

A Service of Holy Communion October 26, 2025 Year C, Proper 25

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 Diocese of Western New York and is a part of the Anglican Communion which is based in England but found worldwide.

Cover image: "Spider Woman's Sun Shield" photo by Matt Lincoln 2021

This centering prayer is by John Philip Newell, from his book, Praying With The Earth.

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. If you are onsite, you may light a candle on one of the candle walls at any time during worship as a tangible way to make a prayer offering for yourself or on behalf of those who are online. 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, there are Kids' Corners in both side aisles. These are enclosed and safe spaces for small children (attended by their parents) to play quietly on the floor while staying in church. Additionally, there is a room in the back left corner of the church that has a rocking chair and a changing table where you can attend to your child's needs. Also, just through the door near the baptismal font near the front-right side of the church, there is a staffed nursery, which is available for toddlers through age 5.

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

PRELUDE

"Air from Water Music" by G.F. Handel

CENTERING PRAYER

Let us pray responsively.

Clear our heart, O God, that we may see you.

Clear our heart, O God, that we may truly see ourselves.

Clear our heart, O God,

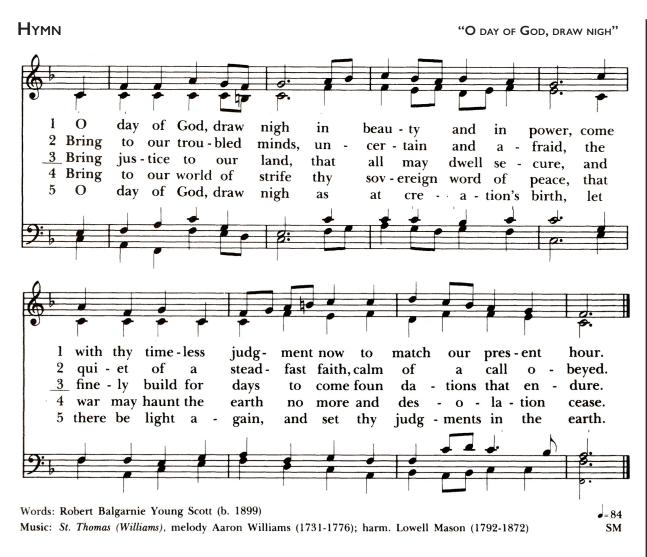
that we may know the sacredness of this moment

and in every moment seek you serve you strengthen you as the Living Presence in every presence.

Clear our heart, O God,

that we may see.

Amen.



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

JOEL 2:23-32

FIRST READING

ejoice, Children of Zion! Rejoice! Be glad in the Lord your God, who sends you rain the autumn and spring rains as of old and a new spring crop.

The threshing floors will be heaped with grain,

the vats will overflow with new wine and oil.

I will repay you for the years that were eaten away

by the locust swarm, the winged locust,

the scavenger locust, and the bark-stripping locust—

my great army, which I sent against you.

You will eat your fill and be satisfied,

and praise the name of your God, who has dealt wondrously with you!

My people will never again be put to shame!

You will know that I am in the midst of Israel,

and that I am your God, and there is no other.

My people will never again be put to shame!

After that, I will pour out my Spirit on all humankind.

Your daughters and sons will prophesy,

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.

your elders will have prophetic dreams, and your young people will see visions. In those days, I will pour out my Spirit even on those in servitude, women and men alike. I will show signs in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and pillars of smoke—the sun will be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood—at the coming of the great and terrible Day of God. But everyone who calls on the name of God will be rescued. For there will be a remnant on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem—this is Go

For there will be a remnant on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem—this is God's promise. Anyone who invokes the name of God will be among that remnant.

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

Thanks be to God.

Есно "My sweet Lord" My sweet Lord, Lord. Lord. ooh, my ooh. my I real- ly want to see you. Real-ly wan-na be with you. Real - ly wan-na see you, Lord but it takes I real-ly want to know you. Real-ly wan-na go with you. I real - ly wan-na show you,Lord that it won't Lord, Lord. sweet Lord, Lord. long my My my ooh, my take long Lord. My sweet Lord, ooh, my Lord, ooh, my Lord.

"My Sweet Lord" by George Harrison was released in November 1970.

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.

N. Scott Momaday was born in 1934 in Lawton, Oklahoma and is a member of the Kiowa Nation. A novelist, poet, playwright, teacher, painter, and storyteller, he is the first Native American to receive a Pulitzer Prize, and has received many other awards. In 2019, he was presented by Just Buffalo's Babel series.

MIDDLE READING

"BOTE-TALEE'S SHIELD" BY N. SCOTT MOMADAY

Bote-talee found the Spider Woman. In the early morning he went swimming. When he reached the bank he looked directly up into the sun. There, just before his eyes, was a spider's web. It was a luminous, glistening shield. Bote-talee looked at it for a long time. It was so beautiful that he wanted to cry. He wondered if it were strong as well as beautiful. He flung water upon it, heavy water, again and again, but it remained whole and glistened all the more. Then a sun spider entered upon the web. "Spider Woman," Bote-talee said, "Will you give me this perfect shield?"

"Bote-talee," said Spider Woman, "This is your shield."

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO "My sweet Lord" see above

GOSPEL READING LUKE 18:9-14

esus spoke this parable addressed to those who believed in their own self-righteousness while holding everyone else in contempt: "Two people went up to the Temple to pray; one was a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed like this: 'I give you thanks, O God, that I'm not like others—greedy, crooked, adulterous—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week. I pay tithes on everything I earn.'

"The other one, however, kept a distance, not even daring to look up to heaven. In real humility, all the tax collector said was, 'O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.' Believe me, the tax collector went home from the Temple right with God, while the Pharisee did not. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, while those who humble themselves will be exalted."

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO "My sweet Lord"

see previous page

SERMON The Rev. Matt Lincoln

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Affirmation of Faith
God of all power:
You made the world out of kindness,
creating order out of confusion;
you made each one of us
in your own image;
your fingerprint is on every soul.
So we praise you.

We have heard about you, Jesus Christ: the carpenter who left his tools and trade; the poor man who made others rich; the healer who let himself be wounded; the criminal on whom the soldiers spat not knowing that yours was the face of God; the savior who died and rose again. So we praise you.

We have heard about you, Holy Spirit:
You broke the bonds of every race and nation,
to let God speak in every tongue;
you made the disciples drunk with grace;
you converted souls and offered a new kind of wealth;
you showed how love makes all things new
and opens the doors to change and freedom.
So we praise you.
Amen.

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 affirmation comes from the Iona Community, a spiritual community in Northern Scotland and is excerpted from their prayer book, A Wee Worship Book. 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.

Add your requests by scaning the

OR code.



These prayers for the church and for the world come to us from the Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. In particular, we have been asked to pray for:

Laurel Mark- in rehab recovering from total

hip replacement surgery

Charlene Ross

Joseph Silvestri

Nancy Carubba - battling breast cancer

Michael Renn - traumatic brain injury

Zak Puff - Healing from surgery

Mary Rigby - recovering from cardiac

surgery

Mary Beth & family - in hospice

Linda Rossitto - battling cancer

Lenore Pawlowski - recovering from surgery

Ron Luczak - recovering from a serious car

Jeff Watson and family - battling multiple

myeloma

Debra Davis and family - diagnosed with

terminal cancer

Lee Nisbet - serious illness

Perry - recovering from stroke

Jack Barrett and family - battling cancer Linda Harris - battling stage 4 lung cancer

Maryanne Nowacki - battling multiple

myeloma **Betsy Curtis**

God of justice and right order, who calls rulers and nations to act with fairness, we lift before you federal employees living in fear of losing their livelihoods amid political stalemate. As courts and unions challenge Reductions in Force following the government shutdown, protect the workers whose service upholds the common good. Guard those who labor at every level of government from the weight of unjust decisions and administrative neglect. Strengthen unions, judges, and leaders who seek to defend dignity over expediency. Restore integrity where power has faltered. Through lesus Christ, the righteous judge and servant of all, who upheld truth over authority and mercy over might. Amen.

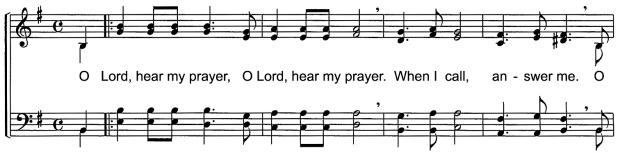
God of unfailing provision, who sustained the widow of Zarephath and her child when famine consumed the land, you have shown that no hunger is beyond your care and no child beyond your mercy. Yet in our world, where there is more than enough for all, children still starve to death. As the United Nations marked World Food Day this week, forgive us for the hunger that persists not from scarcity but from neglect. Move us to confront the harm in cutting aid and name it, not in statistics and words removed from our humanity, but in clear terms that highlight the broken lives and preventable deaths. Be near to all who cannot eat—especially in Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan—and lead our nations toward compassion and generosity. Through Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, who feeds the hungry and fills the world with hope. Amen.

Gracious God, you created all people in your image, diverse and united in dignity, reflecting your boundless creativity and unwavering love. We pray for those who seek healing and wholeness through gender-affirming care, especially trans youth facing misunderstanding and barriers to compassionate treatment. Grant wisdom to caregivers and courage to advocates, so that they may offer care rooted in truth and compassion. May we, like Jesus, who welcomed the marginalized and restored the vulnerable, bear witness to your mercy and grace; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God of wisdom, you made us to delight in and tend your creation. We give you thanks for the ability to study and steward its wonder. We lament all the ways that scientific research has been affected by funding cuts and uncertainty, especially research that would help us address climate change and protect biodiversity. Forgive our shortsightedness, our greed, and the falsehoods and confusion that lead to harmful decisions. Enlighten our paths with your mercy, compassion, and truth. Give us boundaries that enable us to walk as wise tenders of your earthly garden in harmony with your creation. Through Jesus Christ, our companion and friend. **Amen.**

God of love, we pray for all the people in our lives who are faced with difficult challenges. Whether their challenges come from illness, broken relationships, financial hardship, fear, uncertainty or grief, our hearts ache for them. Let our love for them give them comfort and encouragement. Let our shared experience give them the wisdom and tools they need. Inspire all Christians to follow the way of Christ, and people everywhere to gather in communities that are shaped by your love. Through Christ and in the compassionate wisdom of your Holy Spirit. **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

There were two men that went up to pray in the temple; One of them was a Pharisee, the other a Publican.
The Pharisee, he stood and prayed within himself,
And the Publican, standing afar off,
Would not lift up so much as his eyes to Heaven,
But he smote upon his breast and they spake thus:

"THE PHARISEE AND THE PUBLICAN" BY HEINRICH SCHUTZ TENOR SOLOIST: JOHN CLAYTON; BASS SOLOIST: TIM LANE

Pharisee:

"I give thanks to thee God that I am not as other men are,

Unjust, extortioners, or even as this publican. In every week I fast on two days, And of all that I possess I give the tenth part." Contributors:
Jacques Berthier,
Taizé Community
Tune: Jacques
Berthier, © 1982,
Les Presses
de Taizé, GIA
Publications, Inc.,
agent Text: Taizé
Community, ©
1982, Les Presses
de Taizé, GIA
Publications, Inc.,
agent

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 collection plate when it is brought around during the offertory or <u>donate</u> online here, or initiate an online donation by texting TRINITYBUFFALO to 73256. You can also get there by scanning this QR code:



Continued on next page PAGE 7

Publican:

"God be merciful to me a sinner! God have mercy on me, a sinner." I say to you, this man went from thence, Went down justified to his house rather than the other. He that himself exalteth, he shall abased be. And he that humbleth himself, he shall exalted be.

SHARING THE OPEN TABLE

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

All things come of thee, O Lord;

and of thine own have we given thee.

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.

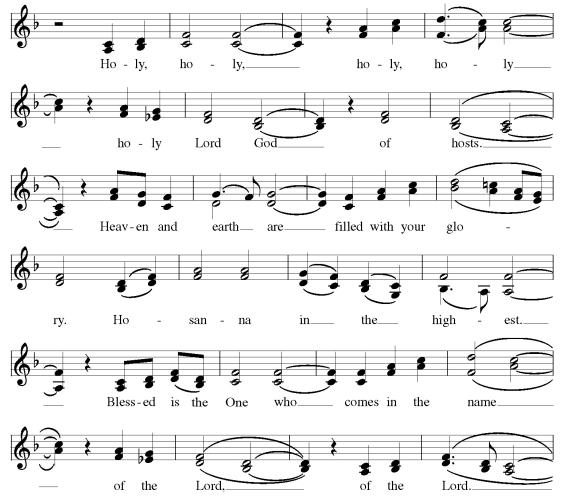
It is right to give thanks and praise.

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;

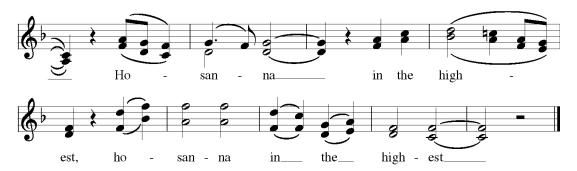
his dying and rising have set us free from the poverty of sin and the famine of death.

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:



This Eucharistic prayer is adapted from one by Steven Shakespeare, which comes from his book, Prayers for an Inclusive Church.

Sanctus from Lift Every Voice and Sing, an African American hymnal.



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.

Broken apart, this bread draws us together.

Poured out like wine, Christ's blood makes our hearts beat as one.

RECEIVING COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive communion, regardless of religious background or affiliation. For those of you online, you are invited to have a morsel of bread and a sip of wine (or any substitutes you choose) during the time that communion is being shared.

For those in the building, you are invited to come forward and make a large circle around the perimeter of the open area, where you will be offered a morsel of bread dipped in wine. Please let the ministers of communion know if you prefer not to have your bread dipped in the wine. Also, let them know if you need a gluten-free rice cracker instead of wheat bread.

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. 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.

This blessing is based on the words of Henri Frederic Amiel (1821-1881).

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.**

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



John Hughes, c. 1907

Some of the music in this service used with permission to podcast/ stream/reproduce under OneLicense, License #A-700776. Other music from Church Publishing (Hymnal 1982; Wonder Love & Praise; Lift Every Voice and Sing II) is reproduced under a license from RiteSong. All rights reserved.

at Union Theological Seminary from 1915 to 1946. This hymn was written for the opening service and dedication of Riverside Church. New York City, which he served for twenty years.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love others as God has loved us. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

"Allegretto" by Krista Seddon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Krista Seddon Trinity Jazz Concert Blue Note Series Fall 2025

November 21 @7:00. "Mood Indigo"

Tickets are \$30, available at Trinitybuffalo.org or use the QR code.

Volunteers needed for reception and ticket table. Email Tim at t.w.lane@outlook.com or use the volunteer QR code to signup. Volunteers receive a complimentary ticket plus one for a friend.

October Clutter Clean-up

Please join the Clutter Clean-up team **TODAY** from **II:45am to I:15pm**. We'll work in the undercroft/basement; lunch and childcare will be provided.

Share Your Saints

Trinity will celebrate All Saints on Sunday, November 2 at the 10:30 service. During that service, we can't name literally "all the saints" but we will name the saints who are important to us. We will make sure to include all members of Trinity who have died since All Saints last year. You can make sure to give us the names of anyone you count as a saint, whether they died in the last year or earlier, so we can include them too. Please complete this form or email Colleen by October 27 with the names you want included.

From Rock to Bach and Back

Not your run-of-the-mill organ concert. Come hear Paul Cena play amazing arrangements featuring artists from contrasting eras and genres from Baroque to rock'n'roll! To purchase tickets click here.

Friday, November 7 @7:00pm in the main sanctuary. Two volunteers are needed to help with the reception which will follow the performance. You can sign up by <u>clicking here</u>. Free will donations to Trinity greatly appreciated!

Vet Appreciation / Bills Watch Party

Come watch the Bills game with Trinity fans noon-4:30 on **Sunday, November 9**. All are welcome, and veterans are encouraged to participate in our veterans appreciation pregame party (potluck style) leading up to Ipm kickoff. Email Christian at Christian.Eshelman@yahoo.com with any questions. Please sign up with your expected contribution for the potluck. Childcare is available as well.

Explore Buffalo - November 15 is the next date scheduled

Learn more about Trinity's windows and the impact they have had on American art history. Share this Buffalo treasure with your friends! Explore Buffalo leads tours of Trinity's windows as part of its Sacred Spaces series. Check the website listed below or scan the QR code for the schedule. https://explorebuffalo.org/sacred-spaces/trinity-episcopal-church/

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.

Trinity Worship Volunteer Lists Update

We are updating our lists of Trinity Worship Volunteers for the coming season and invite both new and returning parishioners to share how they'd like to serve. Opportunities include altar preparation, greeter, acolyte, reader, communion minister, coffee hour host, and cybersacristan (livestream.) Please let us know your current interests or sign up for the first time using our Worship Volunteer Interest Form: https://forms.gle/72SfeSm9HKMPTBQS9

If you have any questions, please contact Jeffrey Tooke at jeffreytooke@outlook.com or (716) 912-8557. Ready to sign up for a slot? Visit https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c4fafa629a3f58-trinity2

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

PURCHASE JAZZ
CONCERT TICKETS



HELPER SIGNUE











www.trinitybuffalo.org • (716) 852-8314 371 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14202

Frinity is an Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Western New York.

STAFF

The Rev. Matthew R. Lincoln, Rector mlincoln@trinitybuffalo.org (716) 852-8314 ext. 2

Krista Seddon, Director of Ensembles; Pianist

krista@kristaseddon.com www.kristaseddon.com

Paul Cena, Organist and Choir Director

prcena@verizon.net

The Rev. Deacon Jeffrey Tooke, Curate The Rev. William Roberts, Assisting Priest

Colleen O'Neill, Parish Administrator and

Director of Children's Ministries coneill@trinitybuffalo.org (716) 852-8314 ext. I

Jennifer Frey, Office Volunteer clerical@trinitybuffalo.org

Rich Mpelezos, Facility Manager rmpelezos@trinitybuffalo.org

Willow D'Agostino, Caretaker Jay Mpelezos, Caretaker

VESTRY

Erickson Contreras, Senior Warden IoAnne Sundell, Junior Warden

Bing Sherrill, Treasurer

Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick, Clerk

Clint Brown **Emily Carlin** Sue Doherty Connie Ervin Jane Kearns less Poleon Missy Stolfi Cindy Stroud

CHOIR MEMBERS

John Clayton, Section Leader

Sue Doherty Christina Kinney

Tim Lane, Section Leader "Gretchen" Elaine Lodick Laura Munson, Section Leader

Tom Owen **Jennifer Ross**

Laura Schleicher, Section Leader

Chris Schmigel Steve Shanley Ignacio Villa

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Voice of Trinity (Facebook): Julie Keller-Rizzo Christian Eshelman Cyber Sacristan: Greeter: David Devereux

Readers: Susan Doherty, Don Ingalls, Cheryl Fisher

Prayers: Missy Stolfi less Poleon Announcements:

Ministers of Communion: Cheryl Fisher, Missy Stolfi, Patti Nisbet

Guest musician: Claire Fisher, violin

Counter: less Poleon Patti Nisbet Coffee Hour:

Thursday @7pm

Sign up here to get Trinity's eNews to stay in touch!



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

The wisdom and fellowship of 12-Step recovery, in person and on

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

Zoom

Email your request for a link to the Zoom worship services here.







