



A Service of Holy Communion
May 22, 2022
Sixth Sunday of Easter

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 wear your mask, considering the fact that some of us may not be fully vaccinated or may have other vulnerabilities. We will celebrate Holy Communion as we have for the past year, 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. **As you watch 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!**

*Cover photo:
Buffalo skyline seen
from the vicinity of
Central Terminal,
source unknown.*

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

The nursery is now open and available. If your baby or toddler would be happier being able to crawl around and play in the care of our fully vaccinated nursery attendant, you can find the nursery by going through the door near the baptismal font in the front right corner of the church.

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 back cover.

PRELUDE

"**BESIDE STILL WATERS**" BY RAYMOND H. HAAN

CENTERING PRAYER

**We wake to the forgiveness of a new day.
We wake to the freedom to begin again.
We wake to the mercy of the sun's redeeming light.
Always new,
always gift,
always blessing.
We wake to the forgiveness of this new day.
Amen.**

*This centering prayer
is by John Philip
Newell from Praying
With The Earth.*

OPENING HYMN

"GATHER US IN"

D A C G Gm Dm

1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,

C G D A C G

van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;

Gm Dm C D C Gm D

brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.

A C D G A C

Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and

D G A D A C G

blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,

Gm Dm C D C Gm D

we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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.

FIRST READING

ACTS 16:9-15

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

Then one night Paul had a vision. A Macedonian stood before him and said, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." After this vision, we immediately made efforts to get across to Macedonia, convinced that God had called us to bring them the Good News. We put out to sea from Troas and set a course straight for Samothrace, and the next day on to Neapolis; from there we went to Philippi, which is one of the bigger cities in Macedonia and a Roman colony, and spent a few days there. On the Sabbath we went along the river outside the gates, thinking we might find a place of prayer. We sat down and preached to the women who had come to the gathering. One of them was named Lydia, a devout woman from the town of Thyatira who was in the purple-dye trade. As she listened to us, Christ opened her heart to accept what Paul was saying. After she and her household were baptized, she extended us an invitation: "If you are convinced that I am a believer in Christ, please come and stay with us." We accepted.

"My Sweet Lord"
was written by
George Harrison
and released in
November 1970.

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.

Mary Oliver (1935-2019) wrote verse that focused on the quiet occurrences of nature. In addition to such major awards as the Pulitzer and National Book Award, Oliver received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. Much of Ms. Oliver's writing is based on her beloved Cape Cod where she lived for 40 years with her life partner, the photographer Molly Malone Cook.

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

"My Sweet Lord"

My sweet Lord,___ ooh, my Lord, ooh, my Lord.
I real-ly want to see you. Real-ly want to be with you. Real - ly want to see you Lord but it takes
so long my Lord. My sweet Lord, ooh, my Lord, ooh, my Lord.

MIDDLE READING

"WHEN I AM AMONG THE TREES" BY MARY OLIVER

When I am among the trees,
especially the willows and the honey locust,
equally the beech, the oaks and the pines,
they give off such hints of gladness.

I would almost say that they save me, and daily.

I am so distant from the hope of myself,
in which I have goodness, and discernment,
and never hurry through the world
but walk slowly, and bow often.

Around me the trees stir in their leaves
and call out, "Stay awhile."
The light flows from their branches.

And they call again, "It's simple," they say,
"and you too have come

into the world to do this, to go easy, to be filled with light, and to shine."

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

see previous page

"My Sweet Lord"

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 14:23-29

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will be true to my word, and Abba God will love them; and we will come to them and make our dwelling place with them. Those who don't love me don't keep my words. Yet the message you hear is not mine; it comes from Abba God who sent me. This much have I said to you while still with you; but the Paraclete, the Holy Spirit whom Abba God will send in my name, will instruct you in everything and she will remind you of all that I told you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; but the kind of peace I give you is not like the world's peace. Don't let your hearts be distressed; don't be fearful. You've heard me say, 'I am going away, but I will return.' If you really loved me, you would rejoice, because I am going to Abba God, for Abba is greater than I. I tell you this now, before it happens, so that when it happens you will believe."

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

"Hallelujah Changes"

The musical notation consists of two staves of music in G clef, 4/4 time, and B-flat key signature. The first staff begins with a dotted half note followed by eighth notes. The second staff begins with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, corresponding to the musical rhythm.

SERMON

THE REV. MATT LINCOLN

MUSICAL REFLECTION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone, we live in God's Creation.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

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.

This affirmation comes from the United Church of Canada. 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.

Continued on next page

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus,
crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Amen.

COMMUNITY PRAYER

In today's prayers, words will alternate with music, giving you a chance to listen to the still, small voice only you can hear and to respond in the comment section if you wish.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift your hearts.

We pray for our neighbors who were killed last Saturday.

Roberta Drury, 32

Margus Morrison, 52

Andre Mackneil, 53

Aaron Salter, 55

Geraldine Talley, 62

Celestine Chaney, 65

Heyward Patterson, 67

Katherine Massey, 72

Pearl Young, 77

Ruth Whitfield, 86

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

For all those who have died in any incident of gun violence.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

For all those who have died in any incident of white supremacist violence.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

For survivors of gun violence and white supremacist violence.

Grant them comfort and healing.

Hear us, Lord.

For those who have lost loved ones to gun violence and white supremacist violence.

Grant them peace.

Hear us, Lord.

For those first responders who cared for the people traumatized by gun violence and white supremacist violence.

Protect and strengthen them.

Hear us, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Musical Response

Loving God, you have set us in families and clans, in cities and neighborhoods. Our common life began in a garden, but our destiny lies in the city. You have placed us in and around Buffalo. This is our home. Your creativity is on display here through the work of human hearts and hands.

We pray for Buffalo today—for the East Side and the West Side, North Buffalo and South Buffalo. We pray for people from the First Ward and the Fruit Belt. We pray for the wholeness and healing of our city, shattered by terrorism. We pray for all who grieve and all who have been traumatized or terrorized. We hope for their healing and offer our compassion, support, and neighborly companionship. We pray for this church and every spiritual community, that we may all be sources of comfort, wisdom, inspiration and courage.

Musical Response

We pray for neighboring communities from across our partnership: from Olcott to Olean, from Angola to Albion, from Erie to Edinboro, from Emporium to New Castle and a thousand other cities connected to our own.

Musical Response

In all our neighborhoods this day we will fall short of your call to us; there will be people unable or unwilling to see the human dignity of all their neighbors. Yet, there will also be beautiful acts of compassion and creativity in all these places—forgiveness and generosity; neighbors working together to restore and rebuild a more just community.

Help us see this place as something other than a battleground between us and them, where our imaginations are limited by win/lose propositions and endless rivalry. Show us a deeper reality, God: Show us your Beloved Community.

Musical Response

We pray for the protection of all people around the world from the coronavirus, and for those who care for the sick, for those who are helping us all get vaccinated, for those who have taken great personal risks to maintain the wellbeing and safety of others throughout the pandemic. We pray also for all others who are sick or lonely, all who are overwhelmed by difficult circumstances, or trapped

in harmful relationships. We pray for all who grieve, and all who live in fear. We pray for all who are dependent on the compassionate care of others, and for those who work tirelessly to care for the ones who are in need.

Finally, on this Rogation Sunday, we pray for the health of our environment in all its complexity. Give the human race the humility, wisdom and will to live within the balance of nature, not seeking domination or infinite gratification, but life, life in shared abundance and health.

Prosper our city, and help us to trust that you are God; we pray in the name of the one who wept over the Holy City, Jesus Christ, our Lord **Amen**.

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

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:



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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"QUIETLY, BENEATH THE DARK EARTH" TEXT BY S.R. LEE
MUSIC BY DON MICHAEL DICIE

*Quietly, beneath the dark earth wait the seeds till spring shall come,
When a stirring warmth shall waken those that need the aid of sun.
In the early change of season God plans much that must be done;
Now the seeds beneath the dark earth stir with strength, life to be won.*

*Slowly seedlings rise and strengthen early while the spring is cold,
Pale and tender, no uncurling, newly born and newly bold.
Sun will warm them as they strengthen, little leaves can now unfold,
Reaching skyward, God is leading toward a future yet untold.*

*Sturdy plants rejoice in living, spread their leaves and flowers wide.
Send their seeds to scatter freely toward dark earth where they confide
These new lives to lie in soft peace, waiting time that God provides;
Full grown plants, complete, accomplished, on His will have now relied.*

*When our lives seem in dark places, God is giving us a shield,
A protection from wild forces till the right time be revealed;
We will come forth when we're ready, God to praise, our lives unsealed.
We'll rejoice, our lives to strengthen, God's rich world to be our field.*

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.

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 Lord, God of power and
 might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
 full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. Bless'd is the one who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Sanctus from
Deutsche Messe
by Franz Peter
Schubert.*

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.

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 is by Parker J. Palmer, an American author, educator, and activist who focuses on issues in education, community, leadership, spirituality and social change. He has published ten books and numerous essays and poems, and is founder and Senior Partner Emeritus of the Center for Courage and Renewal.

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.

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:

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,

Holy and blessed is your true name.

We pray for your reign of peace to come,

We pray that your good will be done,

Let heaven and earth become one.

Give us this day the bread we need,

Give it to those who have none.

Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,

From each one to each one.

Lead us to holy innocence

Beyond the evil of our days —

Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.

For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:

Forever your name is All in One. 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.

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

“O HEALING RIVER”

1. O heal - ing riv - er, send down your
2. This land is parch - ing, this land is
3. Let the seed of free - dom, a - wake and

wa - ters, Send down your wa - ters up - on this
burn - ing, No seed is grow - ing in the bar - ren
flour - ish, Let the deep roots nour - ish, let the tall stalks

land. O heal - ing riv - er, send down your
ground. O heal - ing riv - er, send down your
rise. O heal - ing riv - er, send down your

wa-ters, And wash the blood from off the sand.
wa-ters, O heal-ing riv-er, send your wa - ters down.
wa-ters, O heal-ing riv-er, from out of the skies.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, rejoicing in the power of the resurrection! Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

“SOFTLY AS IN A MORNING SUNRISE” BY SIGMUND ROMBERG & OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN

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

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

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Ignacio Villa

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Greeters: Chris Cuccia, Marie Keane
Readers: Chris Cuccia, Marie Keane, Jeffrey Tooke
Guest musician: Matt Harris, saxophone
Counters: Joanne Sundell, Erikson Contreras

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.

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](#).