announcements

### Rev. Justin Smith – RUF @ UNT

We are excited to hear from Justin today during our ministry moment and Sunday School. Justin Smith is a native Texan originally from Arlington. Justin started with RUF at UNT in 2017, and coming from an extensive musical background UNT has been a great fit. Justin and Kathryn both love RUF and are excited about serving the students at UNT. They also enjoy music, cooking new foods, day hikes, welcoming folks in their home, and the Texas Rangers. They have a wonderful daughter, Vivian Elaine, and a delightful son, Nathaniel Jude.

### Sunday School & Youth Group Today

We will have our meetings for Youth Group (HS and MS), Five Six (5th and 6th graders), and Sunday School (0-3 Nursery and classes for ages 4-4th grade) after worship until 6:30pm. Pizza provided!

### Adult Sunday School

Today we will hear from Justin Smith of UNT @ RUF.

### Palms & Pizza

We'll be gathering at Sanguinet Park after worship to celebrate Palm Sunday (April 2) with pizza and an Easter egg hunt for all children 10 years and under. We will let the youngest children begin at 5:55pm. Feel free to bring your children's baskets or we will have bags for them to use! **Please be sure to RSVP in the Church Center app so we can get an idea of how many people can attend!** Suggested donation is \$5-\$10 per family.

## Young Adults' Dinner Today

Trinity Young Adults is a group for post-undergrad, in grad school, career, single, or young marrieds. **Come join us after church on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays after worship or Sunday School. Today we will eat at Wabi House after Sunday School.** Details about dinners and other events are in the Church Center app or contact Rachel ([rachelkuchem@gmail.com](mailto:rachelkuchem@gmail.com)) or Jeff ([jeffrey.bryant14@gmail.com](mailto:jeffrey.bryant14@gmail.com)).

## Men's Retreat

Our annual Men's Retreat will be held at Glen Lake Camp and Retreat Center in Glen Rose, Texas, starting at 5pm Friday, April 21 and ending at 1:45pm on Saturday. This event is an opportunity for men to "get away", sit under the preached word of God, enjoy some free time, and build relationships with other believers. This year's speaker will be Mike Khandjian. **The price per person is \$100 and will include your room, dinner Friday, as well as breakfast and lunch on Saturday. College-age students can come for only \$40. Scholarships are available – contact Andy ([andy@trinitypresfw.org](mailto:andy@trinitypresfw.org)).** Register now in the Church Center app!

## Women's Retreat

Join the women of Trinity for "A Day Away" on April 29, in Granbury, TX. Our speaker, Courtney Doctor, will talk on "Unexpected Turns." We will begin at 9:30 on Saturday morning, have lunch and 3 speaking sessions, and end with a cocktail hour. For any questions, contact McKenzie Montague ([mckenziemontague@gmail.com](mailto:mckenziemontague@gmail.com)) or Susan Tyner (662.832.0242). **Space is limited this year, and registration is due by April 11, so be sure to register early! The cost is \$75. If price is a problem, we have scholarships available - contact Susan ([susan@trinitypresfw.org](mailto:susan@trinitypresfw.org)).** Register now in the Church Center app!

## Men's Book Discussion

We are reading *Raising Emotionally Strong Boys* by Dave Thomas and discussing at various homes each time. This book will be helpful for dads, future dads, grandpas, sons- all y'all are invited into a deeper understanding of boys think, how to strengthen emotional muscles and grow in spiritual health. **The meeting dates are March 30, April 27, and May 18 beginning at 7:30pm. Details and registration are in the Church Center app.** Friends are welcome!

## Pregnancy Lifeline Gala

To mark its 50th Anniversary, PLL is hosting a "Celebration of Life" dinner Saturday, March 25, at Southwest Christian's Clay Center. Sponsorships, donations for the fundraiser, and \$35/person tickets can be obtained by contacting ([jeanne@pregnancylifeline.net](mailto:jeanne@pregnancylifeline.net)).

## Morning Prayer

Join us at the church office (3750 S. University, 76109, Suite 101) on Friday mornings at 8am for prayer. Anyone is welcome!

## Krumms in Ethiopia

You can find details and giving info on the Krumms' Mission in Ethiopia on the Church Center app under "Events".

## Coming Up at Trinity

3/22 Men's Morning Study, Women's Evening Study, Youth Large Group

3/23 Women's Morning Study, Men's Lunch Study

3/24 Friday Morning Prayer

3/29 Men's Morning Study, Women's Evening Study

3/30 Women's Morning Study, Men's Lunch Study, Men's Book Discussion

4/2 Palms & Pizza

## To the Parents of Young Children

Welcome! We are so glad you are here. We believe the church is for all people, even children, and we want Trinity to be a church where children are both seen and heard. So don't worry if your children wiggle in the pews or make a little noise! We invite you to keep your children in our service and help them understand what is going on, sing the songs with you, and participate in worship. Children learn how to worship by imitating you. We say parts of our worship service every week in order to help our non-reading children to participate, and we have children's bulletins available in the back. There are also ages, stages, and times when it might not be best for your children to be in worship. We have a nursery program that is set up to handle children from birth to 4 years old, and a TrinityKids program during the sermon for children 4 years old through 2nd grade. We also have a nursing mothers' room available across from the library if you need to nurse or change a diaper! All nursery volunteers have been through both background checks and Ministry Safe training. Parents often check their children out of the nursery and/or TrinityKids prior to Communion so that they can help lead us in our departing hymn.

## The Liturgy

Our order of worship may be new to you. Every worship service in every church has a structure. We want to be intentional about ours as it is a real back-and-forth conversation between us and God. He calls us to worship, and then we respond and move through the different elements of the service. We have both spontaneous, personal prayers as well as ancient, printed prayers. Please look over the service beforehand to see what we will hear and say along the way.

## Our New Building

We are so excited and grateful for our new building at 207 W. Broadway in the Near Southside! We are in process of renovating and hope to move in during 2023. We will continue to worship at 4pm at Connell until then. Please continue to pray for all of the work being done! Check Church Center for periodic updates and photos.

## Welcome Notepads

At some point during service, a welcome pad will be passed down your row. We would love for you to fill it out and pass it to the person on your right, so that we will have record of your visit. We promise we won't spam you.

## Interested in Helping with Music?

We are always looking to add to our great team of musicians. If you're interested in learning more, please contact Wade Jewett ([jewettwade@gmail.com](mailto:jewettwade@gmail.com)).

## Online Giving

If you'd prefer to give online as either a one-time gift or as a recurring gift, you may do so through our website: [www.trinitypresfw.org/give](http://www.trinitypresfw.org/give). Giving is seen only by the Deacon & the team in charge of counting the offering for that particular day and by our Church Administrator.

## Community Groups

Our Community Groups are essential to our life at Trinity. Jesus never intended for the Christian life to be lived alone. Community Groups meet weekly in homes throughout the city on various nights. If you'd like more information or you'd like to visit a group, please contact Andy ([andy@trinitypresfw.org](mailto:andy@trinitypresfw.org)).

# Church Contact Information

## Pastoral Staff

**Brian Davis, *Lead Pastor***

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## Staff

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## Women's Shepherding Team

**Amy Barker**

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## Deacon of the Day

Ryan Opgenorth

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# Trinity Presbyterian Church

## Our Mission

Trinity exists to embrace, embody, and extend the redemptive message of Jesus to the people and places of Fort Worth and beyond.

## Our Core Commitments

Trinity is a gospel-centered church committed to following Jesus by...

- Worshipping God together through historic liturgy that is rich, accessible, and emotionally honest
- Striving to know and be known in our life together
- Engaging in formative spiritual practices
- Extending the welcome of the gospel in word and deed
- Serving our city

Meeting Address: 4736 Bryce Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76107

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100754, Fort Worth, TX 76185

Church Office Address: 3750 S. University, Suite 101, Fort Worth, TX 76109

Web: [www.trinitypresfw.org](http://www.trinitypresfw.org)

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*We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).*