



Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church

"We take the Bible seriously, but we don't take it literally."

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Welcome To Worship

March 16, 2025

9:30 a.m.



Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.

"Full to the Brim: Under God's Wing" Rev. Trish Eckert

✧ **Candle-lighting and Chimes**

✧ **Prelude** *Hiding Place* by Frank Hernandez and Sherry Saunders ~ Tippe Musicians

✧ **Welcome and community news**



COMMUNITY *Lenten Luncheons*

The Southeast Clergy Association (SECA) will host the Community Lenten Luncheons and Worship Services each Wednesday from March 12 through April 9.

Luncheons begin at 11am with worship at 12pm at Christ Church UCC at 915 E Oklahoma Ave - Milwaukee.

Each week, a meal is served by the following churches:

March 12 - Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

March 19 - Christ Church UCC

March 26 - Lutheran Church of the Great Spirit

April 2 - Bay View United Methodist Church

April 9 - Tippecanoe and Grace Presbyterian

Come and experience community together.

✧ **Readying Ourselves for Worship**

Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!

Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!

Come Rain or Shine

“I will keep on.”
That’s what I heard him say.
I *will* keep on
driving out demons
and healing people,
speaking the truth
and loving endlessly,
searching for the lost sheep
and crying for the brokenhearted,
feeding the hungry
and welcoming the outcast.

“I will keep on.”
That’s what he said, right
after he said my name, right
after he called me beloved, right
after he welcomed me home
and saved me a seat.
And I knew,
there was no stopping him.
I was under his wing.
Come rain or come shine,
today and tomorrow,
this love keeps on.

✧ **Becoming Present to God and Each Other - Our Check-in**

~ **The Joy of Passing the Peace** ~

One: May the peace that surpasses all understanding be with you

All: And also with you

One: Thanks be to God

✧ **Time for Young Hearts *Under Wings of Protection***

✧ **Gathering as God’s People: Our Lenten Theme ~ *Full to the Brim***

The readings this season provide an entry point that invites us to reflect on our theme, “Full to the Brim,” which speaks to fullness and expansive grace. The texts we’ll explore throughout Lent reveal a God who offers us grace – grace that is undeserved, unearned, illogical, and boundless. They challenge the deeply ingrained belief that so many of us carry about our unworthiness. This misconception about our worth is often rooted in harmful theology, and it tends to shape our lives for the worse. We wrestle with the role of grace and how difficult it is to receive it. We’ve experienced acts of abuse and injustice that are often rooted in shame and scarcity. It raises up for us the meaning and purpose of the season of Lent.

We are being invited to be authentically who we are, and to recognize that love is at the center of everything. As we move through Lent together, let us remember to live fully—as we pursue justice and hope, or express grief and gratitude. This season, let us trust—fully—that we belong to God. Let us increase our capacity to receive and give grace. Let us discover the expansive life God dreams for us.

✧ **Gathering Hymn 423 *Great is Your Faithfulness*** (“New Century” hymnal)

✧Opening Ourselves to God's Grace

If God is a hen,

we are under God's wing.

If God is a table,

we each have a seat.

If God is a house,

we are safe from the storm.

If God is a party,

we're invited to dance.

If God is a melody,

our names are the lyrics.

If this is God's house,

then all are welcomed. All are loved. All belong.

Let us worship Holy god.

✧Sharing our Innermost Lives with God

Call to Confession

Family of faith,

we come to confession not to wallow in our own guilt.

Instead, we come to confession because we know

that change starts with being honest.

So in a desire to grow and change,

let us pray to a God who loves us like a mother hen.

Let us confess our sins together. . .

Prayer of Confession

When the Pharisees tried to stop Jesus, Jesus said,

"I will keep on."

I will keep on healing.

I will keep on teaching.

I will keep on preaching.

I will keep on flipping the tables of injustice.

I will keep on treating every person like a child of God.

I will keep on believing that this world can change.

I will keep on

and keep on

and keep on until God's promised day.

Forgive us, God, for the times when we stop.

Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Family of faith, because Jesus' love just keeps going,

we can trust that that love and grace exists for us.

So rest in this good news:

No matter what we do wrong or what we leave undone, we are under God's wing. We are loved, held, and forgiven.

Thanks be to God for a love like that! Amen.

✧ **Special Music *You Feed Us*** by Betsy Gonwa

REFRAIN:

You feed us from Your very self
You fill us by pouring out Yourself
You love us, in Your presence, we are loved, we are loved.
You feed us from Your very self
You fill us by pouring out Yourself
And through us, Your love flows out through us,
We become . . . (to verse 1, to verse 2, to CODA)

(v1) For five thousand at a feast,
a blind man on the street
a centurion's daughter that you don't even see
For a lame man lowered down,
A bleeding woman reaching out
You are bread and You are wine poured out. (to refrain)

(v2) When we share a loaf
We are not alone
At this table, we're at home.
What the eye can't see
What the mind cannot believe
We experience in com-mu-ni-ty. (to Bridge)

BRIDGE:

Before You, We longed for so much more than food
And though we wished, We worked for nothing more than fish
But now You are our Bread!
We fish for women and men
And our hearts and our souls are fed. (to refrain)

CODA:

. . . Your love. No, it's not by bread alone.
No, it's not by bread alone. You feed us.

✧ **Prayer for Illumination**

Holy One,
this life of ours is full to the brim.
Our days are overflowing with emails and to-do lists,
schedules and notifications,
assignments and deadlines.

We wake up feeling behind,
we go to sleep worrying about tomorrow,
and we know—there has to be more than this.
So we pray:
bend down and show us the way.
Leave breadcrumbs in the street.
Point us toward awe and wonder.
Guide us to intimacy and trust.
Gift us with laughter that will make us cry
and hope that will make us feel alive.

We want a new kind of full to the brim.
Show us the way.
We are listening for your cues.
Gratefully we pray, amen.

✧ **Bible Wisdom Teaching**

Psalm 27

God is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
God is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

2 When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh—
my adversaries and foes—
they shall stumble and fall.

3 Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.

4 One thing I asked of God,
that will I seek after:
to live in the house of God
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of God,
and to inquire in God's temple.

5 For God will hide me in God's shelter
in the day of trouble;
God will conceal me under the cover of God's tent;
God will set me high on a rock.

6 Now my head is lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in God's tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to God.

7 Hear, O God, when I cry aloud,
be gracious to me and answer me!
8 'Come,' my heart says, 'seek God's face!'
Your face, God, do I seek.
9 Do not hide your face from me.

Do not turn your servant away in anger,
you who have been my help.
Do not cast me off, do not forsake me,
O God of my salvation!
10 If my father and mother forsake me,
the Sovereign will take me up.

11 Teach me your way, O God,
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.
12 Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they are breathing out violence.

13 I believe that I shall see the goodness of God
in the land of the living.
14 Wait for God;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for God!

Luke 13: 31-35

31 At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him [Jesus], "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." 32 He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. 33 Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem.' 34 Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 35 See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.'"

One: May we hear anew the origin stories of our faith and draw from the roots of our tradition.

All: **Thanks be to our God.**

✧ **Message “Full to the Brim: Under God’s Wing”** Rev. Trish Eckert

✧ **Reflection Questions**

- How do Jesus’ words and actions in the Luke passage expand your notions of how God loves us?
- What surprises you about the image of God as a mother hen? What saddens or discomforts you about this model for love?
- What experiences of God’s love have been revealed in your life? In what ways have you witnessed God’s love move through the world?
- What have you learned about God’s love through others’ examples?

✧ **Short period of silent reflection**

✧ **Sharing Our Wisdom**

✧ **Affirmation of Faith** ~ *a modern paraphrase of Psalm 27*

**The Divine is my light.
The Divine surrounds me
like a warm, familiar quilt,
in layers of grace.
Whom shall I fear?**

**when loneliness moves into my
house—
God sets the table,
turns on the lights,
and invites me to dance.**

**The Divine is the sturdy
foundation
and the roof over my head.
I am not afraid.**

**So even though there are days
that feel like too much to bear,
I know—I am not alone.**

**When the world is at its worst—
when grief clings to my bones,
when fear eats at my confidence,**

**So I ask the Divine,
I seek and I pray—
let me live in your house
all of my days. Amen.**

✧ **Hymn 7 *Mothering God***

✧ **Our gifts of support**

In gratitude for what we have received, and for the joy of giving and sharing, let us offer our gifts to God's work through this church. Amen.

Offertory Hymn 712 *As Those of Old Their First Fruits Brought*

Offertory Blessing

Dear God, use our offerings of our resources and of our lives. Bless them, multiply them for your purposes in the world. Amen.

✧ **Community Prayers & the Pastoral Prayer**

The Lord's Prayer

Eternal Spirit, Earth maker, Pain bearer, Life giver, Source of all that shall be. Father and Mother of us all. Loving God, in whom is heaven; May the hallowing of your name echo through the Universe! May the way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! May your heavenly will be done by all created beings! May your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and may it come on earth.

With the bread that we need for today, feed us. In the hurts that we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love. Now and forevermore. Amen. (New Zealand prayer book)

✧ **Benediction**

As you leave this place,
may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world.
May you laugh, and may it be contagious.
May you overflow with love for those around you.
May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy.
And in all of your living, and breathing, and being,
may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit,
and may it change your life.
In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself—
go in peace, full to the brim. Amen.

Now that the worship has ended, may the service truly begin.

✧ **Our Response:**

Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your Word lives on in us.

✧ **Postlude 43 *You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord*** Tippe Musicians