**GATHERED FOR WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE, OPENING PRAYER, WELCOME, & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*HYMN: #**216 *“All Glory Laud and Honor”* (children process)

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION:** (from the Presbyterian Church, USA)

**God of mercy,**

**you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.**

**We confess that we have strayed from you**

**and turned aside from your way.**

**We are misled by pride,**

**for we see ourselves pure when we are stained,**

**and great when we are small.**

**We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth.**

**Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.**

**Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND THE PASSING OF PEACE**

**HEARING THE WORD OF GOD**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29** (responsive)

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God’s steadfast love endures forever.

**Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.**

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

**The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

**This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!

O Lord, grant us your salvation.

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**We bless you from the house of the Lord.**

**MARK 11:1-11** When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples 2and said to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. 3If anyone says to you, “Why are you doing this?” just say this, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.” ’ 4They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, 5some of the bystanders said to them, ‘What are you doing, untying the colt?’ 6They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. 7Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. 8Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. 9Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! 10 Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!’ 11 Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

**SERMON**

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD**

**\*HYMN: #**223 “*What Wondrous Love is This”*

**JOYS & CONCERNS, PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH, LORD’S PRAYER**

 Lord, in your mercy… **Hear our prayers.**

**OFFERING**: Thank you for [supporting our ministries!](https://trumbullcongregationalchurch.breezechms.com/give/online)



**TURNING TO THE PASSION OF CHRIST**

**MARK 14:1-9** It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus\* by stealth and kill him; 2for they said, ‘Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.’

3 While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper,\* as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. 4But some were there who said to one another in anger, ‘Why was the ointment wasted in this way? 5For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii,\* and the money given to the poor.’ And they scolded her. 6But Jesus said, ‘Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. 7For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. 8She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. 9Truly I tell you, wherever the good news\* is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.’

**SONG:** *“Death with Dignity”* by Sufjan Stevens

**PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11** Let the same mind be in you that was\* in Christ Jesus,
6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**SENT TO SERVE**

**HYMN: #**219 “*Journey to Gethsemane” (vs. 1-3)*

**LENTEN PRAYER** (Nicholas of Flue, 15th century, patron saint of Switzerland)

**Our Lord and our God, take from us everything that distances us from you. Our Lord and our God, give us everything that brings us closer to you. Our Lord and our God, detach us from ourselves to give our all to you. Amen**

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Thank you for worshiping with us at TCC!

Pastor: Rev. Tim Hare, tim.hare@trumbullcc.org

 Music Minister: Ilana Ofgang, Ilana.ofgang@trumbullcc.org



*To add to our prayer list please email Pastor Tim with a brief description of your prayer. Please indicate if you would like the prayer to be listed on an ongoing basis.* tim.hare@trumbullcc.org.

~Herb Gratrix, continued healing

~Muirgheal Coffin, prayers for continued good health as she struggles with Epilepsy

~Rose Heiser, Angela Hare’s mother, struggling with health concerns

~Kirsten Nestro and family, including her mother, Dorothy, grieving the loss of Kirsten’s

 father, Peter.

~Stephanie Marko, Jo Ann Hunt’s friend, who lost her son (48 years old) to heart failure

~Karolina Szabo’s sister, Irma, experiencing health concerns

~Charlotte Coe and family, Jo Ann Hunt's friend with dementia and cancer

~The family of Stacey Tellis, especially Matt, TJ, and Andrew, grieving her recent death.

~The parents of Paul Nestro, experiencing health concerns

~The parents of Lesley Kitchener, experiencing health concerns

~Robin Nelson, Donna Feller’s friend, struggling with a serious infection

~George Toth, health concerns

~Denise Toth, prayers for healing after suffering a stroke

~Angela & Chuck Hare, recovering from knee surgeries



**\*MAKE HOLY WEEK HOLY AT TCC: We host our friends from Unity Hill on March 28 at 7pm for this special Maundy Thursday service where we recall Christ’s final meal with his disciples, celebrate the sacrament of Communion, and turn our minds to the crucifixion. We have hand painted prayer rocks to all who make the commitment to celebrate a holy Holy Week by worshiping on Maundy Thursday and Easter.**

**\*GOOD FRIDAY: Please join congregations from the Trumbull Interfaith Council in observing Good Friday at noon at Unity Hill UCC.**

**\*EASTER SUNDAY: Worship is at 10am on Sunday, March 31. Please share your church family with others who may be looking for a place to celebrate the holiday.**

**\*PASTOR’S PLUNGE: Many thanks to all who supported this fun partnership with Unity Hill and My Friend Abby. We had 5 plungers from TCC and together we raised almost $3,500 to support young adult mental health and suicide prevention! The grand total, with funds from our friends outside of TCC, will be over $6,000!**

**\*HEIFER PROJECT: Our Lenten practice of generosity in support of the Heifer Project’s efforts to lift people out of poverty and build up communities has raised $723. If we make it to $1,000 we’ll have enough to buy a heifer, a pig, a sheep, a goat, honey bees, and a flock of chicks and ducks! Today is our final collection.**

**\*MINDFULNESS WORKSHOP WITH KIRSTEN NESTRO:**

***Awakening to Presence: An Introduction to Mindfulness Meditation:* session #1 was March 20 and session #2 is March 27. Both are at 6pm. The remaining two sessions are April 3 and April 10. Though the class is full, please speak with Kirsten Nestro if you are interested in joining future offerings.** **Knestro@icloud.com****.**

**\*NURSERY HELP: Nursery care is a great offering at TCC, but in order to continue we NEED members to volunteer to be the 2nd adult in the room. Our “Safe Church” policy requires it. Please sign up on our website under “volunteer.”**

**\*\*OFFICE HOURS: \*\***

**Please feel free to reach out to Lisa – Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 9am-12pm at 203-268-2433 or anytime at** **office@trumbullcc.org**