



United Presbyterian Church
1701 E. Second Street
Bloomington, IN 47401

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 30, 2025

812-332-1850

www.upcbloomington.org

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March 30, 2025 – Fourth Sunday of Lent



WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS Elder Allen Pease

Today's Sanctuary Flowers are placed by Fadi and Aline Haddad in loving memory of Dr. Fuad Haddad, Fadi and Souheil's father.

PRELUDE Benjamin Watkins, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Psalm 32) Elder Karen Like, liturgist

Liturgist: In times of trouble, in days of fear,
People: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.
 Liturgist: When we are lost and lonely, not sure of our place,
People: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.
 Liturgist: When we are hard-hearted and cynical,
People: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.
 Liturgist: When we struggle to believe God's promise of redemption,
People: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.
 Liturgist: Together we look to God to teach us the way we should go.
People: Steadfast love surrounds us, as together we place our trust in the Lord.

***Opening Hymn** *Seek Ye First* #333



PASSING OF THE PEACE (liturgist & congregation)

Liturgist: Called to live as children of light, let us build one another up as we share signs of peace, and words of love. The Peace of the Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
 Liturgist: Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

MUSIC for MEDITATION Members of the UPC Quartet

CALL to CONFESSION (liturgist)

Scripture promises us that no matter how far we stray from God's ways, when we make the decision to return to God, God runs to greet us with open arms. Trusting in the never-failing mercy of the Lord, let us turn to God together by confessing our sins.

PRAYER of CONFESSION from the Book of Common Worship (In Unison with Liturgist)
Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name.

ASSURANCE of PARDON (Liturgist)

Psalm 32 says: "Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered." Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are those happy people whose sins have been forgiven. Believe in the good news of the gospel and rejoice!

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION (liturgist)

Gracious God, your mercy is wide, but our understanding is limited. As we hear your Word read and proclaimed today, open our minds and our hearts, that your good news may reach the deepest places within us. Renew us in your forgiving love and enliven our imaginations to possibilities for sharing that love with others. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.



Old Testament Lesson *Psalm 63: 1 - 8* – Liturgist Like

New Testament Lesson *The Gospel of Luke 13: 1 - 9* – Leader Haddad

Leader: The word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God**

SERMON *From Admirers to Disciples* Elder Alejandra Haddad

Hymn *As Deer Long for the Streams* #189

AFFIRMATION of FAITH (a brief statement of faith) led by Elder Alejandra Haddad

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

**Gloria Patri.* #579

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER – Elder Alejandra Haddad

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. 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

Offertory

**Doxology* #592

Prayer of Dedication

Elder Alejandra Haddad

**Closing Hymn* *Pue Si Vivimos – When We Are Living* #400

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Elder Alejandra Haddad

POSTLUDE

Dr. Benjamin Watkins, piano

*Please stand if you are able

UPC Prayer List - Email requests to: upcbloomington@gmail.com.

Roby Lorimer Kathleen Olds Anita Steverson Diana Trowbridge

His Eyes Mission in Honduras led by Valerie & Felipe Colby

Nyaka Global in Uganda led by Jackson Kaguri

The people of Georgia, Lebanon, Nigeria, Middle East, Sudan, Syria and Ukraine

Our military men and women around the world

Trinity United Presbyterian Church (New Washington) will be 57 years old this year. Our name comes not from the Biblical Trinity but from three rural churches (New Washington Presbyterian, New Market Presbyterian, and Owen Creek Presbyterian) uniting to form our Trinity United Presbyterian. That decision has helped us keep sharing the love of Christ, serving God and our community.

Our small congregation has several local missions they lead and participate in monthly: "Pie Day" senior visitation, monthly "Senior Day" meals and twice weekly "Senior Workout" classes. Locally, we contribute to Crusade for Children, pay utility bills, contribute to the High



School's "After Prom" and sponsor a Youth League team. Our congregation continues to be a part of the Community Needs Ministry along with other church congregations in the area. In support of the larger community, Trinity United hosts six Red Cross blood drives a year. Over the years, we have been blessed to have Louisville Presbyterian Seminary students to fill the pulpit, hone their skills and share God's Word on Sunday. We continue to ask for prayer as we work to discern God's plan for us.



United Presbyterian Church Staff

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Supporting One Great Hour of Sharing allows:

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to:

- Respond to the aftermath of disasters, both natural and human-caused.
- Support refugees.

Presbyterian Hunger Program to:

- Encourage Earth Care Congregations.
- Address how climate change is affecting our food sources.

Self-Development of People to:

- Help communities advocate for their own needs.
- Provide opportunities for people to develop skills that improve their communities.

And so much more!

The One Great Hour of Sharing PC(USA) Special Offering will be received at United Presbyterian during morning worship on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.

Two leaflets with more information on One Great Hour of Sharing are on the table in the Narthex.