



A Service of Holy Communion
January 29, 2023
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

If you would like to receive more information about Trinity Church, please sign our guest book, located near the entrance. Everyone is welcome to enjoy refreshments and conversation after worship. Trinity Church is an Episcopal Church in the Diocesan Partnership of Western New York and Northwest Pennsylvania, and is a part of the Anglican Communion, which is based in England, but found worldwide.

Cover image:
"Hole in the Ground"
3-D street art by
Chris Carlson

This centering
prayer was
written by
Michael Leunig.

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

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. If you are at Trinity in person, know that this congregation supports anyone who wears a mask to reduce risk of infection. Please feel free to receive communion and participate in the service as fully as you want. If you are watching the Facebook Live Stream, you may add comments, likes, etc. to the comment section at any time! If you are on-site, you can use your mobile device to join the Facebook Live Stream to connect with other worshippers in the comment section. Just make sure your volume is all the way down! WiFi internet access is publicly available. Use the "Trinity Open" network with the password "Welcome!"

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. This communal worship service is many things, including an offering of your prayers. You may light a candle on one of the candle walls at any time during worship as a tangible way to make that prayer offering, or if you are online, request a candle lighting in the comments, and someone on-site will light a candle on your behalf. If you are not on-site, rest assured that your presence online is felt and valued.

Children, with all their sounds and movements, are a welcome part of the gathering for worship. It is perfectly appropriate to keep your kids with you in the pew. If your baby or toddler would be happier being able to crawl around and play in the care of our fully vaccinated nursery attendant, the nursery is also available. You can find the nursery by going through the door near the baptismal font in the front right corner of the church. Additionally, there is now a Kids' Corner in the back-right corner of the pews. It is an enclosed and safe space for small children (attended by their parents) to play quietly on the floor while staying in church. Please note that there is a changing table located in the nursery. Additionally, there is a room in the back left corner of the church that has a rocking chair where you can attend to your child.

Name tags are not required, but they sure help! You'll find sticky tags and markers on a table in the red carpet area near the entrance.

PRELUDE

*In the beauty of the morning, in the quiet of the night,
In the music of the forest and meadow blows His breath.
In the harvest of the orchard and vineyard blows the breath of God
Breath of God, everywhere you breathe,
There is love and mercy, life everlasting, breath of God.
In the tenderness of woman, in the dignity of man,
In the laughter of children at play there blows His breath.
In the caring for the stranger, in the weeping for the lost,
In the journey through the valleys and mountains blows the breath of God.*

"PRELUDE: "BREATH OF GOD"
ALTO SOLOIST: SUZANNE FATTA

CENTERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Dear God,
We struggle, we grow weary, we grow tired.
We are exhausted, we are distressed, we despair.**

We give up, we fall down, we let go.
We cry. We are empty, we grow calm, we are ready
We wait quietly.
A small, shy truth arrives.
Arrives from without and within us.
Arrives and is born. Simple, steady, clear.
Like a mirror, like a bell, like a flame, like rain in summer
A precious truth arrives and is born within us. Within our emptiness.
We accept it, we observe it, we absorb it.
We surrender to our bare truth.
We are nourished, we are changed.
We are blessed. We rise up.
For this we give thanks. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Lord, make us servants of your peace”

*In spirit or in body,
the congregation
stands to sing
hymns.*

1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to
 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark

1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -
 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow
 3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing
 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -
 5 night to end - less day: Lord, make us ser - vants of your

1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.
 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

*Words: James
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based on prayer
att. Francis of
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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.

Contributor:
John Bell
Text: © 1987, GIA/
Iona Community /
WGRG

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.

FIRST READING

MICAH 6:1-8

“Come, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice! Listen to God’s indictment, you mountains and you enduring foundations of the earth; for God has a dispute with the people, and is putting Israel on trial. O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Give me an answer! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent Moses to lead you, and Aaron, and Miriam! My people, call to mind the plans devised by the ruler Balak of Moab, and how Balaam ben-Bear answered him! Remember the journey from Shittim to Gilgal, and recall how God brought you justice!”

“What shall I bring when I come before God, and bow down before God on high?” you ask. “Am I to come before God with burnt offerings? With year-old calves?

Will God be placated by thousands of rams or ten thousand rivers of oil?

Should I offer my firstborn for my wrongdoings—the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

Listen: God has already made abundantly clear what “good” is, and what God needs from you: simply do justice, love kindness, and humbly walk with your God.

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

“Take, O take”

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. _____

MIDDLE READING

“AUTOBIOGRAPHY IN FIVE SHORT CHAPTERS” BY PORTIA NELSON

Chapter 1

I walk down the street.
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk
I fall in.
I am lost ... I am helpless.
It isn't my fault.
It takes me forever to find a way out.

Chapter 2

I walk down the same street.
There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.
I pretend I don't see it.
I fall in again.
I can't believe I am in the same place.
but, it isn't my fault.
It still takes a long time to get out.

Chapter 3

I walk down the same street.
 There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.
 I see it is there.
 I still fall in ... it's a habit.
 my eyes are open
 I know where I am.
 It is my fault.
 I get out immediately.

Chapter 4

I walk down the same street.
 There is a deep hole in the sidewalk.
 I walk around it.

Chapter 5

I walk down another street.

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

see previous page

“Take, O take”

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the mountainside, and after he sat down and the disciples had gathered around, Jesus began to teach them:

“Blessed are those who are poor in spirit:
 the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Blessed are those who are mourning: they will be consoled.

Blessed are those who are gentle: they will inherit the land.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice:
 they will have their fill.

Blessed are those who show mercy to others:
 they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are those whose hearts are clean: they will see God.

Blessed are those who work for peace:
 they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of their struggle for justice: the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

“You are fortunate when others insult you and persecute you, and utter every kind of slander against you because of me. Be glad and rejoice, for your reward in heaven is great; they persecuted the prophets before you in the very same way.”

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

see previous page

“Take, O take”

Portia Nelson (1920 – 2001) was an American popular singer, songwriter, actress, and author. In 1965, she portrayed the cantankerous Sister Berthe in the film version of The Sound of Music. Her book of poetic musings, There's a Hole in My Sidewalk: The Romance of Self-Discovery, became a mainstay of twelve-step programs.

It is customary (but not required) to stand for the Gospel reading because it symbolizes the mystical presence of Christ.

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.

In spirit or in body, please stand.

This creed 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. Participate at your own level of comfort.

These prayers are an effort to pray with one voice even though we have a diversity of needs and hopes.

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.**

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

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 all who are in danger of violent attack. 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. We pray for our beautiful planet, and for the wisdom and will to stop climate change.

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"MICAH BLUES" BY KYLE PEDERSON
TENOR SOLOIST: JOHN CLAYTON

*Do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with our God.
Show mercy, grow compassion, and live and love and humbly walk with God.*

*Let others be the clanging cymbal, let others have their boast or brag.
Let others claw and cling to the things their eyes see,
But let me walk so humbly with Thee.*

*Let others know the pull of fortune, let others know the thrill of fame,
But as for me, Lord, give me the strength and humility to walk only and humbly with Thee.*

SHARING THE OPEN TABLE

All are welcome to receive Communion at Trinity Church. No Exceptions!

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 God thanks and praise.

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:



In spirit or in body, please stand.

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:

*From
Deutsche Messe
by F. P. Schubert*

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.



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

For those of you online, you may partake in communion using your own bread and wine or any substitutes that are meaningful to you.

For those in the building, you have several options: 1) stay in your place and receive communion from a communion kit that you picked up in the entrance to the church, or 2) bring a communion kit with you to the gathering near the altar and receive it in the company of others, or 3) come up to the altar and receive a piece of pita or a gluten-free rice cracker, or 4) come up, receive a piece of pita and ask the celebrant to dip it in the chalice so you can receive the wine as well.

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.

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

“COMMUNITY OF CHRIST”

*In spirit or
in body, the
congregation
stands to sing
hymns.*

1 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, who make the Cross your own,
2 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, look past the church's door
3 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, through whom the word must sound—
4 When men-ace melts a - way, so shall God's will be done,

live out your creed and risk your life for God a - lone:
and see the ref - u - gee, the hun - gry, and the poor.
cry out for jus - tice and for peace the whole world 'round:
the cli - mate of the world be peace and Christ its Sun;

*Contributors:
Shirley Erena
Murray
Text: © 1992,
Hope Publishing
Company*

The God who wears your face, to whom all worlds be - long,
 Take hands with the op - pressed, the job - less in your street,
 Dis - arm the powers that war and all that can de - stroy,
 Our cur - ren - cy be love and kind - li - ness our law,

whose chil - dren are of ev - ery race and ev - ery song.
 take towel and wa - ter, that you wash your neigh - bor's feet.
 turn bombs to bread, and tears of an - guish in - to joy.
 our food and faith be shared as one for ev - er - more.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to follow the way of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

“ENVOY” BY KRISTA SEDDON

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Discussion Group: Church – A Community Called for the Future

On **Wednesdays @7pm**, Tim Lane and Jeffrey Tooke are facilitating discussions on this program from *The Work of the People*. Each week we watch a short video and discuss issues about how congregations and the church can be a life-giving and life-sustaining body responding to the Spirit amongst us.

Join Tim and Jeff this **Wednesday, February 1 @7pm** using the zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81668634672?pwd=eTVJZXFoNzVYdHZvSHZONGlNUUowZz09>

Meeting ID: 816-6863-4672 Passcode: trintalk

If you have questions about the group, please send an email to Jeffrey Tooke at jeffreytooke@outlook.com.

Shoe Fundraiser

We continue to collect gently used footwear until we have a pickup date from funds2orgs.com. So please take another look and bring in those shoes! They can be placed in the labeled collection bin in the Red-Carpet area on Sunday mornings. Please contact Erickson at ehc@buffalo.edu with questions. Thanks to all who've donated shoes!

Friendraising & Fundraising Meeting on February 2

Our next meeting is on **Thursday, February 2 @7pm** on Zoom. Please consider joining us to plan events to raise funds and bring our congregation together. Are all welcome. Please contact Erickson at ehc@buffalo.edu with questions or for the Zoom meeting link.

First Sunday Brunch

Next week following the 10:30 service, join Trinity friends for brunch at Mexican restaurant Taqueria Ranchos Dos. Located at 445 Delaware Ave (between Edward and Virginia Streets), the restaurant is north 1 1/2 blocks walking distance from the church. Street parking on Delaware. No reservations required! Just come. Or even better, invite someone to join you. We'll gather in the back dining room to enjoy traditional Mexican dishes in a colorful, welcoming space in the good company of one another. Hasta la vista!

Mutual Aid and Emergency Preparedness - Initial Response Training

Join our friends at Clean Air Coalition of WNY on **Thursday, February 9** from 12-5 here at Trinity Church for a training to strengthen our community's mutual aid responses to emergencies and to learn life-saving medical skills with trainers from Erie County Department of Health. The training will cover the basics of mutual aid during disaster response as well as emergency medical response, like how and when to use Narcan, how to do hands-only CPR, and how to "Stop the Bleed." Childcare and lunch will be provided. If you need additional accommodation, such as translator services, please contact us. Registration is required and is capped at 15 people. Visit <https://bit.ly/3CollLu> to register today or reach out to Bridge Rauch at bridge@cacwny.org.

Love Letters Performance by the Fantinis, Friday, February 10

Elaine & John Fantini are performing A. R. Gurney's play, *Love Letters*, at Trinity. The play is a funny and emotional portrait about the powerful connection of love. Two friends, rebellious Melissa Gardner and straight arrow Andrew Makepeace Ladd III, have exchanged notes, cards, and letters with each other for over 50 years. Beginning in second grade and well into adulthood, they have spent a lifetime discussing their hopes and ambitions, dreams and disappointments, and victories and defeats. Long after the letters are done, the real question remains: Have they made the right choices, or is the love of their life only a letter away? **Friday, February 10 @7pm** in the chapel. (doors will open at 6:30.) Tickets are \$25, available by clicking [here](#) or use the QR code. All proceeds benefit Trinity.



Trinity Spaces for Rent

Our church has work spaces available for rent at both 371 and 393 Delaware Ave. We hope to rent to groups or individuals that share our vision of community betterment. We also have coveted downtown parking space available on Franklin Street. We are hoping to rent the entire 75 spaces, which are available Monday-Friday until 5pm, to one group. If you know someone that would be a good fit, please share this QR code which links to a webpage description at <https://www.trinitybuffalo.org/trinity-center-rentals>.



Friends of Night People

We are looking for volunteers to help out at Friends of Night People, which provides food, clothing, medical care, counseling and other necessities to people in our community experiencing homelessness and poverty. We would love to have you join us on the **second Monday** of each month from 4:45-7. For more information, please speak to Emily Carlin or email: emily.g.carlin@gmail.com

Worship Helpers Needed

If you are planning to attend the 10:30am Sunday service in person and would like to be involved with reading from the altar or greeting people at the door and helping direct them with what to expect, please sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c4fafa629a3f58-trinity2>. If you are interested in being more involved but aren't interested in either of these roles, you can also plan on helping during services by bringing a device to connect to Facebook viewers and respond to comments during the service.

Visiting Trinity

The church is open by appointment for private prayer or meditation. Contact our parish administrator, Colleen O'Neill, at coneill@trinitybuffalo.org to schedule an appointment.

Sign up [here](#) to get Trinity's eNews to stay in touch!



Announcements continue on page 15



Vestry 2023 Elections and Annual Meeting on Sunday Feb 5

It's time to vote for our new Vestry members. You can do so now through **Sunday, Feb 5 @noon**. Everyone who considers themselves to be a member of Trinity is welcome to vote. This year we are electing one warden and four vestry members. Be sure to attend the annual meeting on **February 5 @11:30am** to learn what's been going on at Trinity.

Go to: <https://www.kindridgiving.com/App/Form/633f55bc-7f81-4ff1-9265-8c11c9986108> to vote or scan the QR code.



You may notice that there are the same number of candidates as there are vestry openings. It is still important that you take the time to vote. Your vote indicates that you do support these people representing you on the vestry.

John Alduino, Jr. Warden Candidate

I have been attending Trinity since 2017. Prior to moving to Western New York, I lived in several places in Ohio and was very active in Episcopal church life serving as Senior Warden in Xenia, Ohio and on Vestries in Springfield, Worthington, and Youngstown. I am currently semi-retired and work part-time as the Community Outreach Coordinator for the WNY BloodCare Foundation. I have over 30 years of executive non-profit public health experience. I live in the Town of Tonawanda with my wife Amy and 14-year-old Jamie. I currently serve as President of the Ken-Ton Kiwanis, on the boards of Friends of Youth and the Center of Glass and Light, and volunteer with Wheels for Workers 716.



Emily Carlin, Vestry Candidate

I'm a Buffalo native, and I have been a member of Trinity since moving back to Western New York in 2017. I majored in logic at Smith College and have master's degrees in philosophy and information science from Indiana University and the University of Missouri. I'm the medical librarian for Sisters of Charity, Mount St. Mary's, and Niagara Falls Memorial Hospital. I live in Amherst with my husband Fan and our daughter Zoe.



Chris Cuccia, Vestry Candidate

Greetings! My name is Chris, and I currently live in the Elmwood Village. I was raised Roman Catholic and hadn't been to church in several years. Starting to visit churches in the neighborhood, I went to explore several faiths in the area before finding my way into the Church of the Ascension. My first day there, everyone was welcoming. I enjoyed the sermon and said to myself that I found my new home on Sunday. As my luck would have it, during coffee hour on my first day, it was announced that Ascension would close in the coming months. After Ascension's closing, I was briefly at the Church of the Good Shepherd, where I officially joined the Episcopal Church. They had no permanent priest at the time, so I went exploring for another parish in the area. This is when I went to Trinity one Sunday morning and have been here since. We have a great group at Trinity. I look forward to seeing everyone on Sunday, lighting candles for our folks online, and our monthly lunch after service.



Sue Doherty, Vestry Candidate

I have been a member of Trinity Church for over 40 years. I taught Sunday School for many years, volunteered with our major fundraisers; the White Elephant Sale and later our yearly auction. I traveled to El Salvador on three mission trips with other members of Trinity. Prior to the pandemic I was part of a group from Trinity that volunteered at Hamlin Park school. Currently I sing in our choir. As a docent with Explore Buffalo, I have started giving tours of our church—I think it is important to share our beautiful spaces with others! What initially attracted me to Trinity is also what keeps me here as a member: a welcome and inclusive community. No matter where you are in your spiritual journey there is a place for you here. As a vestry member I would like to work to welcome others in the community to experience our hospitality and beautiful campus.



Jeff Tooke, Vestry Candidate

I came to Trinity a few years ago while searching for a church after leaving a Catholic parish where I was part of the music ministry for nearly twenty years. Trinity has been a blessing and beacon of the inclusion of the Episcopal Church, and I am grateful that I have found a home at Trinity. Before the pandemic, I served as a reader and chalice bearer. Now I am the Cyber Sacristan ("the live streamer behind the curtain") for the Trinity morning service, a co-facilitator of the Trinity discussion group, and treasurer for the Center of Glass and Light.





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)

 [Instagram: @trinitychurch.buffalo](https://www.instagram.com/trinitychurch.buffalo)

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Sarah Caputi, Caretaker
Denise Lanzilotta, Caretaker
Jay Mpezos, Caretaker
Dale Worwa, Facility Cleaner

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Greeters: Phoebe McKay, Marie Keane
Readers: John Fantini, Carol Case Siracuse, Tom Owen
Guest musician: Harry Fackelman
Bakers: Phoebe McKay, Marie Keane
Counter: Kayla Kisenwether

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](#).

VESTRY

Kayla Kisenwether, Senior Warden
John Gillespie Jr, Junior Warden
Bing Sherrill, Treasurer
Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick, Clerk
John Alduino
Erickson Contreras
Judy Fitzgerald
Edward Fries
Timothy Lane
Megan McElfresh
JoAnne Sundell
Jeffrey Tooke

CHOIR MEMBERS

Laura Munson, Section Leader
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
Timothy Lane
Tom Owen
Ignacio Villa