

Trinity Church

Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts



Hochhalter, Cara B.. As a Hen Gathers, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**,
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Second Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

10 a.m.

**As an open and affirming congregation
the Mission and Purpose of Trinity Church is to:**

Gather as God's people.

Grow in faith, love and service.

Go into the world as disciples and apostles.



Order of Worship

*We welcome all of you to our worship service this Sunday!
If you are visiting, please sign our guest book or fill out a welcome card
in the pew so we can better welcome you!*

** = Please rise in body or Spirit.*

We kindly ask for your cooperation in keeping our space fragrance-free.

PRELUDE – *An Wasserflüssen Babylon (By the Rivers of Babylon)*, Johann Pachelbel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING HYMN

“FAIREST LORD JESUS” (UMH 189, vv 1&4)

*OPENING ACCLAMATION FOR LENT (EOW 50 & BCP 356)

Blessed be the God of our salvation:

Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,

Have mercy upon us.

*OPENING PRAYER (Rev. Steve Garnaas-Holmes)

Let us pray...**Fox and hen. Predator or life-giver. To dominate or to bless. We wish it were not so hard to choose to be the hen of God in the kingdom of the fox. Beloved, give us grace to be kind even under threat, loving even at great cost. Jesus, lend us your heart. Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN

“WE SING TO YOU, O GOD” (TFWS 2001, vv, 1, 3, 4)

TIME FOR ALL AGES

FIRST READING

PHILIPPIANS 3:15-4:1

*GOSPEL READING

LUKE 13:31-35

SERMON – “Lament”

Pastor Benjiman Durfee

MUSICAL INTERLUDE – *In G-flat*, from *l’Organiste*, César Franck

CONFESSION (Riley 133)

Let us pray...**Powerful God, we confess that we have wielded power against one another, as opposed to using our power in protection of others. In a world of so much chaos and unpredictability, we have become feverish for any semblance of control, even if that control is used to neglect, exclude, and oppress others. We have pulled triggers, we have sent drones, we have sat by while the powerful have wreaked havoc on the world's most vulnerable. And our own daily power, we have used to maintain the status quo. We have stolen the bodily agency of others. We have dismissed the voices of our children and the elderly. For all that we've done or witnessed done, we are truly sorry. Forgive us and have mercy on us that we might know an empowered life, grounded in our own voices without suffocating those of others. Amen.**

FORGIVENESS (Riley 133)

Let your soul receive this rest: The God who wove order and direction into the very earth around us so too reveals all that they have relinquished control over. Allow the divine to restore your humanity to you, that you would turn from evil deeds and give that power which you have used so terribly to those who can be trusted to wield it well.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Remaining in our pews,

let us turn and offer a sign of God's peace to our neighbors.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray together the Lord's Prayer, using whichever words or language are closest to our hearts
(*some versions may be found at UMH 894*).

INVITATION TO OFFERING (BCP 376)

Walk in love, as Christ loved us.

Let us with joy and gratitude present our offerings to God.

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY MUSIC – *Christus, der is mein Leben (Christ is my Life)*, J. G. Walther

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Discipleship Ministries)

Let us pray... **Loving God, our shelter and hope, as we walk through this holy season, we come to you with hearts open to your grace. In our giving, may we reflect the love that sustains us, and may we lift one another up in times of need and vulnerability. Use these offerings to bring comfort to the weary and hope to the brokenhearted, just as you draw near to us in our struggles. Strengthen us to be a source of light and love in this world, reflecting your compassion in all we do. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN **"IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE"** (UMH 103, vv. 1, 3, 4)

*BENEDICTION (Escobar 21, adapted)

Go in the love of God,
whose promises are never broken.
**We go in the light of Christ,
whose love transforms us.**
Go in the power of the Holy Spirit,
whose fire sustains and encourages us.
**We go now into the world as witnesses
of God's love, light, and power.**

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE – **"GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN"** (UMH 673, v 1)

POSTLUDE – *Dialogue sur la Trompette du Grand Clavier (Dialogue with the Great Trumpet)*, François Couperin

Today's Worship Ministers

Presider & Preacher: Pastor Benjiman Durfee

Organist: Keith Rollinson

Reader 2: Lois Bascom

Acolyte: Nicole Porter

Usher: Nancy Parland

Reader 1: Julie Bailey

Videographer: Brook Batteau

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Riley, Cole Arthur. *Black Liturgies: Prayers, Poems, and Meditations for Staying Human*. Convergent Books, 2024.

Escobar, Kathy. *Turning Over Tables: A Lenten Call to Disrupting Power*. Westminster John Knox Press, 2025.