



April 6, 2020

The Good News from Trinity PC

**Church Worship Services
and Activities are cancelled
through April 26.**

**Watch the newsletter for when they
will resume.**

**Office Open
9:00-Noon Monday-Thursday**

**Prayer Requests can be emailed to:
office@trinitypresbyfairfield.org**



Easter Gifts

Love makes our friends a little dearer.
Joy makes our hearts a little lighter.
Faith makes our paths a little clearer.
Hope makes our lives a little brighter.
Peace brings us all a little nearer.
—Author unknown

**We thank, Worship Leaders for their
service:**

**All Worship Volunteer Leaders please watch
future Newsletters to know when the
Worship Schedule will resume.**



**Easter is a time when God turned
the inevitability of death into
the invincibility of life.**

—Craig D. Lounsbrough



Trinity Presbyterian Church

Rev. Tom Dunlap Pastor

6081 Ross Road
Corner of Ross and Mack Roads
Fairfield, Ohio 45014

Phone: 513-860-4114
www.trinitypresbyfairfield.org E-mail:
office@trinitypresbyfairfield.org

Prepare for Worship Easter Sunday

John 20:1-18

“Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.’ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her.”

Reflection —When Mary Magdalene first saw the resurrected Jesus, she did not recognize him, even though she knew the tomb was empty. Have you ever experienced the presence of the risen Christ, even when you were not expecting him? Are there times you have been in the presence of the risen Christ but have not recognized him? How would you know?

Morning Prayer

Jesus, victorious Lord, I exult in your resurrection. As I sing “alleluia” with my voice, let my life embody “alleluia” as a testimony to your love and a witness to your eternal life. Amen.

—adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1* © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press



RESURRECTION DAY

Resurrection Faith

Pascha [or Easter] is the central event, the time of transformation, of becoming a resurrected people, God’s new people. On this Sunday of all Sundays, Pascha, we celebrate our transformation as a new people. When Christ rose from the grave, death and all other “principalities and powers” that seek to entomb God’s will were forever defeated.

Easter is not simply the miracle of a dead person raised from the grave, but a celebration of power that can shatter death in order that people can freely serve the God of life. In the resurrection of Christ, God’s awesome purposes were on display, revealing a radically new world of peace and harmony and equality and mutuality, about which we can only dream. The Lord of the future has been disclosed to us....

On Easter we glimpse a new landscape — the age to come — and experience a sense of holy awe at the significance of the resurrection for human life. The shape of the age to come reveals a new people of God, a new humanity.

When Christ was crucified, humanity died with him on Calvary. But on Easter morning, a new world was born — raised up with the crucified and risen Christ. Bursting the bonds of death, the first human being of a new human race, Jesus Christ, appeared among those who crucified him. In the midst of the old sin-struck world, God gave the world a new beginning, a new humanity. By faith the old guilt-ridden humanity was born again into the new forgiven humanity of Jesus Christ. Ever since, here and there, clusters of the new people of God live according to the new social order of the new age.

Therefore, Easter faith recalls the past, especially the awesome act of God in raising the crucified Christ from the grave. Easter hope looks to the promised future, to that which awaits us. Easter love celebrates the presence of the crucified and risen Christ who is now among us, reconciling us as one people. Resurrection faith asserts that by grace we are born again into the new humanity of Jesus Christ. We are called to new life for God and for neighbors....—An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship* (Geneva Press, 2003, 107-108)

Rev. Dunlap's Sermons on-line

Pastor Tom Dunlap has recorded his message for Palm Sunday. Click on the link below to the our website and listen to his message to the people of Trinity. To hear, simply click on the play button on the April 5, 2020 player on the web page. You may also click on the PDF next to the player to read along.

<http://www.trinitypresbyfairfield.org/april-2020.html>

Deacons, please pass on the email link to everyone in your care groups.

Suggestion from the treasurer:

In the next couple of weeks nearly all of us will be receiving a stimulus check from the federal government. Some of us have not been nor will we be financially impacted by the current coronavirus situation. For example those of us who are retired and on a fixed income will not suffer any loss of income because of unemployment. While each person's situation is different and family needs differ accordingly, I am suggesting that we prayerfully consider tithing (that is giving 10% of the stimulus check to the church's general fund.

Lenten Mission Project

The Lenten "bag" collection of items for the food pantry and the non-food pantry can be dropped off at the church Monday through Thursday from 9:00-noon.

Missions at Work

- ♦ Sewing of dresses for Mission Project in Appalachia will be held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM
- ♦ Knitters /Crocheters: Mercy and our church are in need of prayer shawls and baby blankets.
- ♦ Collecting plastic lids, soda pull tabs, and cancelled stamps

One Great Hour—April 12 and April 19

Where God is, there is hope for the suffering and the vulnerable.

Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing helps to improve the lives of the suffering and the vulnerable. Providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

Together, we become the household of God. We extend shelter to those who have no place to stay, offer compassion to those who have pain—be it physical, emotional or spiritual—and we set a feast, with God, for those who lack access to enough food to eat. Due to the cancellations of our worship services, ***the One Great Hour of Sharing will be received on Sundays, April 12 and April 19. Instead of having individual collections for the different disasters, this Disaster Offering will be including funds for all future disasters.***



Uplifting Sources

Please refer to the Sanctuary for Lent 2020 by Sam McGlothlin that was handed out earlier.

There are a myriad of online devotions available as well.

“Devotions on the go - www.d365.org” This is a free online daily devotional provided by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) and an app is available for cell phones.

“Dial Hope”- An alternative to the digital world and online. You can listen to a brief message and prayer by calling 866-528-4673. Also available online www.dialhope.org The messages are prepared and read by Joe Albright, a Presbyterian pastor from Florida.

“Our Daily Bread” - www.oddb.org - Daily devotions free online. —Lisa Allgood, *Cincinnati Presbyterian*

Additional resources from the Presbytery to help us through the present situations:

- City Gospel, Cincinnati Area Senior Services (www.cassdelivers.org) as resources, especially for family and senior needs.
- United Way has announced an emergency relief fund for help with bills, rent and food (call 1-866-211-9966 and provide a zip code).
- Many rental agencies as well as Duke Energy and GCWW have suspended stopping service for non-payment for the time being.
- Spectrum is offering free internet to students without it for study.
- O-Pi-O is offering free lunches to school age children.

PASTORAL LETTER

Hello again, everyone. Holy Week is here...and by the way, so are we! Thank God we had a beautiful week of spring weather allowing us to get outdoors and enjoy the rebirth of nature after what was really a pretty tame winter. It is reminding us that there is a constant in our lives when so much uncertainty about the future surrounds us. God is predictable. God doesn't turn and run in adversity like the disciples did when Jesus was arrested. God goes to the Cross with us and lifts us up from Sheol.

While in one sense, it is unfortunate that Holy Week falls during our sheltering -in-place requirement, in another sense it challenges us to be creative in our observances. I will, of course, be posting a sermon for Easter Sunday, but Maundy Thursday will occur in just three days and for me, it is the most emotionally moving day on the liturgical calendar. The Last Supper, the washing of the feet, the betrayal, Jesus' agonized praying in the garden, the arrest and the fleeing of the disciples is the climax of Jesus' ministry. No wonder it is referred to as the Passion!

I love our tradition of sharing our version of the Seder and then taking Communion by Intinction around the table. While we cannot do it together this year, we can still participate in the privacy of our homes. I will post a sermon accompanied by all of the scriptures and will include an opportunity for you to take Communion on your own. Before you listen, prepare your bread and wine and I will consecrate the elements and then give you time for prayer and reflection prior to the close of the service. It's not perfect, but what is other than God's Spirit who will be with us?

Be blessed, everyone! And be aware on the Sunday we reconvene, we will celebrate Easter whether it be May, June or whenever.

Peace be with you...Tom

Maundy Thursday: April 9, 2020



The Power of Love
Scripture: John 13:1-17,
31-35

Feet

Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him.

John 13:5

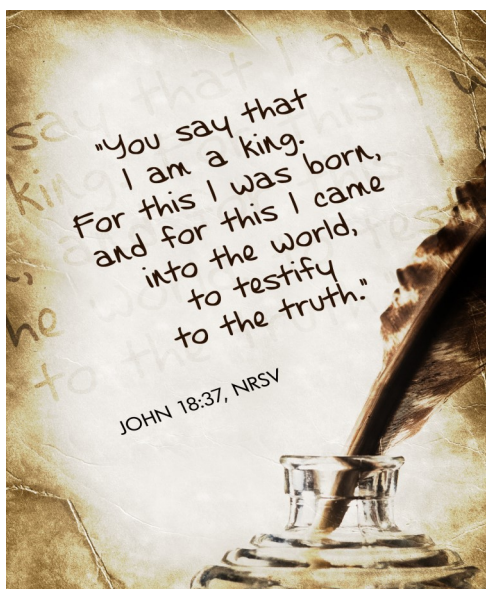
People are self-conscious about their feet. Before heading to a Maundy Thursday service to get their feet washed, congregants make sure their toenails are trimmed and their feet are as clean as possible. We're self-conscious about our feet, our socks, our odor, and our hygiene. The smelliest parts of ourselves reveal our vulnerability and humanity.

But I think God loves the embarrassing, smelliest parts of us the best. God loves the parts of us that we want to hide, that we'd rather not draw attention to, and the things we want to keep hidden. I think God finds us most beautiful and most intriguing when we are the most real. When we stop pretending and admit that our feet need washing, we seek the loving touch of Jesus.

Holy God, take my feet and all the parts of me that I'd rather keep hidden, and show me how to love them as you do. Amen.

Kate S. Forer, Saratoga Springs, New York
These Days, a quarterly devotional
—permission granted by pcusa.org

Good Friday: April 10, 2020



The Power of Love Scripture: John 18:1-19:42

Jesus before Pilate

Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

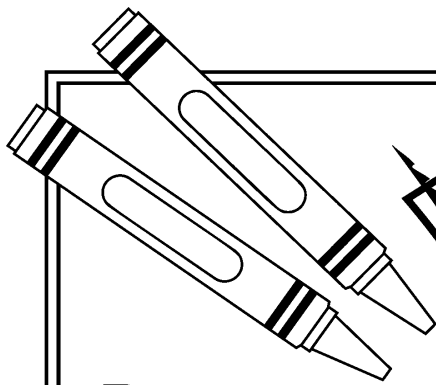
John 18:38

As a child at a Catholic school, I was surrounded with messages about values. For example, clever sayings were posted on bulletin boards throughout my school. "Stand for nothing," one said, "and you'll fall for anything." Another saying hung on the wall of my eighth-grade classroom: "What is popular is not always right. What is right is not always popular." As a preadolescent girl, these sayings helped prepare me for the world of peer pressure.

Recently I've recognized how much the value statements of my youth are also important for me as an adult. We live in a world that struggles with truth. If we do not have conviction and know deep in our bones what is right and wrong, then we won't know what to do when faced with a big decision. Like Pilate, we will merely turn to the crowds for our answer.

God of mercy, help me to know your truth
and live by conviction. Amen.

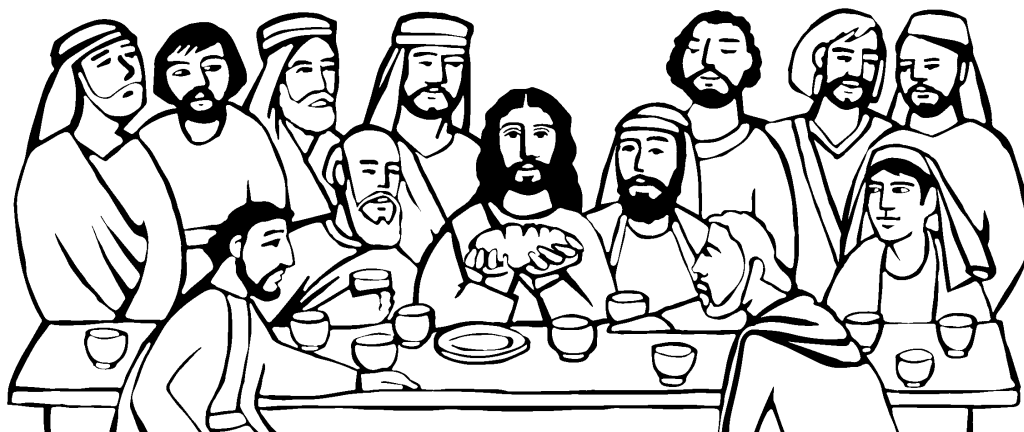
Kate S. Forer, Saratoga Springs, New York
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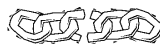
PUZZLE

Picturing the *Lord's Supper*

Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples as a symbol of the new covenant.



Directions: Use the picture clues to fill in key words from Luke 22:19-20, NIV.



And he took _____, gave _____ and _____ it, and gave

it to them, saying, "This is my _____ given for you; do this in



_____ of me." In the same way, after the supper he



took the cup, saying, "This _____ is the new _____ in my



blood, which is _____ out for you."



LUKE 22:19-20, NIV

The Man Who Refused to Forgive

T	H	O	U	S	A	N	D	O	R	E	T	E	P
N	N	T	R	E	S	P	A	S	S	E	S	N	E
C	O	M	P	A	S	S	I	O	N	R	C	I	D
E	V	I	G	R	O	F	Y	T	N	E	V	E	S
H	U	N	D	R	E	D	H	E	A	V	E	N	D
A	E	D	E	P	P	I	H	S	R	O	W	N	N
G	H	T	N	U	O	C	C	A	P	I	U	N	I
A	E	I	E	K	H	P	K	I	N	G	D	O	M
I	A	D	E	N	E	K	I	L	P	S	E	S	D
N	R	R	J	E	S	U	S	K	R	S	T	S	I
S	T	S	I	S	P	R	I	S	O	N	I	H	R
T	S	E	H	E	I	A	S	O	R	R	Y	C	E
D	S	O	E	E	P	A	T	I	E	N	C	E	S
M	R	N	T	O	R	M	E	N	T	O	R	S	T

HEARTS
 KINGDOM
 THOUSAND
 PRISON
 COMPASSION
 TORMENTORS
 WORSHIPPED
 LIKENED
 TRESPASSES
 SORRY
 PATIENCE
 FORGIVE
 JESUS
 HEAVEN
 ACCOUNT
 AGAINST
 SEVENTY
 HUNDRED
 PETER

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/618/>







HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday

Like Peter, I beg you, Jesus: Wash not only my feet, but all of me! (see John 13:9). Most of all, cleanse my heart and teach me how to love. Amen.

The bread of life; the cup of salvation: May you “taste and see that the LORD is good” (Psalm 34:8, NIV).

Good Friday

My Savior, like the thief I entrust myself to your complete care: “Remember me when you come into your kingdom” (Luke 23:42).

“In the cross of Christ I glory.” Jesus, truly we have no words. We can only bow at your feet.

When Jesus said, “It is finished,” he meant not only his agony on the cross but the achievement of our salvation: Once, for all, it was done.

Easter Sunday

The festival of the Resurrection of the Lord (or Easter Sunday) is the center of the Christian year. On this occasion the church joyfully proclaims the **good news** that is at the very heart of the gospel: that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead!

Humor Helps Lighten the Day

Good humor is one of the best articles of dress one can wear in society.

—William Makepeace Thackeray

Humor and laughter are a resurrection; they allow us to rise again and again.

—Harold Wessel

Humor is not a trick, it's not jokes, it's not words. It's a presence in the world, like the presence of grace, and it's always there and shines on everybody.

—Garrison Keillor



As of April 5

Keep in your Prayers

Barb Emmerich, Diane Kosey's cousin	Healing/major heart attack in ICU
Jeff, Deb Schoenherr's son	For good test results from last week's biopsy
Sandy Thien, Ginny Kramer's niece	Healing/cancer/chemo treatments beginning
Springdale police officers, Fran Thomas	Bereavement for the loss of one officer;
	Healing for the injured second officer
Vicky Callow, Bill Tope's granddaughter	Thanksgiving for safe return to Muncie, IN from her mission trip to Colombia, S.A.
Pam Kelso, Carol Kiphart's daughter	Healing/diagnosed with cancer
Megan, Nadine Jones' granddaughter	God's Providence and care/mother of twins needs bone marrow transplant
Vickie Murrell, Harrings' request	Healing/recovering from heart surgery
People of Nashville	God's providence and comfort
Jack Kraft, K. Kessler request	Healing/severe leg infection
Caleb Erickson, D. Hess request	Continued healing/fighting infection
John Marshall, D. Hess request	Healing/dialysis and tumor concerns
*Cassie, J. Reese request	Continued healing/improving/infections
*Robbie, B. Pratt request	Healing/hearing threatening voices
*Charlene Stumpf, K. Kessler request	Healing/knee surgery
Fran Thomas	Healing/pain relief
Natasha, B. Pratt request	Healing/recovery surgery on legs
Jean Parsley	Continued healing
Pam Harring	Continued healing/guidance with treatment
George Liles	Continued healing/home recovering
Dee Burkhardt	Continued healing
Diane Niehaus, B. Luebbe request	Continued healing/several health concerns
Gerald Reese, M. Reese's father	Continued healing/swallowing problems
Margie, Fran Thomas' sister	God's peace and comfort
All peoples in the Middle East	Peace and reconciliation
All Elected Government leaders	Wisdom/support/enlightenment
Support for all our military	Strength/discernment/God's protection
For all missionaries (Especially for S. and B.)	Protection/blessings/fruitful mission work

Names that have been on the Prayer List for more than 4 weeks are marked with an asterisk (). If you would like them to remain on the list, please contact the office by Tuesday.*

Financial Information

Donations Received as of 3/29	TBD
Kroger Rewards	\$55
Per Capita 2020 Donations	\$462
Property Fund Giving 2020	\$3,000
Property Fund Goal 2020	\$5,000
Per Capita for 2020 is	\$33

Rev. Tom Dunlap will be preaching the month of April.

Please follow his sermons on-line. See page 3 for details.