

A Service of Holy Communion

January 30, 2022

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

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!

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

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.

PRELUDE

"PEOPLE OF GOD" (EARTH AND ALL STARS) BY KEITH KOLANDER

CENTERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

**God in the darkness, God beyond our knowing,
patient creator, seed in secret growing,
rock of the living water ever flowing
come and renew us.**

**God in the darkness, God in all our grieving,
friend of our tears, companion never leaving,
drawing us past the limits of believing;
come and renew us.**

**God in the darkness, God of holy dreaming,
giver of hope, and pledge of our redeeming,
Spirit of truth, our memory and meaning;
come and renew us. Amen.**

*Centering Prayer
by Elizabeth Joyce
Smith. Smith, an
Anglican priest in
Australia, is best
known as a feminist
hymnologist who
uses inclusive
language and non-
hierarchical images
in her writing.*

OPENING HYMN

“People of God, gather together”



1 Peo - ple of God, ga - ther to - ge - ther, come, let us
 2 Hear - ing God's word, heed - ing the mes - sage, come and re -
 3 Bear - ing your gifts, en - ter God's pre - sence; come, let us
 4 Wo - men and men, har - mo - ny blend - ing, come, swell the



sing on this glo - rious day. Shout - ing a - broad
 joy as we an - swer the call. With one ac - cord,
 share in the hea - ven - ly feast. Mend - ing all rifts,
 cho - rus in lov - ing ac - cord. Rais - ing a - gain



praise to the Mak - er, come and with bo - dy and soul let us pray.
 made in God's im - age, come in com - mu - ni - ty, wel - com - ing all.
 heal - ing di - vi - sions, come and from sor - rows and hurts be re - leased.
 thanks ne - ver end - ing, come to the God who is Wis - dom and Word.

Refrain



Come, let us join in the hea - ven - ly dance,



prais - ing in joy - ous ce - le - bra - tion.

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FIRST READING

I CORINTHIANS 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy

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

Continued on next page

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.

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only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

“Tui amoris”

Ho - ly Spi - rit, come to us, kin - dle in us the flame of your love.

Ho - ly Spi - rit, come to us, Ho - ly Spi - rit, come to us.

MIDDLE READING

“SAVIOR” BY MAYA ANGELOU

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.

Maya Angelou (1928-2014) was a writer and civil rights activist, and also an actor, screenwriter, and dancer. Her most popular work may be her autobiography, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.

Petulant priests, greedy centurions, and one million incensed gestures stand between your love and me.

Your agape sacrifice is reduced to colored glass, vapid penance, and the tedium of ritual.

Your footprints yet mark the crest of billowing seas but your joy fades upon the tablets of ordained prophets.

Visit us again, Savior. Your children, burdened with disbelief, blinded by a patina of wisdom, carom down this vale of fear. We cry for you although we have lost your name.

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

see previous page

“Tui amoris”

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 4:21-30

In the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus read from the book of the prophet Isaiah, and began to say, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?”

He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown. But the truth is, there were many women who were widowed in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many who had leprosy in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.”

When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

see previous page

“Tui amoris”

SERMON

THE REV. MATT LINCOLN

MUSICAL REFLECTION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We trust in God, who is the source of all creation, seen and unseen.

We trust that God's divine life is conceived by God and was born in the human form of Jesus, through his mother Mary.

In his life, death and resurrection, Jesus embodied God's self-giving love for the world and God's will to regenerate life, and to reclaim us from the oblivion of death.

We trust that the Spirit of God is present in this world, in our hearts, and within the community of faith, guiding us into all truth and inspiring us to love as we have been loved, to create as we have been created.

Amen.

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, written by Matt Lincoln, is an adaptation of the Nicene Creed. Like the the creed on which it is based, 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. Participate at your own level of comfort.

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Today's invitation to pray for each other, the church and the world is based on the prayers of Walter Brueggemann and several others. 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.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

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 our poorest neighbors and for powerful people in banks and businesses downtown.

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 there will be crime and callous moneymaking; there will be powerful people unable or unwilling to see the vulnerable who are their neighbors. There will also be beautiful acts of compassion and creativity in all these places—forgiveness and generosity; neighbors working together for 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 well-being 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.

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.**

MUSICAL REFLECTION

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 ANTHEM

“LORD, WHO HAST FORMED ME” BY GEORGE HERBERT/ARLEN CLARKE

Lord, who hast formed me out of mud,
Redeemed me through thy blood,
And sanctified me to do good.

Purge all my sins done heretofore,
For I confess my heavy score,
And I will strive to sin no more.

Enrich my heart, mouth, hands in me
With faith, with hope and charity;
That I may run, rise, rest with thee.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Spirit of God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift your hearts to heaven

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

It is right to give thanks and praise to you, Holy God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You brought the world into being and declared it good; you made humankind in your image, and entrusted to us the stewardship of all creation. Therefore with the faithful who rest in Christ, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:



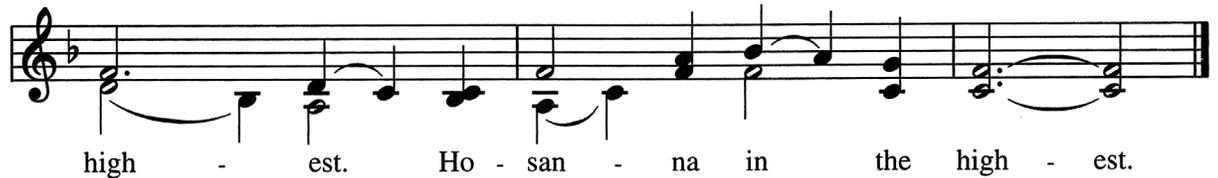
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is the One who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

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 from the Maori people of New Zealand.

Sanctus sung to the American traditional melody "Land of Rest" arr. Geoff Weaver



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

Despite our failings you showed us mercy. Through Torah and the voices of the prophets and poets, you called us to faithfulness and justice. You insisted that we remember the poor and marginalized, the orphan and the stranger. With infinite generosity you forgave us as we followed self-centered goals and ignored your invitation to love more broadly. Never abandoning us to the consequences of selfishness, you came among us and showed us the path of life.

Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your presence; love and fidelity the embrace of your grace.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and the discarded, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He pronounced the blessedness of peacemakers, all those who are willing to seek first your Kingdom and your righteousness. Jesus yearned to draw all of the world to himself, yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. We returned violence for his friendship, crucifixion for his self-offering. Yet even this you turned to blessing, and transformed his unjust death into the means of salvation.

Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your presence; love and fidelity the embrace of your grace.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said, **“Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”** As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, **“Drink this, all of you. This is my blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”**

Send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts. Let them be for us the Body and Blood of your Son. Send your Spirit upon us also, and grant that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may be filled with your life and goodness.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Gracious God, now and for ever.

Amen.

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

God, heart of the world:

**revealed through every aspect of creation,
understood through our awareness.**

**May we honor the holiness of creation and act accordingly
so that your love is reflected in the way we live.**

May we always be thankful for the food we eat and the friends we have.

**May we forgive those who transgress against us
and be forgiven for our own transgressions.**

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 Sherri J. Weinberg.

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.

**In the freedom of love may we live as your heartbeat
and not be compromised by hesitation.**

**Through our freedom, may your justice be seen and heard and experienced
forever and ever. 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.**

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

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).*

Continued on next page

HYMN

"LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING"

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are a gift from God's abundance to the world. You are not alone. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

“YOU'D BE SO NICE TO COME HOME TO” BY COLE PORTER

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

SEE INSERT FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

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TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Greeters: Joanne Sundell, Chris Cuccia, Phoebe McKay
Readers: Chris Cuccia, Patti Nisbet, Cameron Huckell
Guest musician: Harry Fackelman, saxophone
Counters: Joanne Sundell, Karen Hall

All services are in person AND online:

Sunday @10:30am Includes communion at an open table

Sunday @7:00pm An encounter with God through poetry, jazz, and meditation

Wednesday @Noon Rite 2 communion and coffee

Thursday @7pm 12steps@Trinity, based on 12-step spirituality