



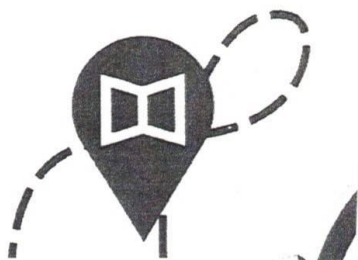
The heart in the heart of Huntsville

**THE FIFTH
SUNDAY IN LENT**

**Wandering Heart:
"Teach me"**

MATTHEW 18:15-22
*Jesus tells Peter to forgive
seventy-seven times.*

List as many things related
to the number 7 as you can.
How many can you think of?



Minister: The Rev. Diane Knowles
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Judy White
Director of Music: Kyung-A Lee
Church Administrator: Suzy Simson
Custodian: Judy Hall

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Welcome to Trinity

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17th — 10 am

"Loving Hearts ... Open Minds ... Serving Hands."

*"Forgiveness is not a one and done- it's a process.
We have to forgive over and over again."*

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE TO MAKE OUR WAY TO THE CROSS

Prelude: *Kung-A Lee*

Introit: *"Let Us Build a House (All are Welcome)" (MV 1)*

**Let us build a house where love can dwell,
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell,
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace,
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

Greeting: *Jesus said: "I have come that you may have life and
have it abundantly."*

All: In our lives may this be so.

Welcome in Friendship! Welcome in Faith!

Welcome to Trinity United Church as we celebrate God's
presence together!

Today our six-week Lenten journey to the foot of the cross is winding down. Through the past weeks we have been exploring our faith journey through the lens of one of our well-known disciples, Peter. Through his steps and missteps and wanderings we see ourselves and discover our own wandering hearts.

Next week is the beginning of Holy week with the celebration of Palm Sunday. As Holy week continues our cheers on Sunday turn to people's jeers on Good Friday. However, what looks like an ending is just a beginning as the empty tomb reminds us on our glorious Easter morning! We are an Easter people called to bring new life and hope into our hurting world.

We gather every week as followers of Jesus to grow our hearts and to aspire to be better humans in order to build a better world for ALL God's people. If you're visiting or shopping around for a new spiritual home, we are glad you're here with us. May this service be a blessing to you and may you be a blessing to others this coming week.

This Week's Announcements

Joys and Concerns/Sads and Glads

God Moments?

(May we trust in the blessing of God's presence and power every day.)

Where was God revealed to you this past week?

Where did God show up for you?

Moment of Meditation

Call to Worship and Prayer of Approach

One: Lenten God, we are moving closer and closer to the foot of the cross and to the shadows that besiege it.

All: But we also know that death does not have the final say, redemption and new life are always possible.

One: Our God is a God of forgiveness and second chances.

All: We too want to be people of mercy and forgiveness shining God's light and love into our world.

One: Forgiveness is seldom a one and done. And never does it mean what happened or what was said is "okay".

All: Forgiveness is choosing to let go of something that is hurting us in order to allow our hardened hearts to soften.

One: We are seeking God with our whole heart and mind with a fire burning in our bones. Our door is open to you.

All: Let us celebrate God's presence together and learn from the Spirit. Amen!

Opening Hymn: "As a Fire is Meant for Burning" (VU 578)

Opening Prayer

Spirit of life and grace, forgiveness can be difficult at times. When we have been hurt it is easy to hang onto our anger and pain. Yet, you tell us we need to forgive as many times as needed to allow our hearts to be content and free again. Help us, God to forgive. Forgive our impatience with ourselves and with others. Sometimes it is most difficult to forgive ourselves. Shame is so powerful. Forgive us Holy One. Restore us all into a community of wholeness and grace. Amen.

The Extinguishing of our Lenten Candles

One: Today we are down to our fifth and final candle to be extinguished. The darkness is descending upon Jesus as he makes his way closer and closer to the foot of the cross next week. Have mercy on us for all the unloving things we have said and done and for all the loving things we may have left undone.

Our Fifth Lenten candle is extinguished by our Light Beamers.

Prayer after Candle extinguished

All: As we watch the smoke rise, we long to approach God with curiosity and an open mind. Forgive us for the times we lash out to those who mean the most to us. Forgive us for the times when we assume we know best. May our curiosity carry our faith into deeper waters. Calm our souls and refresh us with your peace. Amen.

Light Beamer Song: *“Oh, When We All Begin to Love”*
(tune of *Oh, When the Saints Come Marchin’ In*)

**Oh, when we all begin to love,
Oh, when we all begin to love,
Oh, it will be a better world,
When we all begin to love.**

Chorus:

**We need God’s love; we need God’s care.
Oh, how we need God’s love,
to help us build a better world,
and to live in harmony.**

**Oh, when we all begin to care,
Oh, when we all begin to care,
Oh, it will be so warm and friendly,
when we all begin to care.**

Chorus:

**We need God’s love; we need God’s care.
Oh, how we need God’s love,
to help us build a better world,
and to live in harmony.**

Time with our Light Beamers

Each week our young people hear the stories about Jesus’ life and his stories of love and compassion for all God’s people. A beam of Christ’s light is in each of us, and we are called to share this light with others in our every day lives. They are not the future of our church, they are very much the here and now of our community! We will strive to nurture them to be their best selves and encourage them to follow in the caring and loving footsteps of Jesus. With God’s help may this be so.

On Children by Kahill Gibran

“Your children are not your children. They are the sons and daughters of Life’s longing for itself. They come through you but not from you. And though they are with you, yet they belong not to you.”

Congregational Blessing

“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

All: And also with you.

Anthem: *“Arise My Soul, Arise”*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Reader: Sheila Petch

Prayer of Illumination

Reader: Teaching God, we want to learn your ways. We want to learn the ways of forgiveness and grace. We want to learn the ways of love. This is why we return to your text week after week, we are hungry to be more like you. Calm the noise in our minds and centre our spirits on you so we may learn what we may have missed in this story before. Meet us here. Speak your truth. Help us listen. Amen.

New Testament Scripture: Matthew 18: 15- 22

(Peter is always curious and always asking questions. He is eager to learn. Today, he wants to know how to deal with conflict within the community. He's asking how many times he must forgive somebody? Jesus answers with abundance. This abundance exists for us too. God's love will never run out.)

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to our hearts.

All: Amen.

Minister's Message: *"Forgiveness- not a one and done."*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LIFE-GIVING WORD

Offering Invitation

One: God has blessed us with abundance. We choose to share those blessings with others both here and around the world.

Our morning tithes and offerings will now be received.

Offering Hymn: "God of Love"

God of Love, hear our prayer,
bless this offering we bring you.
May our lives do your will, guide and guard us forever.
Give us the courage to stand for truth,
help us care for others.
God of love, hear our prayer,
bless this offering we bring you.

Offering Prayer

Loving God, we give this offering as a part of our caring for our world. We dedicate it to the spreading of your message of love in our community and in far-off lands. For all who hunger give them bread. For all who have bread let us hunger for justice and grace for our grand human family. Amen.

Hymn: "Lord Listen to Your Children Praying" (VU 400)

Prayers of the People

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 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, the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn: *“We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection”*
(VU 586)

Commissioning

Go forth into the week ahead peacefully, lovingly and with a forgiving heart.

Irish Benediction

May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face.
And the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of God’s hand.
Amen.

Sung Blessing: *“May the Christ who Walked on Wounded Feet”*

Postlude: *Kyung-A Lee*



Come and be part of our growing spiritual community!

Lent is a time to let go of excess emotional baggage and to focus on the journey.

Join us in Trinity Hall following today’s service for the St Patrick’s Day Irish Stew Luncheon hosted by the UCW ladies.



Thought for the Day

“Forgiveness is the power to chose how events affect you.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER STUFF!



The St Patrick’s Day Irish Stew luncheon, hosted by the UCW, is today following Worship in Trinity Hall. No tickets are needed as it is first come first served. Hope to see you there!

The Outreach Team is asking you to help the local food banks.



**HELP
&
HOPE**

On the last Sunday of each month, we will be collecting food for the Salvation Army and the Table Soup Bank.

➤ **March is Cereal.**

Trinity’s Photo Directory



If you had your picture taken by the photography company, you will receive a free copy of Trinity’s 2024 Photo Directory! If you did not and would like a copy, please submit your name and \$20 to the church office by Monday March 18th.

Lights- Camera- Action!



The last movie for our “God in the Dark” Lenten movie series will be:

- March 21st – “The Gods Must be Crazy” (this comedy shows us just how crazy we are!)

After watching our stories, we will briefly discuss where God shows up every day. Showtime is 7 pm. Admission is \$5 and includes popcorn! Best deal in town!

Come and join in some community fun and entertainment! Come and bring a friend! See YOU at the movies! Rev. Diane

Easter Memorial Flowers!

If you would like to contribute to the purchase of Easter flowers in memory or honour of a loved one, you may do so by completing the Memorial Flower Form (copies by the entrance). The completed forms can be dropped off at the church office no later than Wednesday March 20th for inclusion in the Palm Sunday bulletin.

Our suggested donation is \$12 per plant which can be placed in the offering plate, dropped off at the office or e-Transferred. These will be spring-time plants that will be delivered to members of our congregation that are in retirement residences, long-term care homes or who are unable to attend our Easter Service in person. We will need drivers who would be willing to help deliver these following the Palm Sunday Service. Thank you!!



The Outreach Team would like to say a big “Thank You” to

Lynne Doyle for all her help with the student lunch programme.



And to all those who have donated to the Benevolent Basket during Coffee Hour. Some of the money was donated recently to Trinity’s Knitting Circle for materials.

Thank You

Lysol wipes anyone?

Make a donation (\$) to the Arnold Room furnishings and pick up a pack of Lysol wipes! (\$20 and more will receive a tax receipt). Thank you!!



Introducing another new Trinity Board Director!

Nina Semper Ross was born in Germany to Ukrainian/Polish parents, moving from there to Belgium and then immigrating to Montreal, Canada when Nina was nine. She arrived with an understanding of Ukrainian, Polish, Flemish and French, and soon became fluent in English.

Community College and McGill University permitted an introduction to the corporate world where Nina rose from clerical positions to those of management within Bell Canada. She was eventually transferred to Toronto.

Nina has volunteered both in Etobicoke and then Huntsville Hospice, helping with fund raising and as a Board member and serving as President in Huntsville for 3 terms.

She and her husband, Len arrived in the Huntsville area 30 years ago as cottagers. They fell in love with the lifestyle, bought a cottage, sold it and built a home in Hillside overlooking Peninsula Lake. Nina became involved in the local area Peninsula Lake Association as Board member and Secretary. They attended Pioneer Memorial United Church (Hillside) where she was treasurer for 9 years and President of the UCW. Nina and Len established a property management business in Huntsville, took it from a sole proprietorship to a limited company.

Before arriving in Huntsville, Nina suffered the loss of her former husband to a heart attack and her son to cancer. Later, upon marrying Len she gained a son Geoffrey and his partner Tiffany who work and live in New York City.

Nina and Len joined Trinity United Church because of its strong sense of community.

Welcome

Trinity's 2024

SILENT AUCTION

It's time to share your talents!

Your Silent Auction donations will be received
NOW to March 31st. Call Gord Mitchell
705-571-4096, email gordmitchell46@gmail.com
or use the clickable form on Trinity's home page
to make your donation directly to Gord! Thank you!

**** Bidding starts Sunday, April 7th ****

Volunteers Needed for Coffee Hour!

Please see Nancy after the service to discuss signing up
for Coffee Hour. The Sundays are as follows:

April 2024

7th _
14th _
21st _
28th _



Special Holy Week Services

As we continue to make our way to the foot of the cross, here are some special services to accompany us along the way.

March 24th - Palm Sunday - Come and join in our Palm Parade as we celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem before things head south towards the shadows of the looming cross.

March 28th - Maundy Thursday at 7 pm. Join us for a service reflecting the last night Jesus spent with his friends in the Upper Room. We will symbolically re-enact Jesus' actions as he washed his disciples' feet. A simple Communion will be served in the round. This is a quiet intimate service. We all leave the Sanctuary in silence.

March 29th - Good Friday service at 10 am. We gather at the foot of the cross as we experience the story of Jesus' final hours on this earth.

March 31st - Easter Sunday. Easter Morning Celebration at 10 am. Christ the Lord is Risen today! Alleluia!

"Easter is a story of the lasting power of love, the resiliency of life and the strength of hope." Dr. Nancy Rothwell

Joy is in the air! The tomb is empty! New life and new possibilities!

Easter Eggs and Easter Bunny too!

Come and bring the whole family.

Easter Blessings from our home to yours,
Rev. Diane and family

