



trinity

@7

05.01.2022

welcome

Trinity @7 welcomes you in person and via Zoom. This is a time where we enjoy jazz combined with poetry and a thoughtful reflection. We're always glad to see you and to share this special time together. Even though some of us are in person and others on Zoom, we are one community for a little while. What joy!

No matter the venue, may you experience stillness when it is needed and much joy and laughter when they are needed, or perhaps when least expected. Besides beautiful music and words, we hope this evening brings you a little bit of peace.

We will continue to have a candle lighting time, either at a candle wall in the chapel or in your home.

At this time, we leave the decision up to you whether or not to wear a mask in the Chapel. Thank you.

welcome

a moment with nature

a centering prayer

Let us pray.

Awaken us to the mystery of being here.

Be with us as we enter the quiet immensity of our own presence.

May we have joy and peace in the temple of our senses, especially in our hearing.

Open us to the music we will hear this night.

Open us to the words that will be spoken.

Let us breathe in stillness.

Let us linger in a sense of calm.

Let us be fully present, here and now.

amen

interlude

[Nature365.tv](https://www.nature365.tv)
posts a daily video,
usually 30 to 60
seconds long, with
beautiful sound as
well as images.
Check it out.

Based on the poem
"For Presence" by
John O'Donohue.

A Love Story

by Jeanie Greensfelder

Gather your selves:
critical and kind,
scared and brave,
thoughtless and hurt.

Mistakes and failures
meet accomplishments.
Like loss and love,
they are a package.

Embrace it all.
Such a coming together
is what we came for.

interlude

Monet Refuses the Operation

by Lisel Mueller

Doctor, you say there are no haloes
around the streetlights in Paris
and what I see is an aberration
caused by old age, an affliction.
I tell you it has taken me all my life
to arrive at the vision of gas lamps as angels,
to soften and blur and finally banish
the edges you regret I don't see,
to learn that the line I called the horizon
does not exist and sky and water,
so long apart, are the same state of being.
Fifty-four years before I could see
Rouen cathedral is built
of parallel shafts of sun,
and now you want to restore
my youthful errors: fixed
notions of top and bottom,
the illusion of three-dimensional space,
wisteria separate
from the bridge it covers.
What can I say to convince you
the Houses of Parliament dissolve
night after night to become
the fluid dream of the Thames?

Jeanie Greensfelder is a retired psychologist and published author of three books of poems. Her website <https://jeaniegreensfelder.alhteam.com/index.php/about/> tells us, "Through her poetry, she seeks to understand herself and others on this shared journey, filled, as Joseph Campbell wrote, with sorrowful joys and joyful sorrows."

Lisel Mueller (1924 - 2020) was born in Hamburg, Germany. Her family fled the Nazi regime when she was 15 and emigrated to the US. She has translated volumes of poetry and authored numerous books of poetry. In 1996, she won the Pulitzer Prize.

I will not return to a universe
of objects that don't know each other,
as if islands were not the lost children
of one great continent. The world
is flux, and light becomes what it touches,
becomes water, lilies on water,
above and below water,
becomes lilac and mauve and yellow
and white and cerulean lamps,
small fists passing sunlight
so quickly to one another
that it would take long, streaming hair
inside my brush to catch it.
To paint the speed of light!
Our weighted shapes, these verticals,
burn to mix with air
and change our bones, skin, clothes
to gases. Doctor,
if only you could see
how heaven pulls earth into its arms
and how infinitely the heart expands
to claim this world, blue vapor without end.

interlude

Mist

by Jeanie Greensfelder

Come find me here
in the morning ocean fog.
My Monet eyes see
people appear and disappear
as they pass on the pier.
Neither gulls nor pelicans
feed on small fish.
That happens when
the sun shines and bait rises.
In mystery mist no one feeds
on anyone. Edges soften,
questions vanish, answers fade.
Peace reigns.
Come find me here.

interlude

An Excerpt from A Great Wagon

by Rumi

(translation by Coleman Barks)

Today, like every other day, we wake up empty
and frightened. Don't open the door to the study
and begin reading. Take down a musical instrument.

Let the beauty we love be what we do.
There are hundreds of ways to kneel and kiss the ground.
Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and rightdoing,
there is a field. I'll meet you there.

When the soul lies down in that grass,
the world is too full to talk about.
Ideas, language, even the phrase each other
doesn't make any sense.

The breeze at dawn has secrets to tell you.
Don't go back to sleep.
You must ask for what you really want.
Don't go back to sleep.
People are going back and forth across the doorsill
where the two worlds touch.
The door is round and open.
Don't go back to sleep.

interlude

reflection

interlude

brief silent meditation

the candle lighting

While Krista plays, feel free to light a candle at one of the walls. Let's do so
mindfully and one at a time, leaving space between you and the person in
front. If you're lighting a candle at home, do so as if you were in a sacred space.
You are.

Mowlana Jalaluddin Rumi (1207 – 1273) was born in Balkh (now Afghanistan). He was a poet, jurist, theologian, and Sufi mystic. Coleman Barks teaches at the University of Georgia and is one of the most renowned translators and interpreters of Rumi's work. Millions of copies of his ecstatic poetry have been sold in recent years.



closing prayer

Thank you, beloved Creator
for the abundance of your love.

When we ask, you respond.

When we seek, you guide.

When we knock, you show us that there never was a door.

Enable us, as we leave here tonight

to be loving guides,

courageous leaders,

and challenging servants.

amen

postlude

announcements

Special Guest on May 8

Kathy Spillman from Journey's End Refugee Services will join us at the 10:30 service on May 8 to talk about the local efforts to resettle evacuees from Afghanistan.

Journey's End Refugee Services, Inc. is a Christian community-based organization with the mission of welcoming refugees to provide them with the resources and support they need to become successful, active and contributing members of the Western New York Community.

If you recall, last summer, the Taliban took over Afghanistan, and the United States Armed Forces withdrew from the country after 20 years. That concurrence of events compelled the US to evacuate tens of thousands of Afghans to the States.

Buffalo has become home to approximately 500 Afghan evacuees. They left their homeland with only what they could carry so resettlement means setting up house completely anew.

Kathy will explain the progress of resettlement to date, and let us know why and how we should help. Thank you for making her feel welcome.

Eyewitness Bible: The Book of James

On **Wednesday evenings @7pm** Tim Lane and Jeffrey Tooke are facilitating *The Book of James* from the *Eyewitness Bible* series. We will explore the Book of James and look at the major themes found there by watching and discussing video monologues of eyewitness characters from the book.

On **Wednesday, May 4 @7pm**, we will explore faith and faithfulness as explained by James to understand that this theme is so crucial to James' thought process and through our study, gain a better understanding of the Book of James and the audience to whom it was written.

Join Tim and Jeff on Wednesdays @7pm using the Zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81668634672?pwd=eTVJZXFoNzVYdHZvSHZONG1N UUowZz09>

Meeting ID: 816-6863-4672

Passcode: trintalk

If you have any questions, email Jeffrey Tooke at jeffreytooke@outlook.com.

Free Books, Please Take Some Home

Please browse the bookshelf in the red carpet area and take home any books of interest. A new batch of books has replaced the old, so be sure to check out the bookshelves again.



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

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

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Thank you to Krista for the beautiful music.

Thank you to Matt Lincoln for bringing us together in every way he can imagine and then for being with us and reflecting from his heart.

Thank you to our host and readers.

Thank you to all the poets and musicians in the world who reflect life back to us in the most beautiful ways.

And of course, thank you.

Additional thanks to **Maria Geba** and **Jeff Wang** for allowing us to meet together on Zoom.

If you'd like to visit Trinity Church in person for some quiet contemplation or to view the stunning stained glass windows, you can schedule an appointment with the parish administrator Colleen O'Neill, coneill@trinitybuffalo.org.



Trinity has worked so hard during the pandemic to keep people's spiritual lives refreshed and engaged. We kept the whole staff on payroll. We learned how to make Trinity services available online, either with Zoom or Facebook live streaming or both. We've made a commitment to continue with our communities—online and in person. Your donation can be an expression of your gratitude for Trinity and all the blessings in your life and your hope for health in the world. You can [donate online here](#), or initiate an online donation by texting TRINITYBUFFALO to 73256, scan the QR code, or as you exit, you can make a contribution in the Big Blue Urn. Thank you for your participation and contribution. Peace.



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 Prayer and holy conversation

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