



**FIFTH**  
*Sunday*  
**IN LENT**

**Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**10:30 am**

**Welcome to  
Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ  
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

450 West Main Street, Mountville, PA 17554  
(717) 285-5593

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TRUCC website: [www.mountvilletrinityucc.org](http://www.mountvilletrinityucc.org)

TRUCC Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MountvilleTRUCC>

**Reverend Patty Dodds, Pastor**

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \* GATHERING SONG      *Bless the Lord my Soul (Sung twice)*

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.  
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

*\*During the song, we will light the candles. The light  
Symbolizes the presence of Christ in our time of worship*

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Out of the depths of our sins, we cry to you.

**ALL: Come and redeem us.**

One: Open your ears and hear our voices

**ALL: Come and redeem us**

One: With reverence, we await forgiveness.

**ALL: Come and redeem us**

One: We watch for your Word, and hope in your love.

**ALL: Come and redeem us.**

### \*OPENING HYMN      **Jesus Keep Me near the Cross**      #197

**INVITATION TO CONFESSION:** Brothers and sisters, we are a people who claim the cross as the central symbol of our faith. Remembering that the cross was an instrument of death and recognizing all within us and around us that does not nurture life, let us sing.

**ALL may sing: On a Hill far away, stood an old rugged cross,  
The emblem of suffering and shame;  
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best  
For a world of lost sinners was slain**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**ALL:** Loving God, your power goes far beyond our own, and yet still we act as though the pains of this world have final claim upon us. We give in to despair and hopelessness, not trusting in your ability to call forth new life from the tombs of our lives. Forgive us for doubting your power to raise up new life in the midst of all the deaths we experience. Forgive us for wanting to limit you to "the last day" or "the world beyond this one", not

trusting you to move and act among us, within us, through us. Forgive us, and open our eyes to the wonder of new life sprouting into being in our very midst. Amen

## **TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Listen friend to the good news, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven, the cross is transformed into a message of life and new beginnings. Rejoicing in God, we sing together:

**ALL may sing: In that Old Rugged cross, which bore love so divine  
A wondrous beauty I see, for upon that old cross  
Jesus suffered and died to pardon and sanctify me.  
So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down  
I will cling to the old rugged cross and exchange it someday for a crown.**

## **\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

#### **PRAYER**

**Holy God, we sense your involvement in our lives. Like a shepherd, you watch over us and provide abundantly beyond our needs. You lead us in the right paths when we are tempted to go astray. You refresh us with living water that overflows with your generosity. Let your light shine on us now to reveal the truth we have not seen and open our eyes to the possibilities we may not have realized. May we be receptive to learn from you and from one another. Amen.**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

#### **John 11: 1- 45 The Message**

A man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. This was the same Mary who massaged the Lord's feet with aromatic oils and then wiped them with her hair. It was her brother Lazarus who was sick. So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Master, the one you love so very much is sick."

When Jesus got the message, he said, “This sickness is not fatal. It will become an occasion to show God’s glory by glorifying God’s Son.”

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, but oddly, when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed on where he was for two more days. After the two days, he said to his disciples, “Let’s go back to Judea.”

They said, “Rabbi, you can’t do that. The Jews are out to kill you, and you’re going back?”

Jesus replied, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in daylight doesn’t stumble because there’s plenty of light from the sun. Walking at night, he might very well stumble because he can’t see where he’s going.” He said these things, and then announced, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep. I’m going to wake him up.”

The disciples said, “Master, if he’s gone to sleep, he’ll get a good rest and wake up feeling fine.” Jesus was talking about death, while his disciples thought he was talking about taking a nap.

Then Jesus became explicit: “Lazarus died. And I am glad for your sakes that I wasn’t there. You’re about to be given new grounds for believing. Now let’s go to him.”

That’s when Thomas, the one called the Twin, said to his companions, “Come along. We might as well die with him.”

When Jesus finally got there, he found Lazarus already four days dead. Bethany was near Jerusalem, only a couple of miles away, and many of the Jews were visiting Martha and Mary, sympathizing with them over their brother. Martha heard Jesus was coming and went out to meet him. Mary remained in the house. Martha said, “Master, if you’d been here, my brother wouldn’t have died. Even now, I know that whatever you ask God he will give you.”

Jesus said, “Your brother will be raised up.”

Martha replied, “I know that he will be raised up in the resurrection at the end of time.”

“You don’t have to wait for the End. I am, right now, Resurrection and Life. The one who believes in me, even though he or she dies, will live. And everyone who lives believing in me does not ultimately die at all. Do you believe this?”

“Yes, Master. All along I have believed that you are the Messiah, the Son of God who comes into the world.”

After saying this, she went to her sister Mary and whispered in her ear, “The Teacher is here and is asking for you.”

The moment she heard that, she jumped up and ran out to him. Jesus had not yet entered the town but was still at the place where Martha had met him. When her sympathizing Jewish friends saw Mary run off, they followed her, thinking she

was on her way to the tomb to weep there. Mary came to where Jesus was waiting and fell at his feet, saying, "Master, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her sobbing and the Jews with her sobbing, a deep anger welled up within him. He said, "Where did you put him?"

"Master, come and see," they said. Now Jesus wept.

The Jews said, "Look how deeply he loved him."

Others among them said, "Well, if he loved him so much, why didn't he do something to keep him from dying? After all, he opened the eyes of a blind man."

Then Jesus, the anger again welling up within him, arrived at the tomb. It was a simple cave in the hillside with a slab of stone laid against it. Jesus said, "Remove the stone."

The sister of the dead man, Martha, said, "Master, by this time there's a stench. He's been dead four days!"

Jesus looked her in the eye. "Didn't I tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

Then, to the others, "Go ahead, take away the stone."

They removed the stone. Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and prayed, "Father, I'm grateful that you have listened to me. I know you always do listen, but on account of this crowd standing here I've spoken so that they might believe that you sent me."

Then he shouted, "Lazarus, come out!" And he came out, a cadaver, wrapped from head to toe, and with a kerchief over his face.

Jesus told them, "Unwrap him and let him loose."

That was a turnaround for many of the Jews who were with Mary. They saw what Jesus did, and believed in him.

One: The Word of the Lord

**ALL: Thanks be to God**

**\*HYMN**

**Precious Lord Take My Hand**

**#472**

**MESSAGE**

**Jesus reveals life**

**Reverend Patty Dodds**

**SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PRAYERS**

## 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.**

## CALL TO OFFERING

God has abundantly blessed us and calls us to be a blessing to others, to share our lives, our love and our material possessions. With joy, let us present our offerings for this day.

## OFFERTORY

**\* OFFERTORY RESPONSE *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* #224 verse 4**

Were in the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

## \*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**ALL: God of extravagant mercy, we come to dedicate these offerings to you. We are disciples of Jesus Christ, commissioned to share the Good news. May all that we dedicate -- our abilities, the fleeting moments of our days, the resources entrusted to our management – announce your reign and the nearness of your kingdom. We give with joy, thanking you for the opportunity to be a blessing to all the families of the earth. Amen**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

**Ask Me What Great Thing I know**

**#49**

## **\*COMMISSION**

One: Come out! Jesus commands,

**ALL: And calls us from the tombs of our existence into the brightness of a new day.**

One: Come out! Jesus cries,

**ALL: And unbinds us from the chains of our past.**

One: Come out! Jesus calls,

**ALL: And entices us into a world filled with grace and possibility.**

One: So, Go out!

**ALL: Into a world that needs our life, our breath, our spirit!**

One: Go out!

**ALL: Into a world that needs the Spirit of God, carried on our lips and in our loving arms.**

One: Go out!

**ALL: We go into the world living in resurrection and new life!**

## **\*BENEDICTION**

**SUNG BENEDICTION (inside back cover of New Century Hymnal)**

*As we sing our closing song the candles will be extinguished,  
But the candle lighter will be relit and carried from the sanctuary  
to remind us that we carry the light of Christ with us into the world.*

**\*GO TO LOVE AND SERVE GOD AND ALL PEOPLE**

**\*POSTLUDE**

**Worship materials adapted from:**

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Nancy Johnson, and posted on **Wonderings through life and other such nonsense.**

<http://ruminari.wordpress.com/>

\*ALL OR PART OF THIS WORSHIP SERVICE MAY BE RECORDED OR LIVE STREAMED TO FACEBOOK\*

\*indicates an invitation to stand either in body or in spirit

\*If you use social media we invite and encourage you to check in online as you attend today's service.

*“Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ exists to render loving service toward humanity with Jesus as our example. We preach love, teach compassion and social justice, and welcome all into the full life and ministry of the church.”*

**Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

10:30 am Worship Rev. Patty Dodds  
Service Cancelled

**Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

8:00 pm AA

**Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020**

6:30pm Executive Team Meeting  
8:00 pm AA

**Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020**

6:30pm Bell Choir  
7:30pm Chancel Choir

**Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020**

**Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020**

**Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

10:30 am Worship Rev. Patty Dodds

**Volunteers are always needed. If you are interested in serving please contact Kathy Jones at [jonesygirl1227@gmail.com](mailto:jonesygirl1227@gmail.com).**

**Next Week's Volunteers:**

**Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Trinity Café:** Kary Bauer

**Greeter(s):** Kathy Jones & Gladys Drybred

**Head Ushers:** Esther Markey/ Dee Koller/ Wanda Nace

**Lay Reader:** Mark Crockett

**Communion:** Fred & Jenny hooper/ Kathy Jones

**Altar Flowers:** Himpls- “In honor of George and Eileen’s Wedding anniversary and family birthdays”