



TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Lent

March 23, 2025

9:00 AM Liturgy of The Word, Rite II; BCP 355

9:00 AM Church School

PROCESSIONAL HYMN “Before Thy Throne O God we Kneel”

Blue Hymnal 574

OPENING SENTENCES, COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP (Red Book) 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.

Officiant and People:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

KYRIE

Blue Hymnal S91

**Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us,
Christ have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us,
Lord, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.**

✠ THE LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON Exodus 3:1-15

A reading from the book of Exodus;

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, “I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.” When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” Then he said, “Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” He said further, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.”

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations." The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 63 (Congregation invited to sing bolded verses)

O God, you are my God; eagerly I / seek you;*
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is / no water.

***Therefore I have gazed upon you in your / holy place,*
that I might behold your power and / your glory.***

For your loving-kindness is better than / life itself;*
my lips / shall give you praise.

***So will I bless you as long as I / live*
and lift up my hands / in your Name.***

My soul is content, as with marrow and / fatness,*
and my mouth praises you / with joyful lips,

***When I remember you up/on my bed,*
and meditate on you in the / night watches.***

For you have been my / helper,*
and under the shadow of your wings / I will rejoice.

***My soul / clings to you,*
your right / hand holds me fast.***

THE SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

A reading from the First letter of Paul to the Corinthians;

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

GRADUAL HYMN "As Longs The Deer"

Blue Hymnal 658

THE THIRD LESSON Luke 13:1-9

A reading from the book of Luke;

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

REFLECTIONS

Moment of Silent Reflection

THE RESPONSES OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

BCP (Red Book) 358

Officiant and People:

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 man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.*

Prayers of the People, Form I

BCP (Red Book) 383

The Leader and People pray responsively

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For this town of Trumbull, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering. We ask the congregation to please pray for the people listed on your pink cards *Silence.....* We encourage you to pray for these people throughout the week. Please also pray for our military and all those being deployed, Let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

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

Silence

Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor;

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.

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

THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS

THE OFFERTORY

Offertory Hymn “Come Thou Font of Ev’ry Blessing”

Blue Hymnal 686

The Doxology

Blue Hymnal 43 verse 4

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below,
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(sung)*

Blue Hymnal S119

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 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, forever and ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR SUNDAY

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN “Kind Maker of The World, O Hear”

Blue Hymnal 152

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit!

Thanks be to God!

Officiant
Lectors
Organist & Choirmaster
Usher

Bob Pitzschler
Mark Thunem, Lauren Thunem, Lesley Moises
Herb Lazration
Lauren Thunem, Mark Thunem

❖ Parish Announcements ❖

✚ PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember those in need of prayer: Margy, Bill, Amy, Carolyn, Alison, Kevin, Andrew, Adele, Xavi, Chris, Dee, Donald, Frank, Larry, Marilee, DJ, Deacon Knute, George, Chris, Michael, Samuel, Alex, Debbie, Manny, Will, Lucille, Donna, Lenny, Paul, Gayle, Al, Cherie, Leslie, Joanne, Ellen, Michael, Cami, Kaitie, Pat, Dave, Georgeann, Walt, Betty, Gary, Steve, Frank, Barbara, Christine, Sandie, Stacey, Drewseller, Bobby, Michael, Brandon, Cathy, Rebecca, Caitlin, Mason, Russ, Renate, Pat, Sam, Renay, Mike, Sharon, Chuck, Lou. Please also pray for our military, and all those being deployed.

Please pray for Dave Erhardt and his family. We have been notified by Georgeann that Dave has been placed on Hospice care in their home.

✚ WORSHIP

Next Sunday, March 30th join us as we welcome the Rev. Marcus Halley.

Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday – 6pm Simple Dinner with foot washing and Eucharist to follow.

Good Friday – 9am Service with Communion

Good Friday – 5pm Stations of the Cross

Easter Sunday – 9am Worship with Egg Hunt to follow.

✚ PARISH LIFE

Lenten Coffee Hour Discussions- There are a few things in life that people don't want to talk about: money, politics.... and death. This Lent we will take on the discussion of death. What does it mean to die well? What does Jesus have to say about it? How do we have these conversations with our loved ones? What is an advanced directive and why do I need one? These conversations will happen during coffee hour from March 9th to the 30th. Come with an open heart and all your questions.

Flower Donations for Chapel: We are looking for potted flower donations to have in the small chapel on Maundy Thursday and will be also used in church on Easter. If you would like, please sign up to donate these flowers and they can be taken home on Easter. This is an easy way to help make these services beautiful and get your flowers for Spring. Please let me know if you have any questions. *Rev. Kate*

Maundy Thursday – March 17 – Dinner & Service, 6pm: Please see the sign-up sheet posted where we are asking for donations of soup (brought hot in crock pots) and bread. *We would like a chairman for this event to coordinate food donations and help organize kitchen help.* We will be hosting Christ Church Tashua for this event.

✚ **Easter Flowers & Book of Remembrance Donations** - Please see the attached order form for Easter plants or donations to Trinity's Book of Remembrance. All order forms are due to the office by Monday April 7th. Thank you!

✚ **Please help with our upcoming Easter Egg Hunt** by donating individually wrapped “bite size” candies (so they fit into plastic eggs). Due to allergies, please do not bring candies containing nuts. Questions, please see Miss Brenda - Thank you!

Cooking with Kate will be held next Sunday, March 30th! Come help prepare meatloaf for St. John's Family Center. Cooking will be after worship.

Confirmation and Reception Group – Are you interested in being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church? Please contact Rev. Kate (talk, email, text, phone call) and let her know if you would like to join the group. The group will meet Wednesday evenings March 12, 19, 26 & April 2 from 7-8pm via Zoom.

May 3 at 7pm: Elisabeth von Trapp concert volunteers needed –Our next Blue Door Concert will feature folk singer Elisabeth von Trapp (from the family that inspired *The Sound of Music*). We are looking for volunteers to help with this event by greeting, guiding traffic, helping to set up and clean up, and preparing snacks and beverages. If you would like to help, please contact Edward Dunar at Edward.dunar@gmail.com.

HELP STILL NEEDED – Volunteers are still needed for the following committees or activities. If there are no volunteers, it is possible that the activity will need to be cancelled. Those in **bold** currently need the most volunteers. **Audio Recordings**, Buildings and Grounds, **Caring Connections/Pastoral Care Team**, Choir, **Counters**, **Covenant to Care**, **Eucharistic Ministers**, **Eucharistic Visitors**, Finance Committee, **First Friday Food Drive**, **Greeters**, (Meat) Loafers, **Maundy Thursday**, **Scholarship Committee**, **Sermon Group**, **St. Francis Day**, and the **St. Nicholas Fair**, Sign-up sheets will be in the Parish Hall during the next few Sundays or call (203-375-1503) or email trinitynicholsct@gmail.com to let us know your preference. Some of these activities only function on an as needed basis and may only need one or two members, but others need several volunteers to be able to spread the workload.

Join us for the 51st Annual Greater Bridgeport CROP Hunger Walk on May 4th at 1:30pm!

The Crop Walk is a 2.2 mile walk that helps raise money for the food insecure in our area. Information will be able to be picked up at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 406 White Plains Rd, Trumbull, CT 06611 on March 30th at 2pm or you can pick up packets to fundraise and register at church on the Sundays after. Please come and raise money for a great cause.

☛ CARING CONNECTIONS

🍰 Birthdays – Gayle Silva (the 28th).

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NICHOLS

1734 HUNTINGTON TPKE

TRUMBULL, CT 06611

203-375-1503

web site: www.trinitynichols.org general e-mail: trinitynicholsct@gmail.com

MISSION STATEMENT

OUR MISSION IS TO PROCLAIM BY WORD AND DEED, THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST, REACHING OUT TO ALL IN HIS NAME. OUR DESIRE IS THAT OTHERS MAY COME TO FAITH IN HIM, DRAWN BY THE EXAMPLE OF OUR LIVES.

TRINITY STAFF

Sharon Buzzeo, Parish Administrator

Herb Lazration, Organist/Music Director

The Reverend Kate McKey-Dunar / Priest-in-Charge

Brenda Stapleton, Church School Director/Youth Ministry

Zachary Stapleton, Sexton

In case of a pastoral emergency please call our Priest-in-Charge Rev. Kate McKey-Dunar at 475-265-0654 or email at rev.kemd@gmail.com. *Thank you!*

Office Hours are Monday – Thursday 11-3pm. Rev. Kate's Office Hours are Wednesday's 11 – 3pm, and Thursday by appointment. Please note, the office is closed on Friday.