

# TRINITY CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF ASBURY PARK, NJ

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026

## Holy Eucharist at ten o'clock

*At Trinity, we strive to use expansive language in our liturgy to reflect our beliefs that God transcends and includes all genders and that all gender expressions reflect the beauty of God's creation. Sometimes, however, our liturgy and scripture readings use gendered language for God and humanity as part of the common spiritual heritage of Anglicanism and the Christian Church. In congregational responses, we invite you to use whatever pronouns and titles help you to see the divine in both God and humanity. As the scripture lessons are read, we invite you to consider that the writings contained in the Bible are contextual--reflecting particular times, places, and cultures--but that they can be understood in universal and expansive ways. God is love!*

*Hymn numbers refer to either the Hymnal 1982 or Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS), located in the pew racks.*

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**Prelude** *Picardy*

Charles Callahan

**Hymn** 493 "O for a thousand tongues to sing"

*All who can please stand*  
*Azmon*

**Opening Acclamation**

*All who can please stand*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **God's mercy endures for ever.**

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.  
**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not make for yourself any idol.  
**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Honor your father and your mother.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit murder.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit adultery.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not steal.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not be a false witness.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

### **The Summary of the Law**

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

### **Confession and Absolution**

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*All who can, please kneel*

Most merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The celebrant pronounces absolution.*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*Remain kneeling*  
Archangelsky

### Trisagion

*The Trisagion is sung through three times, each time with increasing vigor*

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,  
5  
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

### The Collect of the Day

*Remain kneeling*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

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.**

*Please be seated*

### The Lesson: A Reading from the First Book of Samuel (16:1-13)

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have

come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

*At the end of the lesson, the reader says, The Word of the Lord*  
*All Reply, Thanks be to God.*

## **Psalm 23 (Setting 1)**

Peter Hallock

*Sung by the choir*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 The Lord is my shepherd;<br>I shall not be in want.  | 5 You spread a table before me in the presence<br>of those who trouble me; you have anointed<br>my head with oil, and my cup is running<br>over. |
| 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures<br>and leads me beside still waters.  |  |
| 3 He revives my soul and guides me along<br>right pathways for his Name's sake.  | 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow<br>me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in<br>the house of the Lord for ever.              |
| 4 Though I walk through the valley of the<br>shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you<br>are with me; your rod and your staff, they<br>comfort me. |  |

## The Lesson: A Reading from the Letter to the Ephesians (5:8-14)

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “ Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

*The Reader says, The Word of the Lord.*

*All Reply, Thanks be to God*

*All who can, please stand*

## Hymn “Heal me, hands of Jesus”

Sharpe

*Verses 1-2 are sung before the Gospel and verses 3-4 are sung after.*

1. Heal me, hands of Je- sus, and search out all my pain: re -  
2. Cleanse me, blood of Je- sus, take bit - ter-ness a - way; let  
3. Know me, mind of Je- sus, and show me all my sin; dis -  
4. Fill me, joy of Je- sus: anx - i - e - ty shall cease and

store my hope, re - move my fear and bring me peace a - gain.  
me for - give as one for-given and bring me peace to - day.  
pel the mem - o - ries of guilt, and bring me peace with - in.  
heaven's se - ren - i - ty be mine, for Je - sus brings me peace!

## The Holy Gospel John (9:1-41)

*All who can please stand*

*At the Announcement, all say* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know

where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

*The Reader says, The Gospel of the Lord.*  
*All Reply, Praise to you, Lord Christ*

*Verses 3-4 will now be sung.*

**Sermon**

The Rev. Chase Danford

## Nicene Creed

*All who can please stand*

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## The Prayers of the People

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

*After each petition, the Leader says "...let us pray to the Lord."*

*All respond*      **Lord, have mercy.**

*The leader will then read 2 congregational thanksgivings from the 2026 pledge cards, using the following language:*

**We give thanks for the following blessings that the people of Trinity Church have named:**

*Leader* In the communion of saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

*People* **To you, O Lord our God.**

*Silence*

*The Celebrant concludes with a collect (prayer).*

**Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Peace

*Greet one another in the name of Christ.*

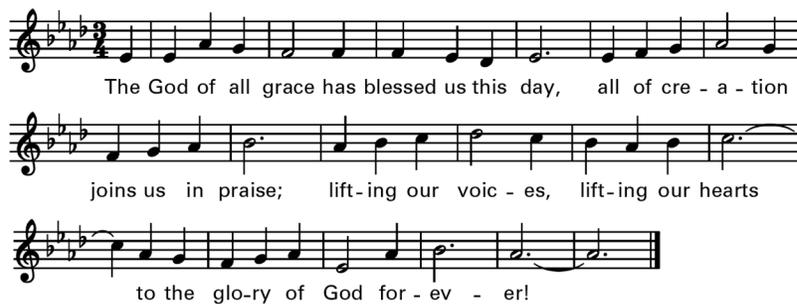
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

## Welcome and Announcements

*Please be seated*

## Congregational Celebrations and Thanksgivings



The God of all grace has blessed us this day, all of cre - a - tion  
joins us in praise; lift-ing our voic - es, lift-ing our hearts  
to the glo-ry of God for - ev - er!

## The Offering

### Choral Anthem Choral Reflection on *Amazing Grace*

Roger Ames

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
We have already come.  
'Twas grace that brought us safe thus far,  
And grace will lead us home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun.

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.

The Lord has promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures.  
He will my child and portion be  
As long as life endures.

Alleluia.

## The Great Thanksgiving

*All who can please stand*

*Eucharistic Prayer A, Book of Common Prayer*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

# Sanctus

Tschesnokoff. DSKing, arr.

The congregation is invited to sing the part most comfortable for you.

Men: Ho ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Trebles: Ho ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts. All: Heav'n and earth are full of your Glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, in the high - est.

19 Sung by the Choir: "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Celebrant

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker and of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*Celebrant*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
Our Father (or Mother/Parent), **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **At the Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

**Agnus Dei**, from *Missa Secunda*

*Sung in Latin by the Choir*

Hans Leo Hassler; DSKing, editor

*translation -*

Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, grant us your peace.

### **The Invitation**

## At the Communion



The sacrament of Holy Communion is a profound and central part of our worship. In it we receive God's promise to set aside all that separates us; we strengthen our union with Christ and one another; and we experience a foretaste of the time when all creation will share the feast God has prepared for us. All who seek a deeper relationship with God in Jesus Christ are invited to join us at the Lord's Table.

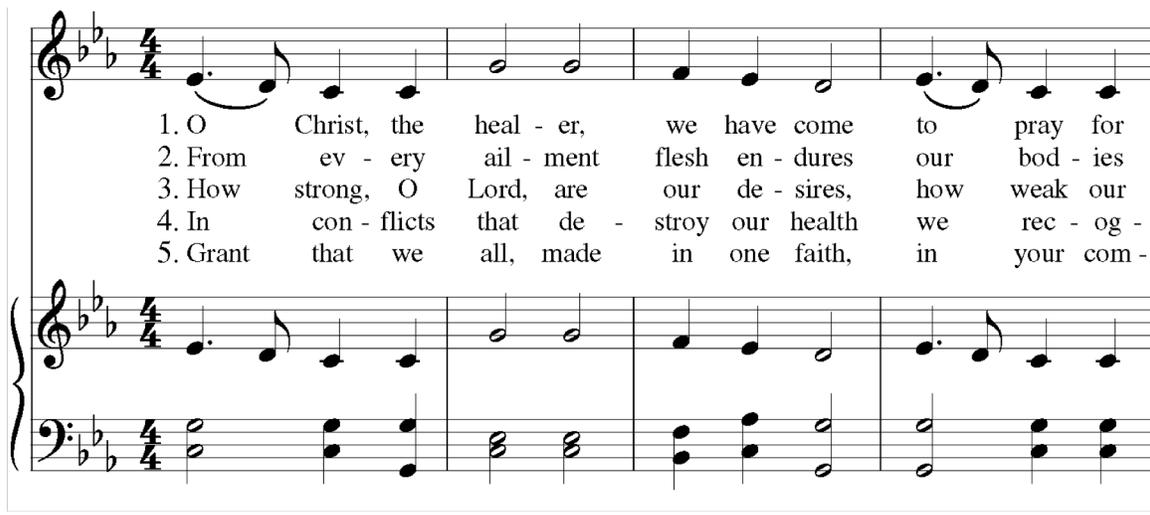
Follow the usher's direction to communion. Receive the bread in open palm. Wine is available in the silver chalice, and non-alcoholic grape juice in the wooden cup. You may receive the wine by taking a sip or touching your wafer to the wine. For the grape juice, please only touch the wafer to the juice. If you would like a blessing in lieu of communion, indicate so by crossing your arms over your chest. Gluten free wafers are available, please ask the clergy for one if desired. Please let the usher know if you need the Celebrant to come to your pew to administer communion.



During communion, those who would like someone to pray with them for themselves or someone else are invited to come to one of our prayer stations for individual prayer. Prayer stations are located at the back of the church (near the entrance doors) where a member of the Trinity Prayer Team will be sitting in a chair, ready to say a prayer with you. See insert for more information.

## Hymn "O Christ, the healer"

Kedron



1. O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for  
2. From ev - ery ail - ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies  
3. How strong, O Lord, are our de - sires, how weak our  
4. In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og -  
5. Grant that we all, made in one faith, in your com -

*Hymn continues on next page*

health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to  
clam - or to be freed; yet in our hearts we  
know - ledge of our - selves! Re - lease in us those  
nize the world's dis - ease; our com - mon life de -  
mu - ni - ty may find the whole - ness that, en -

be re - stored, when reached by love that nev - er ends?  
would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.  
heal - ing truths un - con - scious pride re - sists our selves.  
clares our ills: is there no cure, O Christ, for these?  
rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

**[Blessing of the Lay Eucharistic Visitors**

*Celebrant* Bless you for your ministry and bless those to whom you bring these holy gifts, that they may be united with this community in the holy sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

*People* **Though we are many, we are all one body because we share in the one bread.]**

**Post Communion Prayer**

*All who can please stand*

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Savior. Amen.

**Blessing**

*from A New Zealand Prayer Book*

*Celebrant*

May Christ who calls you to take up your cross, give you strength to bear your own and one another's burdens, and the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life be with you always. **Amen.**

**Hymn 671 "Amazing Grace"**

*New Britain*

**Dismissal** *People's Response:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** *Azmon*

Paul Manz, arr.

## **Trinity Church Vision Statement**

“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God...For if we love one another, God abides in us, and God’s love will be perfected in us.” (1 John 4:7, 12)

Love is at the very core of Trinity Church. Through our faith and ministry, we seek to share Jesus Christ’s unconditional, revolutionary love for all of God’s creation and people. We demonstrate love in action by respecting the dignity of all, practicing radical hospitality, standing in solidarity with the marginalized, advocating for peace and justice, dismantling structural racism and every system of oppression, embracing inclusivity, maintaining our sacred space as a spiritual and physical sanctuary, and pursuing ecological sustainability. Strengthened by joyful worship, prayer, lifelong spiritual formation, stewardship of resources, pastoral care, and fellowship, we commit to follow Jesus in the Way of Love.

### **TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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