

*Trinity Church
Welcomes You*

Second Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2025

Reverend Priscilla Hukki

*Indicates standing as you are able.

PRELUDE

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

God, you are our refuge.
You are the shore in sight,
you are hands that reach out,
you are the ground on which to rest.

God, you are our strength.

You are the life we long for,
you are the refusal to give up,
you are the keys of home we carry with us.

God, you are our help in time of trouble.

We call on you from the ruins and the rubble,
We call on you from the wildness and the deep,

ALL: We call on you to meet us in this place! Amen.

*Found in Cláudio Carvalhaes, Liturgies from Below: Praying with People at the Ends of the World
(Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2020), 40.*

I will call upon the Lord, I will call upon the Lord
who is worthy to be praised, who is worthy to be praised.

So shall I be saved from my enemies.
So shall I be saved from my enemies.
I will call upon the Lord.

Refrain

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock;
and let the God of my salvation be exalted.
The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock;
and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

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OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

FIRST READING

Genesis 15: 1-6

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ² But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” ⁵ He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” ⁶ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

God’s Word for God’s People

PSALM

Psalm 27

(read responsively)

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

² **When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war

rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

⁴ One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶ Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸ My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.” Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

¹⁰ Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in.

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

¹² Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.

¹³ This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

¹⁴ Wait for the LORD and be strong. Take heart and wait for the LORD!

SECOND READING

Philippians 3: 17 – 4: 1

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

God’s Word for God’s People

***GOSPEL READING**

Luke 13: 31-35

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³² He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work.’ ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

The Gospel of the Lord

SERMON

Pastor Priscilla

HYMN

How Firm a Foundation

UMH #529 vs. 1 & 2

1. How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
2. “Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I’ll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

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***APOSTLES’ CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

If we say we are without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, you offer us so much,
forgive us for sharing so little.

You have called us to your ways,
forgive us for ignoring your call.

You have given us the gift of family,
forgive us for not giving thanks.

You have given us countless blessings,
forgive us for taking your love for granted.

**And now, gracious God, be merciful to us
in our sin and indifference, through Christ,
our Savior. Amen.**

From Joel N. Martínez and Raquel M. Martínez, Fiesta Cristiana: Recursos para la Adoración (Abingdon Press, 2003), 148.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God's grace is amazing. God's love never-ending. God's forgiveness is given through the mercy of Jesus Christ who is our salvation. You are set free to love and serve +in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

OFFERING

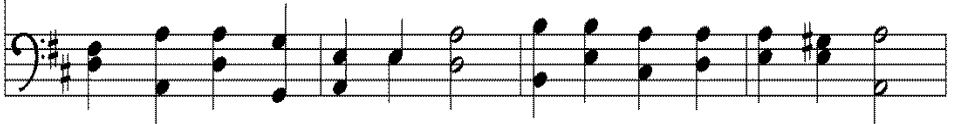
We appreciate your support of the work of the church through your tithes and offerings. Please place all offerings in the plate by the entrance to the sanctuary.

OFFERINGTake My Life, That I May Be*

LBW #406 v. 4



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.



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OFFERING PRAYER

Faithful God, who journeys with us through the wilderness of our lives, as we offer these gifts, we remember your sustaining presence. May these offerings be signs of hope and acts of compassion that reflect the love you have shown us in Christ. In the name of Jesus, our Redeemer, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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 sins,
 as we forgive those who sin against us.
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
 for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
 Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

The risen Christ invites us to this table.

Come, eat and be satisfied. The Body & Blood of Christ given for you. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN**

O How He Loves You and Me

TFWS #2108

1. O how he loves you and me! O how he loves you and me!
He gave his life. What more could he give?
O how he loves you; O how he loves me;
O how he loves you and me!
2. Jesus to Calv'ry did go; his love for sinners did show.
What he did there brought hope from despair.
O how he loves you; O how he loves me;
O how he loves you and me!

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BENEDICTION

Beloved, you—*you*—who live in the shelter of the Most High and abide in the shadow of the Almighty —will find in God your refuge and fortress. Go now, in the blessing of the Triune God who shelters you and rescues you, that we all might be a shelter and a rescue for and with one another. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, August 2024.