



seeking:
Who sinned?



**Trinity Presbyterian Church
Arlington, Virginia**

**Service for the Lord's Day
Sunday, March 15, 2026**

Fourth Sunday of Lent
Worshipping in the Sanctuary

11:15 AM



Service for the Lord's Day

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Welcome.

We are glad that you are here.

As an inclusive community of faith, we welcome you just as you are.

We celebrate that God's love and grace extends to all, and affirm that each person has sacred worth.

So take a moment.

Breathe.

This service is livestreamed and recorded. People in the first eight pews might be visible on camera.

Welcome

Prelude

Cloudmaker
Matt Wheeler, piano

Jeanne Cotter

Announcements

Please take this time to sign and pass the red Friendship Pad.

Call to Worship

Please stand as you are able.

Liturgist: Please stand in body or in spirit and join me in the call to worship.

Scripture is full of questions...

All: Where are you?

Liturgist: Am I my brother's keeper?

All: Whom shall I send?

Liturgist: Who do you say that I am?

All: Who sinned?

Liturgist: How many times shall I forgive?

All: If God is for us, who can be against us?

Liturgist: Scripture is full of questions,
so just like those in our scriptures,
may we bring our full curiosity and wonder into this space.

All: Let us ask and seek after our merciful God.

Hymn

Open My Eyes That I May See
Congregation

#451

Call to Confession

Please be seated.

Prayer of Confession

Liturgist: Who here has sinned?

All: We have sinned.

We put our heads in the sand.

We ignored people in need.

We make false assumptions and fail to be kind.

We are in need of forgiveness.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance & Faith

Liturgist: Good news! Our God is a merciful God.
God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score.
When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives.
When you lose your way, God comes running.
Thanks be to God for a love like that.

All: Friends, rejoice in the good news of the gospel.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Response to Grace

Please stand as you are able.

Glory Be to the Father
Congregation

#581

Passing of the Peace & Greeting

Children's Message

*Children are invited to attend Godly Play after the message or to remain in the sanctuary during worship.
Please be seated.*

Liturgist: As our children are coming forward for the children's message,
let us greet one another with the love of Christ.

Blessing of the Children

All: You are God's beloved child; with you God is well pleased.

Anthem

The Lord is My Shepherd
Trinity Singers

John Rutter

Gospel Reading

John 9:1-41

NRSVUE

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say

was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that, though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"

He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him."

Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees who

were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Seeking: Who Sinned?

Rev. Judith Fulp-Eickstaedt, Pastor

Hymn

Please stand as you are able.

Oh Christ, the Healer

Congregation

#793

Joys and Concerns

Please be seated.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Invitation to Stewardship

www.trinityarlington.org/give

Offertory & Reflection

The Quiet Journey

Matt Wheeler, piano

Thomas Keesecker

Prayerful Setting of Intentions

Please take this moment of silence to set an intention for the week ahead. Your intention might be a response to today's worship, or it may be something that has been on your heart – a desire for change, an inner nudging, a move toward deeper discipleship. Write your intention down or note it on your phone and take it with you as you go.

Affirmation of Faith

All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
We believe in a merciful God,
a God who does not keep score,
a God who wants good for us.
We believe in a creative God,
a God who would heal with mud,
a God capable of seeing what we cannot.
We believe in a saving God,
a God who heals,
a God who greets our questions with patience,
a God who sends us out with hope in our step.
What wondrous love is this. Amen.

Hymn

Please stand as you are able.

We Cannot Measure How You Heal

Congregation

#797

Benediction

Postlude

The Crossing
Matt Wheeler, piano

Ola Gjeilo

*You are invited to stay and listen to the postlude or move to the gathering space for fellowship.
As you depart, please be mindful of those who remain in the sanctuary to listen.*

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Open My Eyes, That I May See

1 Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!

2 Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear.
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!

3 Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere.
Open my heart, and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!

O Christ, the Healer

1 O Christ, the healer, we have come
to pray for health, to plead for friends.
How can we fail to be restored
when reached by love that never ends?

2 From every ailment flesh endures
our bodies clamor to be freed;
yet in our hearts we would confess
that wholeness is our deepest need.

3 How strong, O Lord, are our desires,
how weak our knowledge of ourselves!
Release in us those healing truths
unconscious pride resists or shelves.

4 In conflicts that destroy our health
we recognize the world's disease;
our common life declares our ills.
Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?

5 Grant that we all, made one in faith,
in your community may find
the wholeness that, enriching us,
shall reach the whole of humankind.

We Cannot Measure How You Heal

1 We cannot measure how you heal
or answer every sufferer's prayer,
yet we believe your grace responds
where faith and doubt unite to care.
Your hands, though bloodied on the cross,
survive to hold and heal and warn,
to carry all through death to life
and cradle children yet unborn.

2 The pain that will not go away,
the guilt that clings from things long past,
the fear of what the future holds,
are present as if meant to last.
But present too is love which tends
the hurt we never hoped to find,
the private agonies inside,
the memories that haunt the mind.

3 So some have come who need your help
and some have come to make amends,
as hands which shaped and saved the world
are present in the touch of friends.
Lord, let your Spirit meet us here
to mend the body, mind, and soul,
to disentangle peace from pain,
and make your broken people whole.

Trinity Presbyterian Pastor & Staff

Minister

Pastor
Operations Manager
Commissioned Ruling Elder
Director of Music
Contemporary Worship Leader
Director of Spiritual Formation
Youth Director
Seminary Intern
Clerk of Session
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Bookkeeper

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Facilities
Fellowship
Finance
Mission & Service
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Pastoral Care
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Racial Justice

The People of the Church

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Kenneth Hadley
Katherine Nichols
Matt Wheeler
Alan MacEwen
Ben Stewart
Keeley Harris
Whitney Mallory
Tracy McLoone
Carol Hart
Susan Morrissey
Marcos Vargas
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Michelle Edwards
Jay Daugherty
Ellen Greer / Kim Whittaker
Greg Wallig
Terry Cathopoulos
Tim Foley
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Elders

Beth Bailey
Lynn Pollock
Julie Bradscher
Patrick Merkel / Zara Johnson
Matt Jackson
Pam Michell
Will Senkus
Clare Rosenberger
Luann Moy / Jim St. Pierre
Merrit Gilliard



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Scan here for the bulletin and visitor check in!

Our Thoughts and Prayers

Please pray for the following friends and families of Trinity

Joys:

Lucy Driskill and her friend Sarah Watchman are on a six-month hike of the Appalachian Trail. We will keep the congregation posted on their journey.

Concerns:

- + Prayers for **Steven Lee**, the husband of **Kevin and Yvonne McIntire's** niece **Elizabeth**, who is having surgery.
- + Prayers for Sean Long and for all our military personnel currently on deployment in the Middle East and beyond.
- + Prayers for the family and friends of **Ralph Papke**, grandfather of **Carolyn and Chad Papke**, who passed away on February 27 in Illinois.
- + Prayers for **Beth Geiseman**, recovering after surgery for breast cancer and anticipating a second surgery.
- + Prayers for **Paul Sullivan**, who has stopped cancer treatments and is in palliative care at home.
- + Prayers for **Laura Mendelson**, mother of **Ellen Cathopoulos**, recovering from breast cancer surgery.
- + Prayers for **Ansley Calhoun** following surgery for a broken leg.
- + Prayers for the family and friends of **Alec Gibson**, who passed away on February 26.
- + Prayers for relatives of **Randy Benn - Martie** (cancer), **Doug** (cancer), and **Jennifer** (bone infection).
- + Prayers for **Rita Hadley**, wife of **Ken Hadley**, recovering from a concussion.
- + Prayers for **Jean Chubb**, mother of **Nathan Chubb**, battling pancreatic cancer and undergoing chemo.
- + Prayers for **Cathy**, a friend of **Pastor Judith**, in treatment for pancreatic cancer.
- + Prayers for **Theresa Dike**, a colleague of Clay Guthridge, who is recovering from a cerebral event. Theresa is walking and regaining some speech.
- + Prayers for those who are managing the needs of both children and aging parents.
- + Prayers for **Marilyn Brookens**, who is in Iowa in a memory care facility. Please send all correspondence to: Marilyn Brookens, c/o Alan Ostergren, 2506 7th Ave. Ct. SW, Altoona, IA 50009.
- + Prayers for love, stamina, and moments of joy for all who are caregivers and for those they care for.
- + Prayers for those in difficult family relationships: for mutual love, compassion, and understanding.
- + **Bill Plitt**, in treatment for multiple myeloma.
- + **Rowan Smith**, three-year-old great-nephew of **Laurie Setzer**, with cancer. Please pray for strength as cancer spots were recently found on his brain, and the doctors have given him 3-6 months to live.
- + **Jason Ferguson**, brother of **Janae Ferguson**, has a recurrence of cancer. Pray for another remission.
- + **Barry Schneider**, **Troy Schneider's** uncle, has ALS.
- + **Jackie Alling**, living at Vitality Assisted Living.
- + **Lani**, **Nene Pisigan's** cousin, and the mom of two young children, has a recurrence of cancer.
- + **Nene Pisigan's** parents in the Philippines are with long-term illness and financial hardship.
- + **Ron Shimabukuro**, friend of **Yvonne McIntire**, is recovering at home.
- + **Brooks Bare**, for strength, comfort, healing, and patience during his incarceration.
- + Prayers for those whose family members have died in ICE custody or during immigration enforcement actions.
- + Prayers for our country, that people who disagree can choose respectful and non-violent means of protest.
- + Immigrants and refugees all over the world are displaced by war, violence, poverty, and natural disasters.
- + Prayers for the innocent victims of war. We mourn with those whose children were killed in Iran.
- + We pray for a lasting peace in Israel and Palestine and for the day when the people living in Israel and Palestine can live together without hostility, oppression, or fear.
- + **Fakhira Haloun**, a Palestinian Israeli and friend of **Priscilla Hoffman-Stowe**, and for all living through the trauma of the ongoing violence in Gaza and the wider region.
- + **Daoud and Jihan Nassar**, for safety and to retain ownership of their land in the West Bank.
- + For peace in Ukraine and an end to the Russian invasion of Ukrainian regions.
- + Genocide in Sudan and the conflict in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.
- + Prayers for wisdom for our leaders as they handle the situations in Venezuela and Cuba, and for the people who live there.

Trinity Presbyterian Church helps sponsor the missionary work of those who serve in the international field. We are currently supporting **Mark Adams** and **Miriam Maldonado** (husband and wife) on the US/Mexico border, and we continue to seek new ecumenical global partners to support as the PCUSA has shifted its model for international engagement.

