

A Service of Holy Communion

April 21, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

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: "Good Shepherd" by Henry Osawa Tanner, 1914

This centering prayer is by John Philip Newell from 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. 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. If your baby or toddler would be happier being able to crawl around and play, 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. 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.

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

"HE SHALL FEED HIS FLOCK LIKE A SHEPHERD" FROM "MESSIAH" BY G.F. HANDEL
SOLOISTS: LAURA MUNSON & LAURA SCHLEICHER

*He shall feed His flock like a shepherd,
And He shall gather the lambs with His arm,
And carry them in His bosom,
And gently lead those that are with young.*

*Come unto Him all ye that labor,
Come unto Him that are heavy laden,
And He will give you rest.
Take His yoke upon you and learn of Him,
For He is meek and lowly of heart,
And ye shall find rest unto your souls.*

CENTERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

We wake to the forgiveness of a new day.
We wake to the freedom to begin again.
We wake to the mercy of the sun's redeeming light.
Always new,
always gift,
always blessing.
We wake to the forgiveness of this new day.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Morning has broken”

Unison or harmony

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird. _____
 like the first dew - fall on the first grass. _____
 born of the one light E - den saw play! _____

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
 Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
 Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word! _____
 sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass. _____
 God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day! _____

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965), alt., Copyright © by permission of David Higham Associates Limited, London. Music: *Bunessan*, Gaelic melody; harm. Alec Wyton (b. 1921) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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

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.

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

FIRST READING

I JOHN 3:16-24

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ died for us. And we, too, ought to lay down our lives for our sisters and brothers. If you have more than enough material possessions and see your neighbors in need yet close your hearts to them, how can the love of God be living in you? My children, our love must not be simply words or mere talk—it must be true love, which shows itself in action and truth. This, then, is how we'll be confident in God's presence, even if our consciences condemn us. We know that God is greater than our consciences and that God knows everything. And if our consciences do not condemn us, my friends, then we have confidence before God, and we will receive whatever we ask from God's hand—because we keep the commandments and do what is pleasing in God's sight. The commandments are these, that we believe in the name of God's Own, Jesus Christ. and that we love one another as we were told to do. Those who keep these commandments live in God and God lives in them. We know that God lives in us by the Spirit given to us.

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

Thanks be to God.

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.

Dan Bellm (b. 1952) is a writer, editor, and translator living in Berkeley, California. He has published four books of poetry, most recently Deep Well, (Lavender Ink, 2017) and Practice (Sixteen Rivers Press), winner of a 2009 California Book Award and named one of the Top Ten Poetry Books of 2008 by the Virginia Quarterly Review. He teaches poetry and literary translation in the Antioch University Los Angeles M.F.A. in Creative Writing Program.

ECHO

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.
Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.

MIDDLE READING

You must prepare to carry nothing
where you walk,

a God who cannot be seen,
a name you cannot speak—

therefore gather
the most precious of what you have,

and build me something heavy you can carry,
heavy as you want.

I will be weightless in it,

an idea, a promise,
among you, within you—

I will be unbearable. You can bear it.

Over and over you will pick it up
and set it down,

and as you wander
you will lose what you brought forth,

the ark will collapse in your hands,
the stones of the law will break.

Then you will carry me in your minds,
in your mouths—

unbearable as you want. You can bear it.

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.
Come, let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Savior.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.

“THE WEIGHT” BY DAN BELLM

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 10: 11-18

I am the good shepherd.
A good shepherd would die for the sheep.
The hired hand, who is neither shepherd
nor owner of the sheep,
catches sight of the wolf coming
and runs away,
leaving the sheep to be scattered
or snatched by the wolf.
That's because the hired hand works only for pay
and has no concern for the sheep.
I am the good shepherd.
I know my sheep
and my sheep know me,
in the same way Abba God knows me
and I know God—
and for these sheep
I will lay down my life.
I have other sheep
that don't belong to this fold—
I must lead them too,
and they will hear my voice.
And then there will be one flock,
one shepherd.
This is why Abba God loves me—
because I lay down my life,
only to take it up again.
No one takes my life from me;
I lay it down freely.
I have the power to lay it down,
and I have the power to take it up again.
This command I received from my Abba.

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.

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

"Hallelujah Changes"

Hal-le - lu____ jah,____ Hal-le lu____ jah,____ Hal-le -
lu____ jah,____ Hal-le - lu____ jah!____

SERMON

The Rev. John Seib is a priest from the Anglican Church in Canada who retired after serving the Episcopal Church in North Tonawanda. He and his wife Kathy Chase now live in Kenmore. They are both great friends of Trinity and frequent readers for the Trinity@7 service on Sunday evenings.

THE REV. JOHN SEIB

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.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

*In spirit or in body,
please stand.*

*This affirmation,
written by Matt
Lincoln, is an
adaptation of the
Nicene Creed. Like
the creed on which
it is based, 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.*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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

We trust that 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, and to reclaim us from the oblivion of death.

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

Amen.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

We remember those for whom our prayers have been asked.

Abby Laettner

Adam Kreutinger

Jessica De Oliveira E Silva (Quinn) - battling
stage 4 breast cancer

Regina O'Connor

Peter Mark Kooshoian

Bruce Nisbet - battling cancer

Celeste Richel

Margaret (Peggy) Rizzo - suffers from
Alzheimer's

Alberta Virginia Campbell

Alphonso & Marcia O'Neil-White - health
concerns

Harry Fackelman

Kathy Jerzewski - a return of lymphoma

Regina Glaser - in her battle with cancer

Betsy and Peter Curtis

*Add your requests
by scanning the
QR code.*



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

We also pray for the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church as they prepare to elect their next presiding bishop, especially for the 4 bishops who have accepted nomination for that election, including our bishop, Sean.

Creating God, from the origin of our species, you fitted us with a grand vision for abundant life and community that most often exceeds our grasp: We bring before you today our desire for peace, our confession of neglect, and our promise to uphold the dignity of every human being. And we affirm our trust: **neither things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, can separate us from the love of God.**

Gracious God, your intimate presence and the depth of your love have the power to heal us: We bring before you today our grief and sorrow, our illness and wounds, our addictions and compulsions, and a host of needs we dread to mention. And we affirm our trust: **neither death, nor life, nor rulers, nor powers, nor anything else in all creation, will separate us from your love, O God.**

Life Giving God, we know that you have a dream for us, and that when we are living into it, the abundance of your grace is palpable: Grant us open hearts and open minds to know that what was old is being made new, what was locked away is being released, and what was cast down is being raised up. And we affirm our trust: **neither things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, can separate us from the love of God. 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

*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 mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.*

*When I walk thru the shades of death Thy presence is my stay;
One word of Thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.*

"MY SHEPHERD WILL SUPPLY MY NEED" ARR. BY CHARLES ELKINS

*Thy hand in sight of all my foes doth still my table spread.
My cup with blessing 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.*

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.

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Open your hearts.

We open them to God and one another.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right and a good and joyful thing to live openly in the presence of God and one another as grateful people. Splendor and honor are yours God of all being, your power sustains, your endless love restores this broken world. Always present with us, **you bring patterns to the chaos, and fill our emptiness.** Resurrection brings the dawn of hope. The light of Christ kindles life in us, and leads us to walk in your light. **Your Holy Spirit is fire in us, your breath warms our hearts to love.** As children of your redeeming purpose, freed when Christ burst from the tomb, we offer you our praise with Angels and Archangels, and all the company of heaven, singing your eternal glory:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

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 QR code:



This Eucharistic Prayer is adapted from Eucharistic Prayer IV, The Scottish Liturgy 1982 in the book Gleanings.

Sanctus from Deutsche Messe by Franz Peter Schubert.

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

On the night before Jesus was given up to death, at supper with the disciples, Jesus took bread, offered thanks to you, broke it, gave it to his friends and said: **“Take, eat, this is my Body given for you.”** After supper, he took the cup, offered thanks, gave it to them and said: **“This is my Blood of the new Covenant poured out for you, and for all. Do this in remembrance of me.”**

In the first light of Easter, glory broke from the tomb, and the women’s sorrow changed to joy. In the garden Mary found the truth: the One whom they had loved and lost was restored to them in every place and for ever. And so we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,
 Christ is risen,
 Christ will come again.**

One in Christ, we offer you these gifts, and with them ourselves, a holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, merciful God: **send your Holy Spirit on us and on this bread and wine that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ; kindle in us the fire of your love, renew us for the service of your kingdom.**

Help us live and work in gratitude to you; that we may grow together in unity and love until, at last, in your new creation, we enter into the company of the apostles and prophets and of all our sisters and brothers, the living and the dead; through Jesus Christ by whom, with whom, and in whom in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours throughout all ages, now and for 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?

RECEIVING COMMUNION

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 wafer instead of wheat bread.

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.**

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.*

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

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

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

BLESSING

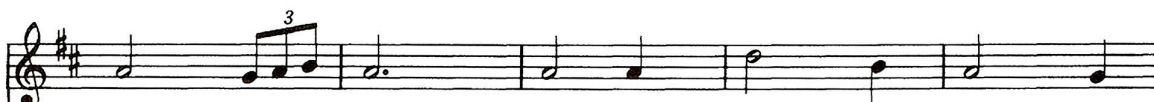
Life is short. We do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love. Make haste to be kind. And may the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us, and who animates and guides us be with you now and always. **Amen.**

HYMN

“SUCH PERFECT LOVE MY SHEPHERD SHOWS”



1 Such per - fect love my Shep - herd shows, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my lov - ing
 3 When vain and fool - ish oft I strayed, you, faith - ful
 4 I do not fear death's shad - owed vale when you are
 5 You spread a ta - ble in my sight, your gifts of
 6 And so through all the length of days your good - ness



1 fails me nev - er; whose hand all things I
 2 Shep - herd leads me. And where the ver - dant
 3 Shep - herd sought me, and on your shoul - der
 4 here be - side me; your rod and staff and
 5 grace be - stow - ing; And from your chal - ice
 6 fails me nev - er: Good Shep - herd, may I



1 need be - stows and watch - es me for ev - er.
 2 pas - tures grow with food from heav - en feeds me.
 3 gent - ly laid, then home re - joic - ing brought me.
 4 strength pre - vail to com - fort and to guide me.
 5 I de - light to taste your mer - cy flow - ing.
 6 sing your praise with - in your house for ev - er.

Alternative tune: *Dominus regit me*, 646.

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. of Psalm 23
 Music: *St. Columba*, Irish melody; harm. *Hymnal* 1982

♩ = 100
87. 87

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, rejoicing in the power of the resurrection! Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

“ROSETTA” BY EARL HINES

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Volunteers Needed for Facet & Forge

Explore, create, and reconsider at Facet & Forge this month. This fundraiser supports the artistic stained glass treasures of Trinity Church, and SGAA requests our help. If you are available to volunteer **Saturday, April 27**, please sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AACAD2FA7F8C34-48783913-facet#/>



2ND ANNUAL
FACET & FORGE
— BUFFALO, NY —
STAINED GLASS REIMAGINED

Explore, create, and discover at Facet & Forge 2024. Join us to celebrate the architectural details of Buffalo from an all-new perspective - You'll never look at Western New York the same way again!



Learn about Buffalo's preservation and trades, including the construction and preservation of Trinity's campus.



See professionals forging, melting, mosaicing, and creating glass in LIVE demonstrations!

Create your own mini fused glass window.



Experience Trinity's historic and original windows illuminated in a totally unique way.



Get your tickets today!

Saturday, April 27th
5:00pm - 9:00pm
Trinity Buffalo
371 Delaware Ave



STAINED GLASS
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
FOUNDATION

For more information, go to: <http://stainedglass.org>



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

Facebook: @Trinitybuffalo

YouTube: Trinity Church Buffalo

Instagram: @trinity.church.buffalo

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Chris Cuccia
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Cheryl Fisher
Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick
Christina Kinney
Laura Schleicher, Section Leader
Sue Doherty
John Clayton, Section Leader
Steve Shanley
Tim Lane, Section Leader
Tom Owen
Ignacio Villa

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Guest Officiant: The Rev. John Seib
Greeters: Susie Green, Mark DelleBovi
Readers: Mark DelleBovi, Meg Knowles, Sue Doherty
Prayers: Clint Brown
Announcements: Chris Cuccia
Altar Servers: Jeffrey Tooke, Judy Fitzgerald, Clint Brown
Guest musician: Matt Harris
Bakers: Sue Doherty, Susie Green
Counters: Sue Doherty, Jeffrey Tooke

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](#).