



A Service of Holy Communion

July 17, 2022

Year C, Proper II

Welcome to Trinity's gathered community! We are together on-site and online!

If you are at Trinity in person, please maintain appropriate distance and rest assured that this congregation supports anyone who wears a mask to reduce risk of infection. We continue to celebrate Holy Communion as we have been doing during the pandemic, with all participants holding their own bread and wine during the prayers and receiving communion in their seats. In this way, all participants on site and online will share the same practice. If you are not on site, rest assured that your presence online is felt and valued. **If you are watching the Live Stream, feel free to add comments, likes, etc. to the comment section at any time! If you are on site, feel free to use your mobile device to join the Facebook Live Stream to connect with other worshipers in the comment section. Just make sure your volume is all the way down!**

WiFi internet access is publicly available. Please feel free to log onto the "Trinity Open" network with the password "Welcome!"

During the summer, worship is outdoors, and the nursery is not open. There are many ways for children to keep quietly occupied. Feel free to let your child explore and enjoy being outdoors, and do not worry about their activity being disrespectful or disruptive.

Pick up a prayer stone as you come into the courtyard, and feel free to rub your prayers into the stone during the first part of the service. At the time of the community prayers, you will be invited to bring your stone and all your prayers to the altar.

When we don't have to practice social distancing, the people of Trinity Church gather around a table piled high with spiritual food, and there is a place for you and everyone at the table, whatever your religious practice may be. For now, even though we are not standing shoulder to shoulder for communion, we are gathered in Spirit sharing the bounty of faith. Trinity Church is a metropolitan house of prayer, a community of worship and spiritual inquiry, welcoming all people. Recognizing our common brokenness, yet rejoicing in the reconciling love of God through Jesus Christ, we nurture one another in our spiritual life together.

Trinity Church is an Episcopal Church and a member parish of the Diocesan Partnership of Western New York and Northwest Pennsylvania in the United States and is a part of the Anglican Communion, which is based in England but found worldwide. If you would like to learn more about Trinity, see all our contact information on the last page.

CENTERING PRAYER

Let us pray responsively.

This church is a field where mustard seeds are planted.

Oh, God, let our small faith grow.

This church is a loaf leavened with your hope.

Oh God, let our trust rise with your Spirit.

This church is prepared for a banquet.

**Oh, God, let us come dressed in the garment of love,
which holds all together in harmony. Amen.**

*Cover image:
Abraham and the
Three Angels by
Marc Chagall, 1966*

*This centering prayer
was written by Matt
Lincoln, based on
a quotation from
Tirabassi & Grant,
An Improbable Gift
of Blessing.*

OPENING HYMN

"MORNING HAS BROKEN"

Unison or harmony

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird. _____
 like the first dew - fall on the first grass. _____
 born of the one light E - den saw play! _____

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
 Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
 Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word! _____
 sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass. _____
 God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day! _____

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965), alt., Copyright © by permission of David Higham Associates Limited, London. Music: *Bunessan*, Gaelic melody; harm. Alec Wyton (b. 1921) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

FIRST READING

GENESIS 18:1-15

The Bible readings are taken from The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation by Priests for Equality.

Nobody set out to write The Bible. The Hebrew Scriptures were created over many centuries by many people to record the Jewish People's experience of God. The same is true of the Christian Scriptures, some of which were letters written to a specific audience in response to specific needs—and were then found to be helpful to the faithful even after fulfilling their original purpose.

God appeared to Abraham by the oak grove of Mamre, while Abraham sat at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. Looking up, Abraham saw three travelers standing nearby.

When he saw them, Abraham ran from the entrance of the tent to greet them; and bowing to the ground, said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, please do not pass by our tent. Let some water be brought, that you may bathe your feet, and then rest yourselves beneath this tree. As you have come to your faithful one, let me bring you a little food, that you may refresh yourselves. Afterward, you may go on your way."

"Very well," they replied, "do as you have said."

Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quick—take a bushel of fine flour and knead it into loaves of bread." Abraham then ran to the herd, selected a choice and tender calf, and sent a worker hurrying to prepare it. Then Abraham took cheese and milk and the calf which had been prepared, and placed it before the travelers; and he waited on them under the tree while they ate.

"Where is Sarah?" they asked. "There in the tent," Abraham replied. One of them said, "I will surely return to you this time next year, and Sarah will then have a child." Sarah was listening at the entrance of the tent, just behind him.

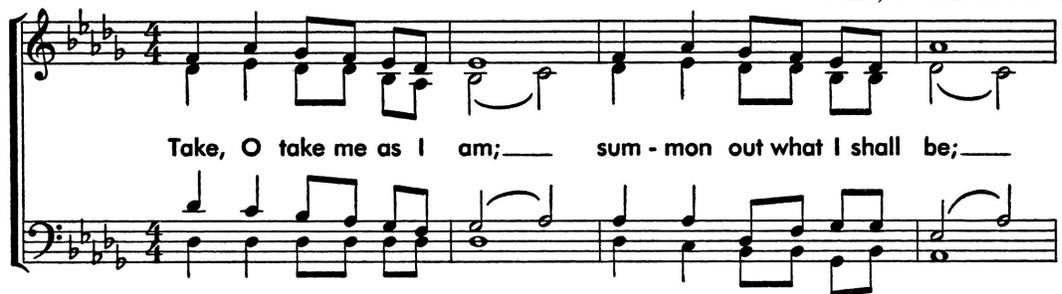
Now Sarah and Abraham were old, well on in years, and Sarah no longer had her periods. So Sarah laughed to herself and said, "Now that I am so old and my husband even older, is pleasure to come my way again?" God said to Abraham, "Why does Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really deliver a child, at my age?' Is anything too extraordinary for God to do? At the appointed time, at this time next year, I will return to you, and Sarah will have a child." Sarah was afraid, and said, "I didn't laugh." God said, "Oh, but you did indeed laugh!"

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

"Take, O take me as I am"



Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

This echo comes to us from the Iona Community. Tune: © 1995, The Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent Text: © 1995, The Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

MIDDLE READING

The moment when, after many years
of hard work and a long voyage
you stand in the centre of your room,
house, half-acre, square mile, island, country,
knowing at last how you got there,
and say, I own this,

is the same moment when the trees unloose
their soft arms from around you,
the birds take back their language,
the cliffs fissure and collapse,
the air moves back from you like a wave
and you can't breathe.

No, they whisper. You own nothing.
You were a visitor, time after time
climbing the hill, planting the flag, proclaiming.
We never belonged to you.
You never found us.
It was always the other way round.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

ECHO

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GOSPEL READING

As they traveled, Jesus entered a village where a woman named Martha welcomed him to her home. She had a sister named Mary, who seated herself at Jesus' feet and listened to his words.

Martha, who was busy with all the details of hospitality, came to Jesus and said, "Rabbi, don't you care that my sister has left me all alone to do the household tasks? Tell her to help me!"

Jesus replied, "Martha, Martha! You're anxious and upset about so many things, but only a few things are necessary—really only one. Mary has chosen the better part, and she won't be deprived of it."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

ECHO

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SERMON

MUSICAL REFLECTION

"THE MOMENT" BY MARGARET ATWOOD

"Take, O take me as I am"

LUKE 10:38-42

"Take, O take me as I am"

THE REV. MATT LINCOLN

The Middle Reading fills the role of a Bible reading, but it doesn't come from the Bible. It is our way of trying to listen for God's ongoing word as it is spoken outside the limits of the Bible. Most often, we turn to contemporary poets for this reading.

Margaret Atwood (b. 1939) is a Canadian poet, novelist, literary critic, essayist, teacher, environmental activist, and inventor. She has published many novels, books of poetry, and non-fiction and children's books. A number of her works have been adapted for film and television. She has received two Booker Prizes and many other awards. She is a founder of the Griffin Poetry Prize and the Writers' Trust of Canada. She is also a Senior Fellow of Massey College, Toronto.

The four Gospels hold the core of Christian spiritual wisdom, reflecting the earliest stories and images of Jesus. Like all Scripture, they are not definitive prescriptions but narrative stories requiring endless interpretation.

The sermon invites your curiosity and thoughtfulness about the theme of worship, and is intended to evoke your thoughts rather than direct them. A recording of the sermon is posted to the parish website each week, usually by Tuesday.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We affirm our faith in one God -
Source of all life,
greater than all names and forms,
source of our being,
closer than any.
Upon this one God
we depend for all we are
and for all that ever will be.**

This affirmation comes from the Church of South India, which, along with the Episcopal Church, is a member of the Anglican Communion. Like the Nicene Creed that it reflects, it is an expression of faith intended as a symbol of solidarity with other Christians throughout history but not as a pledge of allegiance required for membership.

**And we affirm our faith in Christ -
Who has shown us the way to true Life
by breaking the chain of human bondage,
through his self-giving life and death
and by his rising again,
he has given us hope for a new humanity,
hope for the healing of earth's life.**

**And we affirm our faith in the living Spirit of God -
Through whom we awaken to God's purpose for the world,
and share in the freedom, joy and peace of the children of God.
For by his Spirit God's love has flooded our lives,
shaping us into a community of forgiven and freely accepted
brothers and sisters set apart for God's service,
and risen with Christ we share in his work for God's world
of everlasting life, justice and peace. AMEN.**

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Now that we are outdoors, we can use a prayer practice that has been much loved by the Trinity community over the years. As these prayers are offered aloud, feel free to bring your prayer stone to the altar and leave it there as an act of intercession.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

God of love, we pray for your church: For all who seek you in the community of the faithful. Equip us with compassion and love, to carry out your work of reconciliation in the world. God of love,
Hear our prayers for the church.

God of freedom, we pray for our nation, and all the nations of the world: For peace and unity across barriers of language, color, and creed; for elected and appointed leaders, that they would serve the common good. Inspire all people with courage to speak out against hatred, and unite the human family in bonds of love. God of freedom,
Hear our prayers for the world.

This version of community prayers was created as part of the ongoing work of liturgical revision in the Episcopal Church.

God of justice, we pray for the earth, your creation which you entrusted to our care. Move us to protect the earth and all its resources, that we may leave the legacy of beauty and abundance that you have given us. God of justice,

Hear our prayers for the earth.

God of peace, we pray for this community: For our local leaders and our neighborhoods and workplaces. Kindle in every heart a desire for equality, respect, and opportunity for all. Help us to be instruments of peace, beginning here at home. God of peace,

Hear our prayers for this community.

God of mercy, we pray for all in any need or trouble: For those whose lives are closely linked with ours, and the whole human family. For refugees and prisoners; for the sick and suffering, the lonely and despairing; for those facing violence; for all held down by prejudice or injustice. Awaken in us compassion and humility, as we seek and serve Christ in all persons. God of mercy,

Hear our prayers for all who are in need.

God of grace, we pray for those who have died: For the faithful in every generation who have worked for justice; for prophets who called us to racial reconciliation; for martyrs who died because of hatred; and for all the communion of saints. Inspire us to proclaim your Good News, by word and example, and bring us at last into the glorious company of the saints in light. God of grace,

Hear our prayers for those who have died. Amen.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, an - swer me. O

Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O

This chant comes from the monastery in Taizé, France.

Words and Music - ©1982 Taizé, Les Presses de (North America) Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taizé

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Now would be a great time to add a comment to the Live Stream!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY HYMN

“BE NOW MY VISION”

Unison

Your financial support is not only a practical necessity. It can also be a very meaningful symbolic gesture, expressing your gratitude for the blessings in your life and your hope for health in the world. You can place cash or a check in the big blue urn at the head of the aisle or [donate online here](#), or initiate an online donation by texting TRINITYBUFFALO to 73256. You can also get there by scanning this QR code:



1 Be now my vi - sion, O God of my heart;
 2 Rich - es I need not, nor life's emp - ty praise,
 3 Sov - ereign of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

noth - ing sur - pass - es the love you im - part—
 you, my in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, bright heav - en's Sun!

You my best thought, by day or by night,
 You and you on - ly are first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, your pres - ence my light.
 great God, my trea - sure, may we nev - er part.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

This Eucharistic Prayer is adapted from Steven Shakespeare's Prayers For An Inclusive Church.

Eternal God, in the abundance of your love you have caused all things to be; from dust and spirit you have woven our humanity; in all our wanderings you never cease to call us to fullness of life. **You gave us Jesus, son of Mary, the bread of life broken for the world;** he fed us and feasted with us, he healed us and suffered for us; **his dying and rising have set us free from the poverty of sin and the famine of death.** Therefore, with all whom you have made, cherished and called, with all who hunger for your kingdom and will not rest until all your children are fed, with the broken saints and redeemed sinners of all the ages, we take up the song of your praise:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo -

ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the One who comes in the name

of the Lord, of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high -

est, ho - san - na in the high - est

*Sanctus from
Lift Every Voice
and Sing*

At the following words, everyone lifts their communion elements into view.

We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon us and upon these gifts that they may be to us the body and blood of our lord and brother, Jesus Christ; who, on the night that he was betrayed, gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.

Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: **“This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.”**

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: **“This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.”**

Therefore we proclaim him as creation’s host, transforming poverty into plenty in the reckless generosity of love.

Inspire us with the hope that one day death and greed will be no more and people without number will come from east and west, north and south to share the kingdom meal. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom and in whom in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory are yours, Author of blessings, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Now, as Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**God, who cares for us,
The wonder of whose presence fills us with awe.
Let kindness, justice and love shine in our world.
Let your secrets be known here as they are in heaven.
Give us the food and the hope we need for today.
Forgive us our wrongdoing
as we forgive the wrongs done to us.
Protect us from pride and from despair
and from the fear and hate which can swallow us up.
In you is truth, meaning, glory and power,
while worlds come and go.
Amen.**

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.

Were not our hearts burning within us as we walked along the road?

RECEIVING COMMUNION

During a moment of quiet, all receive their bread and wine while remaining where they are. In a few minutes, someone will come by with a tray to collect your cup.

PRAYER FOR THE ROAD

Let us pray:

**Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and remembering the body of Christ,
which has been broken for the life of the world.
Now give us grace to trust that we are
a people forgiven, healed, renewed.
Give us the courage to proclaim your love to the world,
and to continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

We are following a pattern of going back and forth between using an alternative interpretation of the Lord’s Prayer for a few weeks and then using the traditional Prayer Book version for a few weeks.

This version of the Lord’s Prayer was written by Monica Furlong (1930-2003), a British author, journalist, and activist.

Jesus revealed a new, personal sense of relationship with God by addressing God as something like “Papa.” Always feel free to use your most meaningful name for God in saying the Lord’s Prayer.

The Prayer for the Road is from Prayers for an Inclusive Church by Steven Shakespeare.

BLESSING

Life is short. We do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love. Make haste to be kind. And may the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us, and who animates and guides us be with you now and always. **Amen.**

This blessing is based on the words of Henri Frederic Amiel (1821-1881).

HYMN

“JOYFUL JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE”

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
God Tran - scend - ent, Spi - rit, Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933) Copyright © reprinted with the permission of Charles Scribner's Sons. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music: *Hymn to Joy*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867), alt.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Our spiritual practice is renewed as we leave here and begin again to work the promises of the covenant.



Trinity is an Episcopal Church in the Diocesan Partnership of Western New York and Northwest Pennsylvania.

Facebook: [@Trinitybuffalo](https://www.facebook.com/Trinitybuffalo)

YouTube: [Trinity Church Buffalo](https://www.youtube.com/TrinityChurchBuffalo)

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Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick, Clerk
John Alduino
Erickson Contreras
Judy Fitzgerald
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Timothy Lane
Megan McElfresh
JoAnne Sundell
Jeffrey Tooke

CHOIR MEMBERS*

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Cheryl Fisher
Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick
Christina Kinney
Suzanne Fatta, Section Leader
Gretchen Brand
Sue Doherty
Laura Schleicher, Section Leader
Carol Siracuse
John Clayton, Section Leader
Dan Galley
Steve Shanley
Brandon Mecklenburg, Section Leader
Tom Owen
Ignacio Villa

* The choir takes a break during the summer.
They will return after Labor Day.

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Greeters: Chris Cuccia, Gretchen Brand
Readers: Emily Carlin, Jeffrey Tooke, Mark Michaud
Guest musicians: George Caldwell, piano; Bobby Militello saxophone
Communion cup collection: David Brand
Counters: Erickson Contreras, Ed Fries

All services are in person AND online:

Sunday @10:30am

In-person worship while live streaming on Facebook and YouTube. The Sunday online Live Stream service remains accessible as a video recording on Trinity's [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages after the service is over.

Sunday @7:00pm

Featuring poetry and jazz, in person in the Chapel and on Zoom on 1st and 3rd Sundays from now through Sept. We meet tonight at 7pm

Wednesday @Noon

Prayer and holy conversation, in person and on Zoom.

Thursday @7pm

The wisdom and fellowship of 12-Step recovery, in person and on Zoom.

Email your request for a [link to the Zoom worship services here](#).