

FCC MINNEAPOLIS
Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 15, 2026

GATHERING

[Prelude-Trio-Schostakovitch](#) from Geneva Lutheran Church

Welcome (Jennifer)

Welcome to worship
with First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis.

As snow blankets the roads around SpringHouse Ministry Center,
we gather online for worship.

Whether you worship through Zoom or YouTube,
whether you worship today or throughout the week,
we are glad you are with us!

Please let us know you have joined us
by filling out the online worship attendance form
on the front page of our website, www.fccmpls.org.
I also encourage you to put comments in chat,
now and throughout the service.

If you have a joy, concern, or prayer request
to share with the congregation,
please send an email right away (as in now!)
to our prayer request email, prayer@fccmpls.org,
or include it on the attendance form or in the chat.

Land Acknowledgement and Intro to Children's Moment (Jennifer)

At SpringHouse, we gather on
the ancestral and contemporary homeland
of the Dakota (dah KOT ah) and the Ojibwe (oh JEEB way),
one of the Anishinaabe (ah nih shih NAH bay) nations.
We give thanks for these first people
to live and pray beside the Mississippi River,
and for peoples of other indigenous nations
who make their home in Minnesota.

Throughout Lent, Jesus invites us to encounter God
in his humanity and in our own lives.
Jesus wept over Roman-occupied Jerusalem,
confronted oppression,
and proclaimed God's kin-dom with acts of healing.
May we, then, grieve state-sponsored violence
against indigenous people and other marginalized neighbors.
May we partner with others to repair harm.
May the Spirit make us faithful disciples,
fully human, here and now.
Would you take a deep breath with me?
(Deep breath) Amen.

As we sing, I invite all of our children to gather close for a time of reflection.

Song (Ben to play?)

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

- [Longer version](#) (2:40)
- [Shorter version](#) (1:20)

Faith through a Youthful Eye (Deb)

Sharing the Peace of Christ (Dan)

WORD

Scripture (Jennifer)

A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

The next day, after leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry.
From far away, he noticed a fig tree in leaf,
so he went to see if he could find anything on it.
When he came to it, he found nothing except leaves,
since it wasn't the season for figs.
So he said to it, "No one will ever again eat your fruit!"
His disciples heard this.

They came into Jerusalem. After entering the temple,
Jesus threw out those who were selling and buying there.
He pushed over the tables used for currency exchange
and the chairs of those who sold doves.
He didn't allow anyone to carry anything through the temple.

He taught them, "Hasn't it been written,
'My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations?'
But you've turned it into 'a hideout for crooks.'"
The chief priests and legal experts heard this
and tried to find a way to destroy him.
They regarded him as dangerous
because the whole crowd was enthralled at his teaching.
When it was evening, Jesus and his disciples went outside the city.

Early in the morning, as Jesus and his disciples were walking along,
they saw the fig tree withered from the root up.
Peter remembered and said to Jesus,
"Rabbi, look how the fig tree you cursed has dried up."

Jesus responded to them, “Have faith in God!
I assure you that whoever says to this mountain,
‘Be lifted up and thrown into the sea’—
and doesn’t waver but believes
that what is said will really happen—it will happen.
Therefore I say to you, whatever you pray and ask for,
believe that you will receive it, and it will be so for you.
And whenever you stand up to pray,
if you have something against anyone,
forgive so that your Abba God in heaven
may forgive you your wrongdoings.”

Sermon (Ben)

Song (Ben to play?)

How Can Our Anger Give Life

- [YouTube](#) (2:54)
- This is the song opening the sermon.

Jesus Christ Is Waiting

- [YouTube](#) (2:48)
- This was going to be the opening hymn

OFFERING OUR PRAYERS AND OUR GIFTS

Joys & Concerns (Dan)

Pastoral Prayer (Dan)

Ending with this version of the Prayer of Jesus:

Loving Creator we honor you,
and we honor all that you have made.
Renew the whole world in the image of your love.
Give us what we need for today,
and a hunger to see the whole world fed.
Strengthen us for what lies ahead;
heal us from the hurts of the past;
give us courage to follow your call in this moment.
For your love is the only power,
the only home, the only honor we need,
in this world and in the world to come. Amen.

Offering Invitation (Jay)

Anthem: [*Parable*](#) by **Andy Beck**, sung by the Bay Area Choral Society

Offering Prayer (Jay)

COMMUNION

**Invitation to the Table, Communion Prayer,
and Words of Institution** (Arlene)

Communion

Possible words for Arlene:

Whatever food you have on hand,
the Spirit has blessed it.
Whatever drink is available,

the Spirit makes it Christ's cup for you.
Let us eat and drink,
rejoicing that the Spirit makes us one body in Christ.

Music for meditation? (Ben to play?)

When the Poor Ones

- [YouTube](#) (starts at minute marker 35:42)
- 3 verses from Chalice Hymnal 662

Hope of the World

- [YouTube](#) (3:27)
- This was going to be the sending hymn

GOING FORTH

Closing Words (Dan)

Benediction (Ben)

[Postlude](#) by Magical String Tro