INTRODUCTION
The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God’s words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn’t grasp Jesus’ words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRINITARIAN CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP
Steadfast and faithful God,
you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed
by the world’s violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have
for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
Lead us back to you
and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.
GREETING
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY
Let us pray.
O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21
Jeremiah’s delight in the word of the Lord is contradicted by the heaviness of God’s hand upon him and God’s seeming unfaithfulness. God’s tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, “I am with you.”

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21
Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (SUNG)

\[
\text{Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?}
\]

\[
\text{You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.}
\]
GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew, the Sixteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor José Lebrón

A moment of silent meditation follows the sermon.

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY: Will You Come and Follow Me (Vs. 1, 4,5) ELW 798

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living 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.

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

God of life, your words are the joy at the heart of your church. Draw the seeker to you, place messages of hope and healing in the mouths of your witnesses and open your children to your truth when we stumble. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

PEACE
The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

OFFERING
An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

The ushers will come forward and distribute the offering plates to the congregation.

OFFERTORY "Your Labor Is Not In Vain"

CONSECRATION OF THE OFFERINGS
The pastor will invite the blessing of the offerings. The ushers will bring the bread, wine, and offerings they have received to the altar.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE We Give Thee But Thine Own (Verses 1, 2) ELW 686

1 We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

2 May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive, and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our firstfruits give.

OFFERING PRAYER
God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
DIALOGUE (SUNG)
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY (SUNG)
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion assistants in the sanctuary and at home will say: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. and each person may respond Amen.
Those who would like to commune around the altar are invited to come up as the Communion music begins.

COMMUNION HYMN: *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* (Vs. 1, 2, 5) ELW 659

The assembly stands.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

BLESSING
The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and
   be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you
   and give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG: *The Church of Christ, in Every Age* (Vs. 1, 3, 5) ELW 729

THE COMMISSION

DISMISSAL
Go in peace. God is at work in you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

We Give Thee But Thine Own. Public Domain.

For the Beauty of the Earth. Public Domain.

Will You Come and Follow Me. Public Domain.


The Church of Christ in Every Age. Public Domain.