

### LENTEN FOCUS

Our theme during this Lenten season is “Foolish Love,” since Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 14, and will end on Easter Sunday, March 31, the day before April Fool’s Day. In our worship series, we’ll look at the “foolish” acts of love that Jesus calls us to as his followers--a foolish love that forgives, risks, breaks the rules, loves extravagantly and more. Join us!

### PALM SUNDAY

March 24 is Palm Sunday, when we remember Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The crowds shouted, “Hosanna!” (Save us now!), waved palm branches and placed them on Jesus’ path. Join us for a service of joy and foreboding as we enter into Holy Week.

### TRINITY EASTER EGG HUNT

Join us Saturday, March 30, at 10 am for our Egg Hunt (ages 0-5th grade) and our annual Egg Toss for all ages! The kids will start inside coloring Easter bags while the bunny and friends hide the eggs. Then at about 10:15, we’ll let the children loose! Please feel free to invite other families and friends. YOU can help by bringing plastic eggs filled with candy, toys or stickers to the church and leaving them in the green bucket by the elevator. Or if you’re willing to stuff plastic eggs, we can provide the eggs and candy. Let Penny know.

### EASTER SUNDAY

Hallelujah, Christ is risen! On March 31 bring flowers from your yard to help decorate our flower cross as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus! (We’ll have extra flowers!) There is not enough darkness in the universe to extinguish the light and love of Jesus Christ! Come celebrate with us at 10:30 am in the sanctuary. Christ has risen! Christ has risen indeed!

Trinity United Methodist Church

729 Paul Bryant Drive

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Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 am-2 pm

Senior Pastor - Rev. Penny Ford - revpennyford@gmail.com

Music Director - Dr. Kevin Chance - k.t.chance@gmail.com

Assistant Music Director - Anthony Zamora

Children’s Coordinator - Jessica Wyatt - childrenscoordinator@trinityumc.org

Youth Director - Dr. Clay Nelson - clayted12@gmail.com

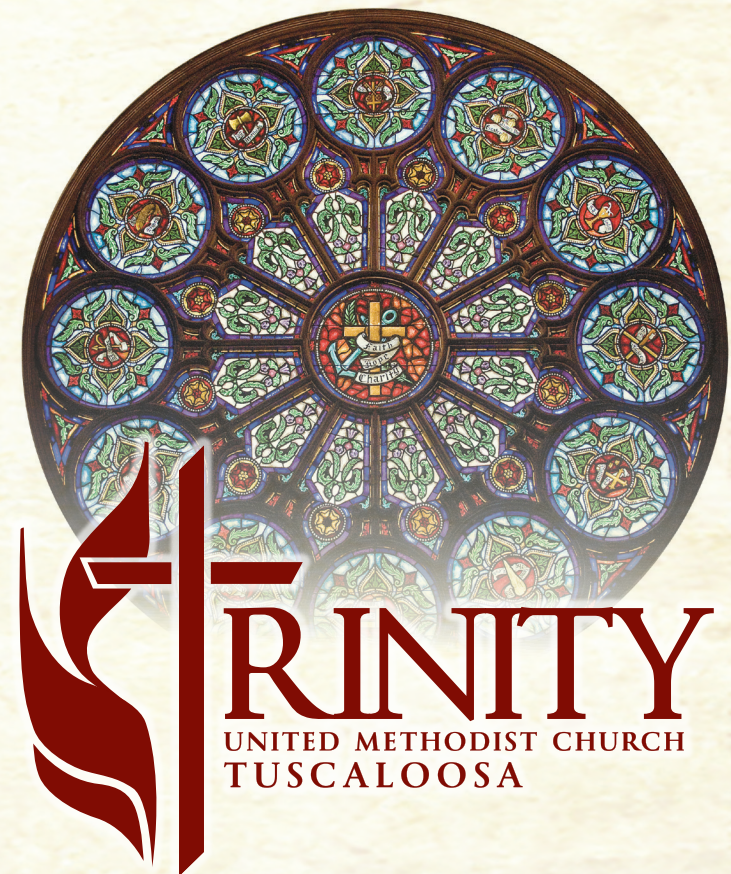
Church Secretary - Kathryn Venable - office@trinityumc.info

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Web page: [www.trinity-umc-tuscaloosa.org](http://www.trinity-umc-tuscaloosa.org)

Facebook: Trinity UMC in Tuscaloosa



*Fifth Sunday in Lent  
March 17, 2024*

***Trinity United Methodist Church  
is a congregation united by the love of Christ.***

*Because we are rooted in and guided by the grace of God,  
we share the love of Christ in our community and in our world.*

*Because we embrace our ever-changing community,  
we are open and respectful of what makes you who you are,  
and glad you are part of our church family.*

*Because we cherish our multigenerational congregation,  
we are caring and nurturing of all ages.*

*Because we value traditional worship,  
we feel familiar and welcoming.*



**ORDER OF WORSHIP  
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT  
MARCH 17, 2024**

**PRELUDE**

Anthony Zamora

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*If you are a visitor, please fill out a Visitor Card found  
in the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate.*

Our hearts are hard, O God--

**Soften them with your love.**

Our hands are clenched, O God--

**Open them with your grace.**

Our feet are planted too firmly, O God--

**Invite us to dance with you.**

Our lives are not our own, we know--

**Let us live and move and have our being in you, O God. Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

*This Is a Day of New Beginnings*

#383

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*You're invited to greet those around you and move about as you wish!  
Please be sensitive to the fact that some in worship may not feel  
comfortable welcoming a hug or a handshake, and adjust as needed.*

**CALL TO PRAYER**

*Near to the Heart of God*

#472, vv. 1-2

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE /LORD'S PRAYER**

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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

**A TIME FOR CHILDREN (of all ages!)**

*Children ages 4-8 are welcome to go to Children's Church after the  
Children's Message, or they may stay in the sanctuary with a parent.*

**OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

#95

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*SAYING WHAT WE BELIEVE**

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick\* and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\*\* church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*\*living*

*\*\*universal*

**SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 20:1-16, 18:12-13

**SERMON**

*Foolish Love . . . Is Unfair*

Rev. Penny Ford

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

*O Jesus, I Have Promised*

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**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Anthony Zamora

**COMMUNITY LENTEN LUNCHEON SERIES**

*An Introduction to Christian Spiritual Practices*

Tuesdays, 12-1 pm. Free lunch provided. All are welcome!

**March 19** at First Christian Church with Rev. Caroline Kelly, teacher.

**March 26** at Brown Memorial Presbyterian with Rev. Lori Maxey, teacher.

**MISSIONS**

We are collecting nonperishable items for college students in the Reach program and in our congregation to be distributed during "Success" week (formerly called "Dead Week") in April.

Snacks or food items requested are individual chip bags, granola bars, candy bars, gummies, Little Debbie treats, honey buns, microwave popcorn, bottled water, Capri Suns, sodas and cookies.

We will supplement the bags closer to time with fresh fruit. We expect to make about 60 bags. Please bring the items to the sanctuary or church office.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Sunday, March 24, 2 pm:** A baby shower for Brooke and Ross O'Rear will be held at the church.