



trinity

@7

02.27.2022

Cover photo is the original cover of Effie Lee Newsome's book of poetry for African-American children, published in 1940 by The Associated Publishers. It is still available today. Ms Newsome is one of tonight's poets.

Nature365.tv posts a daily video, usually 30 to 60 seconds long, with beautiful sound as well as images. Check it out.

This is an excerpt of a prayer by Rex A. E. Hunt, a retired Uniting Church in Australia minister and founding director and life member of The Centre for Progressive Religious Thought.

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.

We will continue to follow the advice of the CDC for now and continue to wear masks while in church. Thank you.

welcome

a moment with nature

a centering prayer

Enter that still place within,
where we find not only our inmost selves,
but also our connection to that
creative and transforming mystery we call God.

(Silence)

We come into one another's presence seeking some part of ourselves,
knowing that we do not live alone,
knowing that we cannot live fully
if we are for ourselves alone.

We come as ordinary people,
each with strengths and each with weaknesses,
aware of our shortcomings.

Our lives set before us many tasks.

We are not always equal to them.

Too often we fall short of our best expectations of ourselves.

And yet, here we are,

not always perfect,

not always wise,

but always wondrously and mysteriously human.

May our time together renew our hope.

amen

interlude

Amen

by James Baldwin

No, I don't feel death coming.
I feel death going:
having thrown up his hands,
for the moment.
I feel like I know him
better than I did.
Those arms held me,
for a while,
and, when we meet again,
there will be that secret knowledge
between us.

interlude

Quotes from James Baldwin

You think your pain and your heartbreak are unprecedented in the history of the world, but then you read. It was books that taught me that the things that tormented me most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive, who had ever been alive."

interlude

Not everything that can be faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed that is not faced.

interlude

Once I found myself on the other side of the ocean, I see where I came from very clearly...I am the grandson of a slave, and I am a writer. I must deal with both.

interlude

A television interviewer once asked Baldwin to describe the challenges he faced starting his career as "a black, impoverished homosexual," to which Baldwin laughed and replied: "I thought I'd hit the jackpot."

interlude

James Baldwin (1924 – 1987) was an author of fiction and nonfiction, poetry and plays and piercingly honest social criticism. He grew up in New York City, but as a young man moved to Paris, then Istanbul. He returned to the United States to participate in the Civil Rights Movement. PBS says of Baldwin, "the eloquent voice of James Baldwin spoke of the pain and struggle of black Americans and the saving power of brotherhood."

Every white person in this country — I do not care what he says or what she says — knows one thing. ... They know that they would not like to be black here. If they know that, they know everything they need to know. And whatever else they may say is a lie.

interlude

My progress report
concerning my journey to the palace of wisdom
is discouraging.

I lack certain indispensable aptitudes.
Furthermore, it appears
that I packed the wrong things.

interlude

I imagine one of the reasons people cling to their hates so stubbornly is because they sense, once hate is gone, they will be forced to deal with pain.

interlude

As I Grew Older

by Langston Hughes

It was a long time ago.
I have almost forgotten my dream.
But it was there then,
In front of me,
Bright like a sun—
My dream.
And then the wall rose,
Rose slowly,
Slowly,
Between me and my dream.
Rose until it touched the sky—
The wall.
Shadow.
I am black.
I lie down in the shadow.
No longer the light of my dream before me,
Above me.
Only the thick wall.
Only the shadow.
My hands!
My dark hands!
Break through the wall!

James Mercer
Langston Hughes
(1902-1967) was
an American poet,
social activist and
novelist. He was
one of the earliest
innovators of the
then-new literary
art form called jazz
poetry, and he is
best known as a
leader of the Harlem
Renaissance.

Find my dream!
Help me to shatter this darkness,
To smash this night,
To break this shadow
Into a thousand lights of sun,
Into a thousand whirling dreams
Of sun!

interlude

The Bronze Legacy

by Effie Lee Newsome

'Tis a noble gift to be brown, all brown,
Like the strongest things that make up this earth,
Like the mountains grave and grand,
Even like the very land,
Even like the trunks of trees—
Even oaks, to be like these!
God builds His strength in bronze.
To be brown like thrush and lark!
Like the subtle wren so dark!
Nay, the king of beasts wears brown;
Eagles are of this same hue.
I thank God, then, I am brown.
Brown has mighty things to do.

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.

Effie Lee Newsome (1885 – 1979) was one of the first African American poets who primarily published poems for children. She was the author of one volume of poetry, *Gladiola Garden* as well as contributing poetry to the periodicals *The Crisis*, published by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and *Opportunity*, *Journal of Negro Life*, a publication of the Harlem Renaissance. Tonight's poem was published in the October 1922 issue of *The Crisis*.



This is an excerpt
of a prayer by
Rex A. E. Hunt.

closing prayer

As we reflect on the issues of this day in our wider world
may we honour the many ways in which
our sisters and brothers in many places
weave healing and hope into the world.
Together, may our common desires for peace
create within us the courage and opportunity
to work together toward such peace.

(Silence)

This is our prayer.

May it be so.

postlude

Window Restoration

Trinity has been awarded a \$500,000 grant to fund a Phase 1 restoration and accompanying protection measures for our beautiful historic stained-glass windows. A requirement of the grant is that Trinity participate financially in the Phase 1 restoration. Bruce Nisbet is inviting any interested person to join an initial brainstorming session to devise creative ways to find sources outside the church (foundations, etc.) to fund this requirement. This meeting will be virtual and is **@7PM on Monday, March 7**. Please let him know of your interest to participate in this very important effort at Nisbetb@shswny.org, and he will send you a link for the Zoom meeting. Thank you.

Bobby Militello Concert

Trinity's dear friend Bobby Militello is scheduled to play at PAUSA Art House on **Friday, March 18 @7PM**. Bobby wants to celebrate his birthday with music for his friends by holding a BIRTHDAY BASH! at this marvelous music club. Why don't we go? Ticket reservations are now available for purchase. Here's a fun and loving way to honor Bobby by showing up on March 18 to wish him a Happy Birthday. For details about this event and to secure reservations (only), please go to the club's link <https://www.showclix.com/event/bobby-militello-quartet-jan-281BYFYdL>.

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.

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 YouTube: [Trinity Church Buffalo](https://www.youtube.com/TrinityChurchBuffalo)

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www.trinitybuffalo.org • (716) 852-8314

371 Delaware Ave Buffalo, NY 14202

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.

A special thank you to Maria Geba and Jeff Wang for learning the camera set up for Zoom and being willing to step in when Matt is away.

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.

If you'd like to visit Trinity Church in person for some quiet contemplation or to view the stunning stained glass windows, the church is open for private prayer or meditation by appointment. You are required to sign a registry at the entrance to be used in the event contact tracing is necessary. For private visits, masks are not required if you are fully vaccinated. Contact our parish administrator, Colleen O'Neill, at coneill@trinitybuffalo.org to schedule an appointment.



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