



**A Service of Holy Baptism
and Holy Communion**

September 11, 2022

Year C, Proper 19

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.

*Cover image:
"By Water and the Holy Spirit" Linocut
by Matt Lincoln,
1992*

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

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

If you are at Trinity in person, know 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. **As you watch the Facebook Live Stream, feel free to 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 worshipers 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!"

This communal worship service is many things, including an offering of your prayers. Feel free to light a candle 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.

The nursery is 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. **Additionally, we now have 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.**

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.

PRELUDE

"ESTATE" (SUMMER) BY BRUNO MARTINO & JOEL SIEGEL

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.**

OPENING HYMN

"HOW LOVELY IS THY DWELLING PLACE"

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

1 How love - ly is thy dwell - ing - place, O Lord of hosts, to
 2 Be - side thine al - tars, gra - cious Lord, the swal - lows find a
 3 They who go through the des - ert vale will find it filled with
 4 One day with - in thy courts ex - cels a thou - sand spent a -

me! My thirst - y soul de - sires and longs with -
 nest; how hap - py they who dwell with thee and
 springs, and they shall climb from height to height till
 way; how hap - py they who keep thy laws nor

in thy courts to be; my ve - ry heart and
 praise thee with - out rest, and hap - py they whose
 Zi - on's tem - ple rings with praise to thee, in
 from thy pre - cepts stray, for thou shalt sure - ly

flesh cry out, O liv - ing God, for thee.
 hearts are set up - on the pil - grim's quest.
 glo - ry throned, Lord God, great King of kings.
 bless all those who live the words they pray.

Words: Para. of Psalm 84; sts 1-2, *The Psalm of David in Meeter*, 1650; sts. 3-4, Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944) Copyright ©1982, Carl P. Daw, Jr.
 Music: *Brother James' Air*, J. L. Macbeth Bain (1840?-1925) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

God said to Moses, “Go down, now! These people whom you led out of Egypt have corrupted themselves! In such a short time, they have turned from the way that I have given them, and made themselves a molten calf. Then they worshipped it and sacrificed to it saying, ‘Israel, here is your God, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!’” God then said to Moses, “I look at these people—how stubborn they are! Now leave me to myself so that my anger may pour out on them, and destroy them! But you I’ll make into a great nation.” Then Moses soothed the face of Yahweh, his God. “But why, my God, should you let your wrath pour out on these people whom you delivered from Egypt with great might, with a strong hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘Their God intended to destroy them all along, to kill them in the mountains, to erase them from the earth?’ Turn your back on your rage; reconsider the disaster you intended for your people. Do not forget Sarah and Abraham, Rebecca and Isaac, and Leah and Rachel and Jacob, your chosen ones, to whom you promised, ‘I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky; I will give to you all this land which I have promised—I will give it to your descendants, and they will enjoy its inheritance forever.’” So God relented, and the disaster that threatened the Israelites was forestalled.

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

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

ECHO

“Peace before us”

Peace be - fore us, peace be - hind us, peace
 un - der our feet. Peace with - in us, peace
 o - ver us, let all a - round us be peace.

This echo comes to us from the Iona Community. Words and Music - ©1987 GIA Publications, Inc.

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.

MIDDLE READING

I have had it with perfection.
 I have packed my bags,
 I am out of here.
 Gone.

As certain as rain
 will make you wet,
 perfection will do you
 in.

It droppeth not as dew
 upon the summer grass
 to give liberty and green
 joy.

“PERFECTION, PERFECTION” BY KILIAN McDONNELL, OSB

Perfection straineth out
 the quality of mercy,
 withers rapture at its
 birth.

Before the battle is half begun,
 cold probity thinks
 it can't be won, concedes the
 war.

I've handed in my notice,
 given back my keys,
 signed my severance check, I
 quit.

Kilian McDonnell, OSB (b. 1921), is a monk/theologian of Saint John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota. This poem is from his 2003 collection Swift, Lord, You Are Not, published when he was 82.

Hints I could have taken:
Even the perfect chiseled form of
Michelangelo's radiant David
squints,

the Venus de Milo
has no arms,
the Liberty Bell is
cracked.

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

ECHO

Love before us, love behind us,
love under our feet.
Love within us, love over us,
let all around us be love.

“Love before us”

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 15:1-10

Meanwhile, the tax collectors and the “sinners” were all gathering around Jesus to listen to his teaching, at which the Pharisees and the religious scholars murmured, “This person welcomes sinners and eats with them!”

Jesus then addressed this parable to them: “Who among you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, doesn't leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and search for the lost one until it's found? And finding it, you put the sheep on your shoulders in jubilation. Once home, you invite friends and neighbors in and say to them, ‘Rejoice with me! I've found my lost sheep!’ I tell you, in the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need to repent.

“What householder, who has ten silver pieces and loses one, doesn't light a lamp and sweep the house in a diligent search until she finds what she had lost? And when it is found, the householder calls in her friends and neighbors and says, ‘Rejoice with me! I've found the silver piece I lost!’ I tell you, there will be the same kind of joy before the angels of God over one repentant sinner.”

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

ECHO

Light before us, light behind us,
light under our feet.
Light within us, light over us,
let all around us be light.

“Light before us”

SERMON

THE REV. MATT LINCOLN

MUSICAL REFLECTION

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.

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.

HOLY BAPTISM

*Being baptized today:
John Richard Dill,
whose parents are
Katie and Ken, and
Brynlee Rose Weber,
whose parents are
Chelsea and George.*

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

The candidates are presented by their parents and sponsors (also referred to as godparents,) as follows:

I present John Richard to receive the sacrament of Baptism.

I present Brynlee Rose to receive the sacrament of Baptism.

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in Christian community?

I will, with God's help.

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

I will, with God's help.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Do you renounce the malice, fear, and greed in society that protect the power of the powerful while denying justice for God's most vulnerable people?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the disease, decay, and destruction that harm the creatures of God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the desires, distractions, and appetites that draw you from the love of God?

I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept God's gift of renewal and resurrection offered through Christ?

I do.

Do you put your whole trust in Christ's grace and love?

I do.

Do you promise to follow the way of Christ as the way of life?

I do.

Will you who are in this community of faith, encourage and support these persons in their life in Christ?

We will.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us speak in solidarity with the one who is entering into the covenant of Baptism.

Do you believe in the Triune God?

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

We believe 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, reclaiming us from the oblivion of death.

The Baptismal Covenant begins with six questions that follow a form that goes back to at least the fourth century. Although we understand the grace of God's unfailing love to be a gift that is given by God unconditionally, we also recognize that part of the gift is God's willingness to let us reject it. Thus we are also given the opportunity to accept it and commit ourselves to follow Christ in return.

*In spirit or in body,
please stand.*

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

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the sacrament of new birth.

Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Send them into the world in witness to your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant, O God, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The notion of God as three and yet one is a mystery that has nurtured the faith of the followers of Jesus from the earliest times. Originally described as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Trinity certainly transcends the limitations of gender and other aspects of our understanding of personhood. Yet many have experienced the presence of God as very personal. This affirmation is experimental, written by the rector.

The five questions above were created for the prayer book of 1979. They ask the question, "If you believe in God, what are you going to do about it?"

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. **Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.**

We thank you, O Lover of Souls, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in death. By it we share in resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. **Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Triune God.**

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

John Richard, Brynlee Rose, we baptize you in the Name of the Triune God, the Holy Three in One who both conceives and is conceived, and is present to us in the Holy Spirit.

Gracious God, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

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

“MY SHEPHERD WILL SUPPLY MY NEED” ARR. BY CHARLES ELKINS

*My Shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is His name;
In pastures fresh He makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake His ways,
And leads me for His mercies sake, in paths of truth and grace.
When I walk through the shades of death Thy presence is my stay;
One word of Thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand in sight of all my foes doth still my table spread.
My cup with blessings overflows, Thine oil anoints my head.
The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O May Thy house be mine abode, and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest while others go and come,
No more a stranger nor a guest but like a child at home.*

Please greet John Richard Dill, and his parents, Katie and Ken, and Brynlee Rose Weber, and her parents, Chelsea and George.

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:



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

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

Sanctus from Deutsche Messe by Franz Peter Schubert.

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

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

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:

**Our Father,* who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever 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?

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 what many of us grew up learning. It is also the version shared at the end of many 12 Step meetings.

Although it is important to stay fresh and engaged by the words of our prayers, it is also important to be reminded that we as individuals are part of a great cloud of witnesses who have been inspired to turn to God in prayer throughout the ages.

**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.*

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 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

“BE NOW MY VISION”

*Be now my vision, O God of my heart;
nothing surpasses the love you impart—
You my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.*

*Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,
you, my inheritance, now and always;
You and you only are first in my heart,
great God, my treasure, may we never part.*

*Sovereign of heaven, my victory won.
may I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!
Heat of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

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

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.*

POSTLUDE

"ALLEGRO FROM SONATA NO. 2" BY F. MENDELSSOHN

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

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Carol Siracuse
John Clayton, Section Leader
Dan Galley
Steve Shanley
Timothy Lane
Tom Owen
Ignacio Villa

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Greeter: Elaine Fantini
Baker: Susan Doherty
Readers: Judy Atkinson Miller, Tom Owen, John Fantini
Guest musician: Harry Fackelman, saxophone
Counters: Timothy Lane, Megan McElfresh

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 of the month.

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](#).