

* All who are able may stand

Congregation reads aloud the **BOLD** print

Prelude

Erbarme dich

J. S. Bach

("Have mercy" from *The Passion According to St. Matthew*)

Sujung Wang, soprano; Robin Mayforth, violin; Sinae Lee, piano

Welcome

Pastor Julia Burkley (she/her)
Rev. Molly Fisherkeller (she/her)

***Call To Worship**

As we gather today, we are called to listen to the new commandment by Jesus:

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

To love is to listen—

to listen to each other, to the signs of life everywhere.

It is also to listen to the silence within us.

Listen to our hearts,

listen to God's voice,

listen to each other.

We gather tonight,

in the same love that Jesus gathered around the table with his disciples.

We gather to wait

Knowing that we are called to follow that love where this night leads.

***Hymn**

The Gift of Love

No. 693, vv. 1&3

***Hymn of Confession**

Before I Take the Body of My Lord

No. 428, vv. 1, 4, 5

***Prayer of Confession**

God of love, we come to you feeling a thousand feelings. There is too much going on, and we don't know how to handle it all. We don't even know how to put words to all that we are going through. We forget to trust you. We forget you hold it with us. God of love, we come to you wanting total control over our lives, the stories we live, the people around us, and our own desires. We forget that you are in charge. God of love, we also come to you feeling numb. We forget that you called us past those moments of apathy and fear. God of love, we come to you in silence, we come to you because you are the source of life. Be with us. Meet us in forgiveness. Hear our prayers.

[Time of silent prayer]

*Assurance of Pardon	Hear this good news: the God of love listens to you attentively. “As an eagle stirs up its nest and hovers over its young, as it spreads its wings, takes them up, and bears them aloft on its pinions.” We are all listened to. We are claimed, loved, and held in grace.	
*Response	<i>What Wondrous Love Is This?</i>	No. 215, v. 1
Prayer for Illumination	Lord meet us here, as you met your disciples at the table. Meet us with grace, with understanding, with compassion. May we enter these hard and holy days with peace, with prayer, and with your presence. Amen.	
*Hymn	<i>An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare</i>	No. 202, vv. 1&2
Scripture Reading	Matthew 26:17-19	
Communion		
Communion Music	<i>When I Survey the Wondrous Cross</i> Robin Mayforth, violin; Sinae Lee, piano	arr. Paul S. Jones
Anthem	<i>Ave Verum</i> Chancel Choir	W. A. Mozart
Service of Tenebrae		
First Reading	Arrest – Luke 22:47-53	
Response	<i>Ah, Holy Jesus</i>	No. 218, v. 1
Second Reading	Denial – Luke 22:54-62	
Response	<i>Ah, Holy Jesus</i>	No. 218, v. 2
Third Reading	Sentencing – Luke 23:13-25	
Response	<i>My Song is Love Unknown</i>	No. 209, v. 3
Fourth Reading	Crucifixion – Luke 23:33-38	
Response	<i>When I Survey the Wondrous Cross</i>	No. 224, v. 3
Fifth Reading	Death – Luke 23:44-46	
Moment of Silence		
Response	<i>Where You There?</i> Bettye Shirar, Chip Hazel, Sujung Wang	
Ringling of the Ninth Hour		



Welcome visitors! We're glad you're here this evening. We welcome The Rev. Molly Fisherkeller, Pastor at Trinity Presbyterian Church, to our service. We will be joining our friends at Trinity Presbyterian Church at Noon on Good Friday and 7am for an Easter Sunrise Service. Experience the joy and wonder of Easter at our Easter Service in Concord's sanctuary on Sunday at 10am.

Assisting in the service of worship are:

Pastors: Rev. Julia Burkley (she/her) & Rev. Molly Fisherkeller (she/her)

Director of Music: Matthew Pressley (he/him)

Director of Children's and Youth Ministries: Christina Pressley (she/her)

Accompanist: Sinae Lee (she/her)

Deacon-in-Charge: Chris Hauserman

Livestream Team: Bob Brown, Ron McKinney, Ellen Greenhorn

Youth participants:

Aria Godowsky

Ella Fuchs

Isabel Fuchs

Maya Kroon

Ashley Tieste

Henry Traub

Stella Traub

Easter Sunday

7am – Joint Sunrise Service at Trinity Presbyterian Church

10am – Easter Worship at Concord

Post Worship – Easter Egg Hunt and Fellowship

Love & Love & Love Again

~Rev. Sarah Are Speed

If you back a cat into a corner

she'll arch her back,

show her teeth,

hiss in your direction.

If you back a human into a corner,

we'll raise our fists,

raise our voices,

throw words of hate in your direction.

But when we backed Jesus into a corner, he said,

Forgive them, for they know not what they do.

He turned and looked at Peter, love in his eyes.

He offered grace to the criminal hanging beside him.

When we backed Jesus into a corner,

he loved and loved and loved again.

In this war-torn world,

we could do the same.

We could ground the bomber planes,

empty the gun cartridges,

unclench our fists, soften our jaws.

They say it can't be done,

but don't believe them.

In this war-torn world, we could try—

love and love and love again.