

March 23, 2025
Third Sunday of Lent



Naveedanjumkhan. *Fig Tree*, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

To join worship this morning via Zoom, click this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

(if you are asked for a password, it is: 890967). **To dial in by phone** call 1 312 626 6799. When prompted, enter 839 2872 7469#. Next, you will be prompted to enter your participant ID or to push #; **simply push # again.**

Music will be displayed on the screen during the service.

Prelude

Welcome

Introit: “Cantante Domino” by Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni

Praying with Clay

Prayer of Confession and Renewal

Hymn 566: “Heaven and Earth and Sea and Air”

Scripture: Luke 13:21–35; Psalm 27, hymnal page 637 (*Please join in singing in the response and speaking the verses*)

Time with Children

Scripture: Luke 13:6–9

Reflection: Sing the chant “Listen” before each reading.

Reading 1: What word or phrase strikes you?

Reading 2: What questions do you have? What do you notice?

Reading 3: What message do you hear for us?

Praying with Clay

Small Group Conversations

Hymn: “May This Church Be Like a Tree”

Prayers of the People

Please share your prayer requests in the chat and we will pray with you.

Lord’s Prayer

A commonly used form is printed below. You are welcome to use the version most meaningful to you.

Our God, 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 for ever. Amen.

Ministry Moment: Thomas Page, Clare Housing

Offering

We invite your financial gifts to support our ministries within and beyond First Church. March’s special offering supports the First Church Little Free Pantry. Give electronically at our website: www.firstchurchmn.org; click on the “Support Us” link. You can also give by texting 612-255-4109:

“\$(amount) Special” (for the monthly offering) or “\$(amount) General

Fund. If you give by check, please make it out to First Church with “pantry” in the memo line.

Offertory

Offertory Response: “I’m Gonna Live”

Prayer of Dedication

Announcements

Hymn 564: “We Are Not Our Own”

Benediction

Choral Benediction

Postlude

Thanks to those who serve in the following roles today:

Valet: Robert Payne

Usher: Brad Schumann

Reader: Paul Snyder

Tech Support: Maggie George, Greg Hubinger

Coffee Hour: Cynthia Hendricks

Coming up this week

Sunday, March 23

9:30a: Coffee hour

10a: Worship/(hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFOjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

11:15a: Coffee hour (hybrid—stay on Zoom call)

11:30a: Family Gathering

Monday, March 24

9:30a: SE Playgroup

Tuesday, March 25

Noon: Bible Study (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82579587370?pwd=aURmUHhRaSU55aFlXK241NVNvTWVMZz09>

1p: Building Committee (Zoom)
6:30p: Contemplative Prayer Lenten Group

Wednesday, March 26

1:30p: Lenten Book Study (hybrid)
3:30p: Memorial Service for Patrick Dow
7p: Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 27

9:30a: SE Playgroup

Sunday, March 30

9:30a: Coffee hour

10a: Worship / (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFOjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2IKdz09>

11:15a: Coffee hour (hybrid—stay on Zoom call)

11:30a: 2nd Hour / lunch: Climate & Equity w/ Unidos-MN

“Trans Stories Are Sacred.” Our congregation is invited to join in sponsoring this powerful night of trans and nonbinary stories on Thursday March 27 at 7p at Coffman Union on the U of M Minneapolis campus. You can sign up in the back of the Sanctuary or by emailing Jane McBride: jmcbride@firstchurchmn.org

2nd Hour and Lunch next Sunday: Minneapolis Climate and Equity Campaign. Join Unidos-MN to learn how we can transform Minneapolis into a clean energy city no matter who’s president. Unidos is working with neighbors across Minneapolis to ensure new funding for clean energy home upgrade programs that reach all residents, no exceptions. A light lunch will be provided.

Spanish Conversation Group. Our next meeting will take place on Saturday April 26, from 10a-noon at Curioso Coffee Shop, 1712 Marshall St NE, Minneapolis. Join folks from UBC and First Congregational Church to practice your Spanish. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Jean Korsmo at maryjeankorsmo@gmail.com.

Wednesday March 26, with a visitation at 2:30 and the service at 3:30.

A memorial service celebrating the life of Patrick Dow will take place Wednesday March 26, with a visitation at 2:30 and the service at 3:30.

If you purchased a photo from Andrew Sjostrom's photography exhibit, thank you for your patience! You may collect your photo on Sunday March 30 after worship. Please contact Lisa Keitel lkkeitel@gmail.com to make other arrangements for pick up or delivery of your photo. Thank you for supporting Andrew and his photography work.

"Embodying Solidarity with Indigenous People by Becoming Kin," by Sarah Augustine. This lecture is sponsored by the Twin Cities Repair Community for Makoce Ikikcupi. Friday, April 4, 7p at United Theological Seminary (767 Eustis St., St. Paul, 55114). This hybrid talk is free and open to the public. Sarah is the Executive Director of the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery. She is Tewa (Pueblo) and leads a national and international movement for justice for Indigenous peoples. Register to attend in-person or online at unitedseminary.edu.

A memorial service celebrating the life of Jo Anne Rohricht will take place on Saturday April 5 at 1p. We are looking for a couple of ushers and some folks to help with the reception afterwards. Please let the office know if you are interested.

Stories @ First Volume 3, Sunday April 27 at 1p. The theme for our Spring story slam is "Second Chances." We look forward to creating community with our neighbors, including our friends from UBC! If you would like to tell a story, please read the guidelines in the back of the Sanctuary. There will be a potluck before the event and dessert and conversation afterward.

Dates for your calendar:

April 6: ISAIAH Gathering in collaboration with ULCH

April 13: 2nd Hour: Update on heating and cooling plans for the church

April 17: Maundy Thursday Worship with UBC, at UBC

Apr 18: Good Friday Worship, 7p

Apr 20: Easter Sunday, 8a Worship at the Stone Arch Bridge; 8:45 Breakfast; 10a Sanctuary Worship

April 27: Stories @First, "Second Chances," 1p (potluck lunch before)

May 1: Game Night! 6-8p