

March 9, 2025 ~ 10:30 a.m.

First Sunday in Lent: Into the Wilderness

Today: Installation of Officers



Image: Namibia, a country in southwest Africa, is distinguished by the Namib Desert along its Atlantic Ocean coast. Photo by Bruno Almeida.

Trinity Presbyterian Church

420 Melrose Avenue, Santa Cruz, California 95062

www.trinitypressc.org ♦ trinitysc@sbcglobal.net

(831) 423-8995

Prelude and Procession *In Faith I Quiet Wait*, J.S. Bach Nicki Kerns

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Diane Ford

Preparation for Worship

Every year, we enter the Wilderness Season—a time to remember Jesus' solitude, fasting, prayer, and temptation. Together, we will explore the barren and inhospitable places in our world and within our own souls. As we reflect on how Jesus faced and responded to the Tempter, we will also consider the ways God sustains us in the deserts of our own lives.

Introit *While We Are Waiting, Come*; by Anonymous Trinity Choir

Call to Worship (Responsive) Debbie Bates

The Mighty God heard the cries of the people

And rescued them from the hand of their oppressors.

Yahweh cared for them in the wilderness.

Christ experienced that wilderness himself.

As we journey through our own wilderness, God's Spirit sustains us.

And God's love guides us.

*Hymn: PH #87 *The Glory of These Forty Days* ERHALT UNS HERR

Call to Confession Debbie

Let us hold space for the needs in this room, of which we are unaware.
Let us pray for one another with tenderness as we name our deepest wounds, doubts, needs, and temptations. Come, let us pray together.

Prayer for Forgiveness and Healing (Unison) Debbie

Merciful God, we come to this season in need of repair. Help our weakness to be our strength, as it makes us more aware of our need for you. Let the Spirit be our guide as we journey with Christ and seek to follow him. Help us breathe in the Spirit, move in Christ's ways, and live into your call. Amen. *(Take time to offer silent prayers.)*

Assurance of Forgiveness (Responsively) Debbie

Walking this earth, facing temptation, defeating sin.

Jesus has done for us what we could never do for ourselves.

This is good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

***Gloria**

Nicki's Gloria

NICKI

*Glory be to the Father, glory be to the Son,
And to the Holy Spirit, three in one,
Glory be to the Father, glory be to the Son,
And to the Holy Spirit, three in one,
As it was in the beginning, now and ever shall be,
World without end, amen.*

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Diane

"The Peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you."

Message for the Children

(After the message, the children are invited to go to class with their teacher.)

Prayers of the People - God of Life and Hope, Hear our Prayer

Presbytery's Unity Candle: Northminster Presbyterian Church, Salinas.

Lord's Prayer (Unison)

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.

Anthem

On Eagle's Wings, by Michael Joncas

Trinity Choir

*You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide by His shadow for life, say to the Lord,
"My refuge, my rock in whom I trust."
And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of His hand.
The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear.
Under His wings your refuge, your faithfulness your shield.*

*And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of His hand.*

Prayer for Illumination

Diane

As we hear your written and proclaimed Word,
Speak, Lord, your servants are listening.

Readings

Luke 4:1-13

Diane

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.' "

Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' " Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' " When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Sermon

Rev. Diane Ford

Call to Offering

Offertory

What Wondrous Love Is this, by Peter Niedmann

Nicki Kerns

***Doxology #591**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication (Responsively)**

Diane

God of the wilderness,
We give these offerings in gratitude,
rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us.
We give these offerings in faith,
trusting that you will provide for our needs.
We give these offerings in hope,
knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world.
And with these offerings, we give ourselves;
May we live with generous hearts, with open hands. Amen

~ written by Joanna Harader, and posted on her blog. <http://spaciousfaith.com/>

Installation of Officers: Elders Chad Bell and Chuck Cobery (see insert)

***Hymn, GTG #177 *I Will Come to You (You Are Mine), vs. 1,2,3* YOU ARE MINE**

***Blessing and Charge**

***Amen**

Trinity Choir

***Postlude**

We Stand Together, by Lua

Nicki Kerns

***We invite all to stand in body or in spirit.**

PH - Presbyterian Hymnal; GH - Gather Hymnal;

GTG - Glory to God Hymnal

Special Thanks to Our “Sunday Saints”

Pastor, Rev. Diane Ford; Music Director, Nicki Kerns

Lector, Debbie Bates; Usher, Pete Halper

Greeter, Dan Rutan; Flowers, Lee Duffus;

Coffee Hour, Kim Johnston and Vickie Rutan

Audio/Video/Zoom Tech, Chad Bell & Chuck Cobery

Announcements

Welcome to Trinity Presbyterian Church

Are you new today? We look forward to getting to know you. Please fill out a visitor welcome card and place it in the offering plate during the Call to Offering. After worship, join us for refreshments in the Magnolia Courtyard (or Fellowship Hall if rainy/cold). We're glad you're here!

Presbytery's Unity Candle Moves to Salinas

Today, we remember and pray for the community, ministries, and staff of Northminster Presbyterian Church, pastored by Andy Rausch.

New Announcement about Announcements!

Please turn in your announcements for the Sunday bulletin and/or weekly newsletter by **10:00 a.m. on Tuesdays**. Thank you!



Sacred Pause

Music & Reflection for the Neighborhood

Thursdays, March 13 - April 10

Bring a friend and come to one or all parts:

6:00 PM

Reflection & Taizé Music (Fellowship Hall)

6:30 PM

Potluck Dinner (Fireside Rm.)

7-8:00 PM

Book* Discussion (Fireside Rm.)

Reserve your book by SIGNING UP this week with Pastor Diane (email or speak with her directly.) trinityscpastordiane@gmail.com

**The book: "Were You There?" by Luke A. Powery: A powerful look at African American spirituals and the Passion of Jesus, connecting suffering, justice, and hope. Copies will be purchased by the church.*

If you plan on coming to this week's (March 13th) supper, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!

Florence Nuss Memorial: March 15 at 2:00 PM

We will celebrate the life of Florence Nuss and resurrection on Saturday in the Sanctuary. A reception will follow. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Urban Works: March 16 during worship

Exec. Dir. Katie Gentile will be with us in worship next Sunday, sharing about the remarkable programs, staff, and participants of Urban Works.

Trinity Happy Hour During Lent (NEW TIME), March 18

Back Nine Bar & Grill (555 Hwy. 17 at Pasatiempo Exit) is our location for Trinity's Happy Hour at 5pm. Enjoy Fellowship & Outreach! Bring a friend!

Sweet Pea, March 22 and 29

Interested in learning to quilt or looking to get back into it? Grab a sewing machine and join Sweet Peas! Their next meeting is in the Youth Room on March 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Committee Locations and Times

Does the office know when your committee is meeting, and where? Please inform the office, as this affects our custodian's schedule. *Thanks!*

Teen Tech Assistant Position

Trinity is seeking teenagers (ages 13-18) to assist with the operation of our computer for filming services, managing audio equipment, and handling handheld microphones, along with a few other minor tasks.

Hours: 2 hours per week, Sunday mornings from 10 AM to noon

Compensation: \$16.50 per hour or the option to earn volunteer service hours for school requirements.

Requirements: Some familiarity with computers, audiovisual, and electronic equipment is preferred; training on our equipment will be provided.

Additional: Applicants must provide a student work permit. No religious affiliation is required to apply or hold this position.

How to Apply: Applications are located on the bulletin board outside the church office in the hallway. Additionally, you may contact the office by email at trinitysc@sbcglobal.net.

Please continue to remember these people and situations in your prayers.

- Deb O'Connell's neighbor, Dan: wisdom for the surgeons and success for the surgery on his broken shoulder.
- Barry, Debbie Bates' former husband: dealing with anemia.
- The people and leadership of Ukraine: continued fortitude and courage.
- Bob Scott: hospitalized again with oxygen deficiency issues.
- The family of Jill, Natalie Sergistad's aunt: strength in facing the reality of her ovarian cancer circumstance.
- Jerry Thormann's sisters: gratitude that one is recovering well at home; continuing concerns regarding the other, who remains hospitalized.
- Chad Bell's colleague and friend, Elizabeth: recovering from breast cancer surgery.
- The Nation: continuous concerns regarding the disintegrating American democratic structures; strength and courage for congressional leadership and federal judges.
- The family and friends of Florence Nuss: mourning her passing at age 101.

Please fill out the form below. Tear off and put in the offering plate.

Yes, I/We will be attending the Lenten Gathering
Thursday evening, March 13th

Name(s): _____

Please circle one of the below. No Desserts please.

I/We will bring: soup salad bread