



# Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church

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

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## Welcome To Worship

*March 8, 2026*

9:30 a.m.



**seeking:**  
*Will you give  
me a drink?*

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

*"Seeking: Will you Give Me a Drink?" Rev. Trish Eckert*

## ✧Candle-lighting and Chimes

✧**Prelude** *Speak Lord* by Gary Ault (One License) ~Tippe Musicians

## ✧Welcome and community news

Merger Subgroup Meeting: **The Subcommittee for Christian Education** (Adult and Children's Ed) will be held at **Grace Presbyterian** on **Sunday, March 15th** at **11:30 am**. We ask that those who feel drawn to this aspect of church life attend the meeting as we continue to move through the subgroup discussions that help shape our process.

Merger Subgroup Meeting: **The Subcommittee for Property** will meet at **Tippe** on **Saturday, March 21st** at **10 am** – let Jerry Watkins know of your interest.

## Holy Week Worship Services

**March 29** Palm Sunday service 9:30 am at Tippe

**April 2** Maundy Thursday service at Grace Presbyterian  
2931 S Kinnickinnic Ave at 7 pm

**April 3** Good Friday service at Bay View United Methodist  
2772 S Kinnickinnic Ave at 7 pm

**April 5** Easter Sunday service 9:30 am at Tippe

Anyone interested in joining a combined choir for Maundy Thursday worship at Grace? Please let Betsy Gonwa know as soon as possible – each church will have its own rehearsal and then gather early at Grace to run through the song before the 7 pm service.

## ✧Readying Ourselves for Worship

***Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!***

***Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!***

✧ **A Blessing as we Center Ourselves in this Moment**

*Blessing of the Well* ~ Jan Richardson from "Circle of Grace"

If you stand  
at the edge  
of this blessing  
and call down  
into it,  
you will hear  
your words  
return to you.

If you lean in  
and listen close,  
you will hear  
this blessing  
give the story  
of your life  
back to you.

Quiet your voice.  
Quiet your judgment.  
Quiet the way  
you always tell  
your story  
to yourself.

Quiet all these  
and you will hear  
the whole of it  
and the hollows of it:  
the spaces  
in the telling,  
the gaps

where you hesitate  
to go.

Sit at the rim  
of this blessing.  
Press your ear  
to its lip,  
its sides,  
its curves  
that were carved out  
long ago  
by those whose thirst  
drove them deep,  
those who dug  
into the layers  
with only their hands  
and hope.

Rest yourself  
beside this blessing  
and you will  
begin to hear  
the sound of water  
entering the gaps.

Still yourself  
and you will feel it  
rising up within you,  
filling every emptiness,  
springing forth  
anew.

~ **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** *The Living Water of God's Love*

✧ **Gathering as God's People ~ Third Sunday of Lent Seeking: Honest Questions for Deeper Faith** (Series from "A Sanctified Art")

The question we will consider this Sunday is: "Will you give me a drink?"

Like the characters in our Lenten scriptures, we are seeking many things: clarity, connection, wonder, justice, balance. We are seeking our calling, the sacred, and how to live as a disciple. In the wake of the turbulence of the past few years, many of us are asking big questions about our lives and our faith.

Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity, Founder and Creative Director of "A Sanctified Art," from which we've received our liturgical materials for this season, shared her thoughts about what we are exploring this Lent: "When I hear the term 'seeking' used within a faith context, I automatically think of the famously-quoted adage, 'Seek and ye shall find' (Matthew 7:7). This verse is often used to perpetuate a transactional, fairytale faith: if you just try harder or pray harder, then what you want will be granted to you. I wish more than anything that life and faith would operate within a predictable, merit-based system of seeking and finding, asking and receiving. However, you and I both know this isn't reality. Instead, I hope to live a seeking faith, a faith that is ever-growing, adaptive, resilient, and filled with awe. We are in the midst of a societal overhaul in which many of our disparities, vulnerabilities, and differences are more exposed. This chapter of life has most likely unearthed big, honest questions— about your purpose, your faith, your identity, your future. And so, this Lent, we invite you to bring those big questions to God. We invite you to engage in the spiritual practice of seeking, staying curious, porous, and malleable. Like Nicodemus, can you let go of what you used to know in order to begin again? Like the Samaritan woman at the well, will you let yourself be fully seen? Like Mary at the empty tomb, can you recognize God's resurrection when you encounter it?"

Let us carry these questions into worship this morning and let them move through us in the coming weeks.

✧ **Gathering Hymn *Freeing Jesus*** by Betsy Gonwa #4 Tippe Song Booklet

✧ **Opening Ourselves to God's Grace**

We gather together—

**the seekers, the dreamers, the shooting-star wishers,  
in hopes of seeing God.**

We gather together—

**the curious, the hungry, the loving, the lonely,  
in hopes of finding peace.**

We gather together—

**those who are thirsty and those with water to spare,  
in hopes of finding justice.**

So come to the well,  
come to the table.  
Come, let us worship God. Amen.

### **Call to Confession**

In today's service we will hear the story of the Samaritan woman. It's a well-known story of a woman who, in the heat of the day, meets Jesus at a well and he asks her for a drink.

Every time I read this story, I cannot help but ask myself—when was the last time I drew water for someone? When was the last time I drew water for myself?

So with this same open curiosity, we come to the prayer of confession, trusting that even if we forget our bucket, God will still meet us at the well.

Friends, with that grace in mind, let us pray:

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Holy One, we have been on every side of this story. We have been the one who is thirsty and in need of compassion, and we have been the one with a bucket and a deep well. So today we wonder: how often have we missed the opportunity to share water with our neighbors? How often have we forgotten that we have a bucket and the power to bring change? How often have we simply decided that justice and compassion were not worth the work? Forgive our fragile hearts and remind us that it was you who sat at that well in Samaria in the heat of the day. It was you. It is still you. With hope we pray, amen.**

### **Words of Forgiveness**

Family of faith, as hard as it is to imagine: we could lose the bucket, we could hoard the water for ourselves, we could pretend we do not see all who are thirsty, and we would still belong to God.

This is the good news of the gospel:

**God's grace is deeper than any well. We are seen, loved, and forgiven. May this realization change and inspire us. Amen.**

✧ **Special Music Special Music** *My Soul Thirsts*

### ✧ **Prayer for Illumination**

God of conversation,  
We come to you today thirsty—  
    thirsty for hope,  
    thirsty for good news,  
    thirsty for a glimpse of you.

So today we pray,  
move in these words like a current.  
Give us the courage to wade into your story  
with open eyes and open hearts.  
Give us the courage to drink this moment in.  
We are listening.  
We are grateful.  
Amen.

### ✧ **Bible Wisdom Teaching**

#### **Exodus 17: 1-7**

17 From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as God commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. 2 The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test God?” 3 But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” 4 So Moses cried out to God, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” 5 God said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. 6 I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7 He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested God, saying, “Is God among us or not?”

#### **John 4: 5-42**

5 So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

7 A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” 8 (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) 10 Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” 11 The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? 12 Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” 13 Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 14 but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” 15 The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

16 Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." 17 The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' 18 for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" 19 The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. 20 Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." 21 Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship God neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship God in spirit and truth, for God seeks such as these to worship God. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship God must worship in spirit and truth." 25 The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." 26 Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

27 Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" 28 Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 29 "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" 30 They left the city and were on their way to him.

31 Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." 32 But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." 33 So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" 34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of the one who sent me to complete the work. 35 Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. 36 The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. 37 For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' 38 I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

39 Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." 40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. 41 And many more believed because of his word. 42 They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

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 "Will You Give Me a Drink?"** Rev. Trish Eckert

### ✧ **Reflection Questions**

- Are we willing to care for our neighbors, seeking to not just quench thirst, but to find living waters that sustain us all?
- In this season, what are you thirsting for?
- In what ways are you needing sustenance?

### ✧ **Short period of silent reflection**

### ✧ **Sharing Our Wisdom**

#### ✧ **Affirmation of Faith**

We believe that a glass of water given to us by a stranger can taste like justice.

**We believe that honest conversation has the power to change us.**

We believe that all God's children have a voice and something to say.

**We believe that Jesus loves the outcast, the ignored, the shamed, and the abandoned.**

We believe in asking questions.

**We believe in curiosity.**

We believe in giving people a drink.

**May we be brave enough to give people a drink. Amen.**

### ✧ **Hymn 451 *Open My Eyes That I May See***

#### ✧ **Our gifts of support**

We live in a world who thirsts—for justice, for compassion, for love. We are invited to share our gifts with faith that they will serve as living water: quenching thirst, nurturing growth, healing the world. Let us offer our gifts for the work of this congregation, within and beyond the walls of this church.

### ✧ **Offertory Hymn 420 *We Praise You O God***

#### ✧ **Offertory Blessing**

Like the water from the rock that Moses struck in the wilderness, O God, let these gifts spill out and nourish your people. May our generosity be a blessing to both friends and strangers—to all who may be struggling in their own wilderness. We offer ourselves and these gifts with faithful hearts, sustained with your abiding love. Amen

### ✧ **Prayers of the People**

**Community Prayers**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer**  
**Our Father/Mother,**  
**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,**  
**For ever and ever. Amen.**

✧**Benediction**

As you leave this place,  
may God bless you with seeking.  
Seek out the hungry.  
Seek the weary.  
Seek the good in every person you pass.  
Seek out the hopeful.  
Seek the faithful.  
Seek God in each of us.  
As you seek and as you wonder,  
may you find what you are looking for.  
In the name of our loving God,  
who is always seeking us,  
go now in peace. 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 *Hope is a Seed*** by Mary Louise Bringle