

A Service of Holy Communion September 24, 2023 Year A, Proper 20

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: "Abundance" by Matt Lincoln, 2019

This centering prayer is by Chaim Stern and may be found in Mishkan T'filah, published by the American Conference of Rabbis in 2007.

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. Additionally, there is 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. There is also 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.

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

"AUTUMN REVERIE" BY KRISTA SEDDON

CENTERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Days pass and the years vanish, and we walk sightless among miracles.

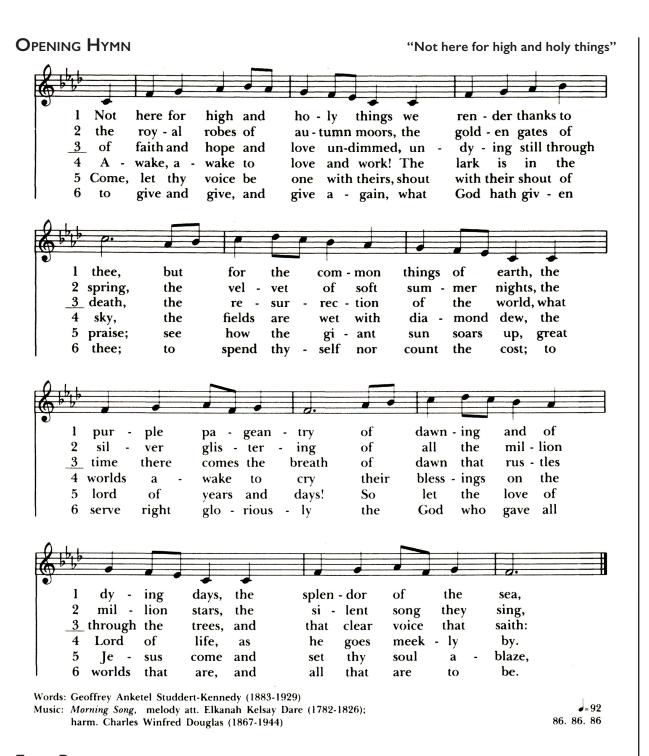
God, fill our eyes with seeing and our minds with knowing;

Let there be moments when Your Presence, like lightning, illumines the darkness in which we walk.

Help us to see, wherever we gaze, that the bush burns unconsumed.

And we, clay touched by God, will reach out for holiness, and exclaim in wonder.

How filled with awe is this place, and we did not know it! Amen.



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

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

FIRST READING Exodus 16:2-15

hey began to complain against Moses and Aaron there in the wilderness. The people of Israel said to them, "If only we had died by God's hand in the land of Egypt, when we sat next to pots of meat and ate our bread till we were filled! But now you have brought the whole community out into this wilderness to die of hunger!"

Then God said to Moses, "Look, I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people will go out and gather a day's portion every day, so that I can test them to see if they will follow my instructions. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they brought in, it will be twice as much as the daily gathering." So Moses and Aaron said to the Israelites, "In the evening you will know that it was God who brought you up out of Egypt, and in the morning you will

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.

This echo is well known from the musical Godspell by John-Michael Tebelak, with music by Stephen Schwartz. The words of this song are based on a prayer by 13thcentury English bishop Saint Richard of Chichester.

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.

Patrick Ramsay is a queer Utah-based, published poet who was raised in and along the wetlands of the Great Salt Lake. He owns Happy Magpie Book & Quill, an independent pay-what-you-can bookshop in Ogden, Utah.

witness the glory of God, the One to whom you directed your complaints—for who are we, that you should complain to us?"

Moses continued, "It is God who will give you meat in the evening for your meal, and all the bread you want in the morning, because God has heard your complaints. For it is not to us that you are complaining—who are we?—but to God."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Tell the whole Israelite community, 'Present yourselves before God, who has heard your complaints." As Aaron was speaking to the whole Israelite community, they looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of God appearing in the form of a cloud. Then God spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the people of Israel. Say this to them: 'In the evening you will eat meat, and in the morning you will have your fill of bread. Then you will know that I, the Lord, am your God.'" So it came about that in the evening quail flew in and all around the camp. And in the morning there was a layer of dew all around the camp; when the layer of dew evaporated, there on the surface of the desert were flakes of something: delicate, powdery, fine as frost. When they saw this, the people of Israel said to each other, "What is it?"—not knowing what it was. But Moses told them, "This is the bread God has given you to eat."

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO (Sing through 2 times.)

"DAY BY DAY"

Day by day, day by day, O, dear Lord, three things I pray:

To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day.

MIDDLE READING

"IF THE WORLD IS ENDING" BY PATRICK RAMSAY

I'll be in the backyard collecting the eggs from the coop. Smelling and then showering the rage-red strawberries almost ripe enough to eat. I'll be dipping my knees into the soil while I tug up weeds. This is purer than prayer. If the world is ending, come 'round back. The gate is open. The lavender is shaking its small fragrant fists by the thousands. The honey locust tree is pulsing electric with a riot of bees. The air is thick with early summer and bloom. It's quiet enough. And hey, the copper-black hen just laid her first egg—the color of Mars and tiger's eye. It's yours if you want it.

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO "Day by day" see above

GOSPEL READING MATTHEW 20:1-16

esus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like the owner of an estate who went out at dawn to hire workers for the vineyard. After reaching an agreement with them for the usual daily wage, the owner sent them out to the vineyard. About mid-morning, the owner came out and saw others standing around the marketplace without work, and said to them, 'You go along to my vineyard and I will pay you whatever is fair.' At that they left.

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

"Around noon and again in the mid-afternoon, the owner came out and did the same. Finally, going out late in the afternoon, the owner found still others standing around and said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day?' 'No one has hired us,' they replied.

"The owner said, 'You go to my vineyard, too.'

"When evening came, the owner said to the overseer, 'Call the workers and give them their pay, but begin with the last group and end with the first.' When those hired late in the afternoon came up, they received a full day's pay, and when the first group appeared they assumed they would get more. Yet they all received the same daily wage.

"Thereupon they complained to the owner, 'This last group did only an hour's work, but you've put them on the same basis as those who worked a full day in the scorching heat.' 'My friends,' said the owner to those who voiced this complaint, 'I do you no injustice. You agreed on the usual wage, didn't you? Take your pay and go home. I intend to give this worker who was hired last the same pay as you. I'm free to do as I please with my money, aren't I? Or are you envious because I am generous?'

"Thus the last will be first and the first will be last."

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO "Day by day"

see previous page

SERMON THE REV. MATT LINCOLN

MUSICAL REFLECTION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We affirm our faith in one God.

Source of all life, greater than all names and forms, source of our being, closer than any. Upon this one God we depend for all we are and for all that ever will be.

And we affirm our faith in Christ.

Who has shown us the way to true life. By breaking the chain of human bondage, through his self-giving life and death and by his rising again, he has given us hope for a new humanity, hope for the healing of earth's life.

And we affirm our faith in the living Spirit of God.

Through whom we awaken to God's purpose for the world, and share in the freedom, joy, and peace of the children of God. For by God's Spirit divine love has flooded our lives, shaping us into a community of forgiven and freely

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 of faith comes to us from the Church of South India. 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.

accepted brothers and sisters set apart for God's service. Risen with Christ we share in his work for God's world of everlasting life, justice, and peace. 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.

As we begin our prayers, we remember those for whom our prayers have been asked.

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 infections diseases and other illness. We pray for people who are hungry or homeless, and for all who are in danger of violent attack. We pray also for all who are 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!

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

Add your requests
by scaning the
QR code

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O food to pilgrims given, O bread of life from heaven, O manna from on high!

We hunger Lord, supply us, nor thy delights deny us, Whose hearts to thee draw nigh.

O stream of love past telling, O purest fountain welling From out the Savior's side!

"O FOOD TO PILGRIMS GIVEN" BY HEINRICH ISAAC

We faint with thirst; revive us, of thine abundance give us,

And all we need provide.

O Jesus, by thine bidden, we here adore thee, hidden In forms of bread and wine.

Grant when the veil risen, we may behold, in heaven, Thy countenance divine.

SHARING THE OPEN TABLE

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

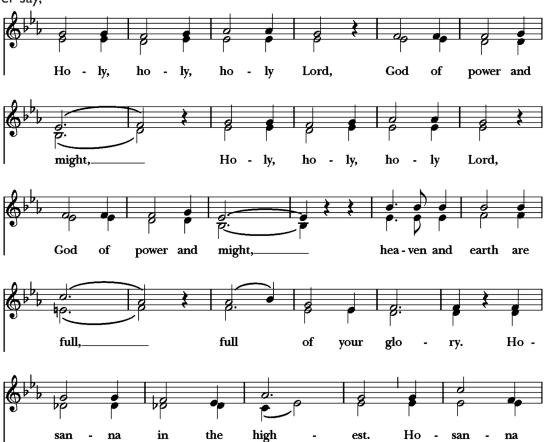
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

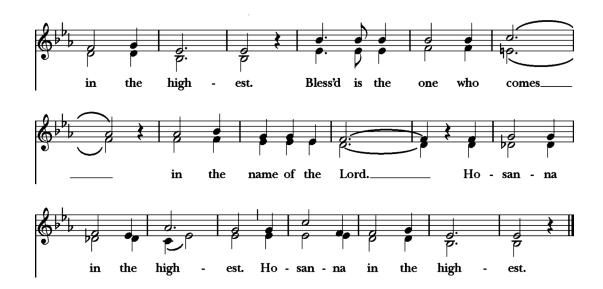
It is always right, and a good thing to thank God for creation and for the love with which God made and sustains and redeems all of existence. The last night Jesus gathered with his closest friends, he gave them the promise that he would always be with them, nourishing them as truly as the food and drink that sustain us day by day. **Because of their faithfulness, and the care with which they and the generations who followed have handed on that faith, we know the story of that night, and we too receive that promise.** So we join our voices with saints and angels, across time and space, outside of time and space who forever say,



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 donate online here, or initiate an online donation by texting TRINITYBUFFALO to 73256. You can also get there by scanning this OR code: ■★##

This Eucharistic Prayer is by Matt Lincoln.

Sanctus from Schubert's Deutsche Messe



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 the Rev. Jim Burklo. He is a UCC pastor who is the Executive Director of Progressive Christians Uniting, which is now organizing ZOE, a national network of progressive Christian ministries at colleges and universities.

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.

Gracious God, somehow, it was not enough to make a universe. It seems you needed the joy of sharing it and sharing the process of creativity. So you included us in creation, making us in your image, to love and to create freely, as you do.

Yet, as we are free to love, so we are free to hate, and throughout human history, we have chosen to abandon your way as often as we have followed it. **But you have not abandoned us.** Instead, you poured yourself into human form, becoming one with us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, your son.

To show us the fullness of that offering, on the night before it was completed on the cross, Jesus ate supper with his friends. He took bread, blessed it, broke it, and said, "Take, eat. This is my Body given for you. Every time you eat bread, do so in remembrance of me." After supper, he took the cup of wine, blessed it, gave it to his friends and said, "Drink this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all. Whenever you drink it, do so in remembrance of me."

Now accept our offering of thanks and praise, and send your Holy Spirit to bless us and this bread and wine to be the body and blood of Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. Give us grace to hope and trust that your Spirit lives in us and we in you, so we may have courage to love the world boldly in your name. Through Jesus Christ, and in the power of the Holy Spirit, who live and reign with you, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Now, as Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

Dear One.

closer to us than our own hearts, farther from us than the most distant star, you are beyond naming.

May your powerful presence become obvious not only in the undeniable glory of the sky, but also in the seemingly mundane processes of the earth.

Give us what we need, day by day, to keep body and soul together, because

clever as you have made us, we still owe our existence to you.

We recognize that to be reconciled with you, we must live peaceably and justly with other human beings, putting hate and bitterness behind us.

We are torn between our faith in your goodness and our awareness of the evil in your creation, so deliver us from the temptation to despair.

Yours alone is the universe and all its majesty and beauty. So it is. 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 at home, provide yourself with a morsel of bread and a sip of wine or any suitable substitutes you have.

For those in the building, you have several options: I) 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 cracker, or 4) come up, receive a piece of pita or gluten free cracker and ask the celebrant to dip it in the chalice so you can receive the wine as well.

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

May your eyes be so blessed that you see God in everyone
Your lips - so you speak nothing but the truth
Your ears - so that you hear the cry of the poor
May your hands be so blessed that everything you touch becomes a sacrament
Your feet - so that you run to those who need you
And may your heart be so opened
So set on fire
That your love
Changes everything.
Amen.

This blessing was offered by the Rev. Brian Baker at Burning Man 2015. In spirit or in body, the congregation stands to sing hymns.

Words and Music
- ©1987 Iona
Community /
WGRG (North
America)



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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, following the way of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

"ALLEGRO" FROM SONATA #2 BY F. MENDELSSOHN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trinity Discussion Group: When We Get Angry at God

Do you ever get mad at God? Anger at God can produce several emotions and can affect our relationships with people and with God. On Wednesdays we watch a short video and discuss the anger we can feel with God and how it can have a transforming effect on our lives.

You are invited to join Tim Lane and Jeff Tooke on **Wednesdays @7pm** using the zoom link below: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81668634672?pwd=eTV]ZXFoNzVYdHZvSHZONGINUUowZz09

Meeting ID: 816-6863-4672 Passcode: trintalk

If you have questions, please email Jeffrey Tooke at ieffreytooke@outlook.com.

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 1½ 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!

Dedication of Memorial Bench

The new bench that is near the front entrance to the church is given in memory of parishioner Jim Barbee (1947-2019), who made such a difference in the lives of so many during his time at Trinity and in other places before moving to Buffalo. Following the 10:30 service on **October 1**, we will gather briefly by the bench to offer a dedicatory prayer and celebrate his memory.

Annual Pet Blessing in Honor of St. Francis

In the courtyard, **Saturday, October 7,** Ipm -3pm.

Explore Buffalo

Learn more about Trinity's windows and the impact they've 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. You can help the wider community appreciate the resources Trinity has to share. Post this link on your social media, email it to friends, or invite someone to come on the tour with you. https://explorebuffalo.org/sacred-spaces/trinity-episcopal-church/



Worship Helpers Needed

Are you willing 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 responding to comments during the service.



Comfort and Care Team

Please let the Comfort and Care Team members (listed below) know how we can be of help and support to you or someone you know who may be experiencing health or other life challenges. You may email anyone of us as we share with each other the information concerning the needs of those that reach out. Support may be offered in many ways such as a caring phone call, notes, information on resources, and a friendly visit. We can also assist with arranging needed meals. Our prayers are always offered. Sincerely, the Comfort and Care Team.

Phoebe McKay, phoebemckay@gmail.com; Judy Atkinson-Miller, jatk1812@gmail.com; Susie Green, susie432@gmail.com; Patti Nisbet, tudorspace@aol.com; Victoria Kearns, kearns.vr@gmail.com; and Marie Keane, MNMKeane@msn.com

Donations to welcome asylum seekers to Buffalo

Justice for Migrant Families is collecting supplies to welcome asylum seekers to Buffalo. We are currently in need of:

Socks, underwear, shorts (adult, all sizes), children's toiletries, children's clothing and fun supplies, grocery cards (Wegmans, Tops, Walmart, etc.) If you would like to donate supplies, please contact lennifer@jfmfwny.org or lennifer@jfmfwny.org</

Computer Volunteer Ministry Opportunity

We are looking for a couple computer savvy volunteers who would be interested in volunteering as cyber sacristan to help with the livestream for the Sunday morning service and/or the Trinity @7 service. One only needs to be comfortable with using a computer and computer programs; the rest are easily learnable skills. If you'd like to know more or are interested in this volunteer ministry, please contact Jeffrey Tooke at jeffreytooke@outlook.com







371 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14202

STAFF

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

Krista Seddon, Director of Ensembles; Pianist

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The Rev. William Roberts, Assisting Priest

Jeffrey Tooke, Cyber Sacristan

Julie Keller-Rizzo, "Voice of Trinity" on

Facebook

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

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Janene Gall, Environmental Services

VESTRY

John Gillespie Jr, Senior Warden John Alduino, Junior Warden Bing Sherrill, Treasurer

Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick, Clerk

Emily Carlin

Erickson Contreras

Chris Cuccia Sue Doherty Judy Fitzgerald Tim Lane

Megan McElfresh IoAnne Sundell Jeffrey Tooke

CHOIR MEMBERS

Laura Munson, Section Leader

Cheryl Fisher

Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick

Christina Kinney

Suzanne Fatta, Section Leader

Sue Doherty

Laura Schleicher, Section Leader

Carol Siracuse

John Clayton, Section Leader

Steve Shanley

Tim Lane, Section Leader

Tom Owen Ignacio Villa

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Greeter: Marie Keane

Emily Carlin, Jeffrey Tooke, Marie Keane Readers:

Prayers: Susan Doherty Announcements: Tim Lane

Guest musician: Harry Fackelman, saxophone Counter: Jeffrey Tooke, Tim Lane

Marie Keane Baker:

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.

www.trinitybuffalo.org • (716) 852-8314 Instagram: @trinity.church.buffal





