

* OFFERTORY RESPONSE 780 NCH

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Creator, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God of all bounty and blessing, receive our lives and our gifts
to be bounty and blessings to you, our church, and the world.
Amen.**

We Go Forth

*CLOSING HYMN 208 NCH

“God Loved the World”

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*“I Love You with the Love of the Lord”
(Please join hands as we sing)
Oh, I love you with the love of the Lord.
Yes, I love you with the love of the Lord.
I can see in you the glory of my King,
and I love you with the love of the Lord.*

* POSTLUDE “”

Lenten lunches are being sponsored by the Wadsworth Ministerial Association and will be held on Wednesdays from February 29 – April 4. Held at Grace Lutheran Church, the service begins at 12:05 and is followed by lunch. This year’s theme is “Christ in the Strangest Places”.

Missing coat: On January 22, a black wool coat was mistakenly taken from the back coat rack. The missing coat is a black wool Ann Klein, size 8 petite. It had black leather gloves in the pockets and a snowflake pin on the collar. The coat left here is a Fleet Street black wool, size medium, and is still hanging on the back coat rack. Please contact the church office or Mickey Parker if you know about the missing coat. Thank you for your help.

Wadsworth Salvation Army Women’s Auxiliary present the 5th Annual Swing into Spring silent auction and style show this coming Saturday, March 3 at the Galaxy. Proceeds will benefit children’s programs and services offered by the Salvation Army. Details are on the ramp bulletin board.

Camp Sunday – Next week: Joyce Oyler, Executive Director of Outdoor Ministries – Ohio Conference, will be presenting summer camp activities to our youth during Faith Formation, then she will be with us during worship presenting our Children’s message! Please come to church dressed for the occasion (your camp clothes – jeans!)

First Sunday in Lent
February 26, 2012
Psalm 25:1-10

HELPING SEMINARIANS BECOME "SMART IN THEIR FAITH"
Answering God's call to pastoral ministry has never been easy. But today it is especially hard. Added to the intellectual demands of theological education, the financial burdens of seminary training are now very heavy. As costs have risen, scholarships and grants have struggled to keep pace. Thus, United Church of Christ seminary students have to borrow more and more money to pay for their educational and living costs. Total accumulated divinity school debt and interest can now easily surpass the annual salary of a beginning pastor, and paying it down can take years.

At Eden, the UCC-related theological seminary in St. Louis, sixty percent of the fulltime students are studying on borrowed money--a figure that is, if anything, comparatively low. Thanks to a grant from the Missouri Department of Higher Education, Eden has launched a debt management program to help those students cut their expenses, thereby reducing the amounts of their loans.

Since it is all too easy to ignore the consequences of borrowing, Eden begins with spreadsheets that spell out the sobering statistics for each student. Confronting exactly how much they must eventually repay for their education opens them to the need to find ways to augment their income, or to economize.

Encouraging students to look at their discretionary spending is another part of the program. Exercises in money management have already resulted in a 10-20 percent decrease in the average amount of student loans. Making sure students are aware of financial aid opportunities available beyond the seminary is still another part of Eden's initiative. Despite the burdens of debt, students at Eden are staying true to their call to pastoral ministry. Under the circumstances, this is something Caron Strother, who directs the debt management program, hails as "an act of faith." Her job, she says, is to help them become "smart in their faith."

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS: The season of Lent has begun. Lenten devotional booklets are available on the old altar in the narthex. There are only twenty available, so first come, first served. These devotionals are from the Still Speaking Writers’ Group.

New Member Class: Our new member class will begin next Sunday and will meet during the Sunday School hour. On Palm Sunday, they will join our Trinity family. If you or someone you know is interested in Trinity membership, please contact Rev. Doty.



*Liturgy for the Celebration of Worship
First Sunday of Lent*

February 26, 2012 10:30 A.M.

* Those who are able are invited to stand
“Black” New Century Hymnal (NCH)
“Red” Evangelical & Reformed Hymnal (E & R)

Please wear your nametag in worship.
Please fill-out the pew register (including children!) and pass it down the pew.
At the end of the row pass it back and note the names of those who are sharing your pew so that you might greet them after worship.

Please note prayer requests on the cards found in your pew and pass to the center aisle during the first hymn.

A nursery is available during worship for ages 0-2. We also have a beginners’ room for ages 3 through 1st grade). Please contact an usher for directions if necessary.

We Gather as God’s People

WELCOME /ANNOUNCEMENTS RJ Nagy

PRELUDE “”
“Your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness.”
(Psalm 25.10)

LENTEN INTROIT *“Again We Keep This Solemn Fast”*
Choir

* CALL TO WORSHIP Melanie McIntyre
L: To you, O GOD, we lift up the spirit of our whole selves.
C: **O God, we trust unashamedly in you; seeking that you be not ashamed of us;**
L: May we begin our Lenten journey together in right relationships;

C: Teach us. Show us. Guide us in your paths. Grow us to know your ways more clearly.
L: You are the god of our salvation and the Sustainer of good relations.
C: For you we wait.
L: May integrity, a clean conscience, and upright living preserve us.
C: Amen.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 141 E & R
“Lord, Who Throughout these Forty Days”

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION
 Call

C: Creating and Renewing God. In this Lenten season I need the opportunity to clear my eyes of the glaze of indifference and apathy. Help me get my mind off my distractions, obsessions and self pity so that I don't feel helpless. Help me to start over. Re-orient my head and heart so that I may fill my whole self with life-affirming activities and thoughts. May I be in right relationship with you and all your creation and join the United Church of Christ in overcoming violence, hunger, and injustice. May I find courage and clarity to assist me in works of justice and compassion which make daily life bearable for many. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

* THE RESPONSE

773

Luke 23:42

Music: Traditional; harm. J. Jefferson Cleveland, 1981

Re - mem - ber me, re - mem - ber me,
 O Je - sus, re - mem - ber me.

We Hear God Speaking

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

L: Send now, O God,
C: your Spirit, your Breath, your Wind into every corner of our beings, into dark, closed off rooms, into places of unrest, send us your Word, O God, that as we make this Lenten journey we might come to life and breath new air; help us in our disbelief, that we may receive your word and live, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON Jonah 1.4-16 pew Bible, p. 844

¹But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry.²He prayed to the LORD and said, ‘O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing.’³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.’⁴And the LORD said, ‘Is it right for you to be angry?’⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush.⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered.⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, ‘It is better for me to die than to live.’

⁹But God said to Jonah, ‘Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?’ And he said, ‘Yes, angry enough to die.’¹⁰Then the LORD said, ‘You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night.’¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?’

CHIMES (The children may come to the front during the playing of the chimes.)

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US The Puppets
 (Children ages 0-1st grade are invited to go to the nursery area after the children's time for faith formation.)

We Lift Our Praise and Prayer to God

ANTHEM *“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”* Milne

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Most Holy God, Jonah tried to flee from your grace as he said later, “I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love.”...Together with John the Baptist, we say,

C: **“Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world”!**

L: Holy Creator, we turn to your Son in repentance and sorrow for the countless times... We remember his death, for it was ours.

C: **Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**

L: Today we pause and pray for others who share this Lenten journey with us... In your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer, O God.**

L: Jesus, as we begin this Lenten season and follow Jonah... In your name we pray the prayer you left us saying,

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

PRAYER RESPONSE

*I surrender all, I surrender all, all to thee, my blessed Savior,
 I surrender all.*

* HYMN OF PREPARATION 202 NCH
“O God, How We Have Wandered”

We Hear the Good News

* THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 8.23-27 pew Bible, p. 884

²³And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him.²⁴A gale arose on the lake, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep.²⁵And they went and woke him up, saying, ‘Lord, save us! We are perishing!’²⁶And he said to them, ‘Why are you afraid, you of little faith?’ Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm.²⁷They were amazed, saying, ‘What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?’

Liturgist: The Word of God for all people.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

SERMON *“Saved in the Storm”* Rev. Doty

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *“Pavane”* Faure, arr. McChesney
 Trinity Handbells

In Our Thoughts and Prayers:

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Today **Sunday School**, 9:15 a.m.
 Worship, 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.
 Blood pressure checks, following worship.

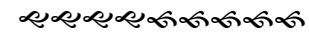
Monday **AA**, 7:30 p.m. in the Old Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday **Wee Twos**, 9:30 a.m. in the Beginner's Room.

Wednesday **Lenten lunch**, 12:05 p.m. at the Lutheran Church.

Thursday **Wee Twos**, 9:30 a.m. in the Beginner's Room.
 Bell Choir, 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
 Trinity Choir, 7:45 p.m. in the Choir Room.

Next Sunday **AA**, 8:00 p.m. in the Old Fellowship Hall.
 Camp Sunday
 Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.
 Worship, 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Communion.



Thank you to:

RJ Nagy, member of Church & Ministry, for bringing the announcements today.

Melanie McIntyre, our liturgist today.

Jerry Daniels, our head usher for February.

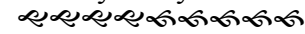
The Baxley family, for providing today's altar flowers in memory of **Bill Baxley**.

, today's acolytes.

Don & Jane Hardies, our greeters this morning.

Tricia Burns, our beginner's volunteer and

Sue Kaufman , our nursery today.



Trinity United Church of Christ

www.ucctrinity.com

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Senior Pastor: Rev. Daniel Doty, O.S.L. (C) 330-338-1176

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Robert C. Johnson

Director of Music: Ann Hudson

Organist: Dale Guiley, AGO, Honorary Minister of Music

HIPPIES Director: Jennifer Klika

Administrative Assistant: Cheryl Powers

Custodian: Kevin Weltzien

Supervisor of Sunday School: Kelly Weber

Mission Developer: Rev. Tom Gerstenlauer