

A Service of Holy Communion October 22, 2023 Year A, Proper 24

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: "Cleft in the Rock" the Needles, Custer State Park, South Dakota, by Matt Lincoln, 2011

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

"LORD, JESUS CHRIST, BE PRESENT NOW" (BWV 709) BY J.S. BACH

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.



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

Music: St. Denio, Welsh hymn, fom Caniadau y Cyssegr, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877); harm. The English Hymal, 1906, alt.

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 needsand 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.

Adyashanti is an American spiritual teacher and author from the San Francisco Bay Area who offers talks, online study courses, and retreats in the United States and abroad.

FIRST READING

Exodus 33:12-23 oses said to God, "Look, you have told me to lead this people, but you have never told me who you will send with me. You have told me, 'I know you by name,' and 'you have found favor with me.' So, if I have found favor with you, teach me your ways so that I might truly know you, and that I might find favor in your eyes. Remember that these people are the nation you have chosen as your own."

God replied, "My Presence will go with you. Let this set your mind at ease."

Moses continued, "If your Presence does not come with us, do not send us from this place. How can it ever be known that we have found favor in your eyes—your people and I—if you do not accompany us? It is your Presence alone that will mark us—your people and I—from all others of the people on earth.

And God said to Moses, "As you have asked, I will do, for you have found favor in my eyes, and I have known you by name."

Then Moses said, "Please show me your glory!"

God said, "I will make all of my goodness pass before your eyes, and I will pronounce my Name, I AM in your presence; I will show my grace to whom I will show my grace, and I will show my compassion to whom I will show my compassion. But you cannot see my face," God continued. "No human can see my face and live."

Then God said, "Look: here is a place beside me, where you can stand on a rock. When my glory passes you, I will place you in a cleft in the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. When I remove my hand you will see my back; but my face you must not see."

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

"THE SHAPE OF LOVE" BY ADYASHANTI

What we see is not the most important. Could dust rise without the invisible hand of the wind? Could a fan turn without any current? Could lungs breathe without breath?

Tell me

What is the shape of Love? How much does loy weigh when held in the palm of your hand? Can you catch the Spirit of Life in a jar?

All things seen depend upon the Unseen. All sounds depend upon Silence. All things felt depend upon what is not felt.

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

Thanks be to God.

ECHO (Sing through 2 times.) see previous page

"DAY BY DAY"

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 22:15-22

hen the Pharisees went off and began to plot how they might trap Jesus by his speech. They sent their disciples to Jesus, accompanied by sympathizers of Herod, who said, "Teacher, we know you're honest and teach God's way sincerely. You court no one's favor and don't act out of respect for important people. Give us your opinion, then, in this case. Is it lawful to pay tax to the Roman emperor, or not?"

Jesus recognized their bad faith and said to them, "Why are you trying to trick me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin which is used to pay the tax." When they handed Jesus a small Roman coin, Jesus asked them, "Whose head is this, and whose inscription?"

"Caesar's," they replied.

At that Jesus said to them, "Then give to Caesar what is Caesar's, but give to God what is God's."

When they heard this, they were astonished and went away.

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

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 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.

love has flooded our lives, shaping us into a community of forgiven and freely 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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

God of peace, we pray for the Israeli and Palestinian people in these perilous times.

For all who are fearful for the safety of their loved ones and themselves, we pray that the assurance of unfailing love, even in the midst of danger, settles upon them. Shelter them from despair and protect them from harm.

For all who are wounded, we pray they find healing.

For all who have died, we pray they find rest.

For all who grieve, we pray they find comfort.

For leaders on all sides, we pray for a renewed will to lay down arms, for the strength to put the grievances and wrongs suffered by their people to rest, and for the conviction to embrace a path of reconciliation and peace that preserves the rights and dignity of all of your children.

God of mercy, help us to remember there is no border that can separate us from your great love and protection, no stone that can sound the well of your deep mercy.

God of justice, we pray with hopeful hearts that your beloved children of the Holy Land will be spared a future of sustained violence and unrest and that a recognition of the humanity of all people will prevail. **Amen.**

We remember those for whom our prayers have been asked.

O Lover of Souls, you call us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Give us vision and wisdom, and the strength and trust to respond to your call.

Where we can help, give us the determination and generosity to do so. When our neighbor needs only the courage to face difficulty, give us the patience and wisdom to listen and encourage in love.

We pray for those who struggle in poverty or under oppression, and for those who care for them. We pray for those in any need or trouble.

We pray for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. We pray for equity, mutual regard, and peace.

We pray for those who are sick or sick at heart. We pray for all who suffer from illness or injury, from mental illness or heartbreak, sadness or loneliness.

We pray for those who have died and those who are bereaved. We pray for consolation and hope.

We pray for the generosity of spirit to forgive those who betray us. We pray for the courage to face our own faults, and to seek forgiveness when we fail to love our neighbors as ourselves, trusting that we are all beloved in your sight, O God.



Refrain:

Those who sow, who sow in tears, will reap in joy, will reap in joy. Those who sow, who sow in tears, will reap, will reap in joy.

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

"Go Not Far From Me. O God" by Nicola Zingarelli

Go not far from me, O God; Cast me not away in the time of age; Forsake me not when my strength faileth me.

O let my mouth be filled with Thy praise, That I may sing Thy glory and honor all the day long.

SHARING THE OPEN TABLE

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

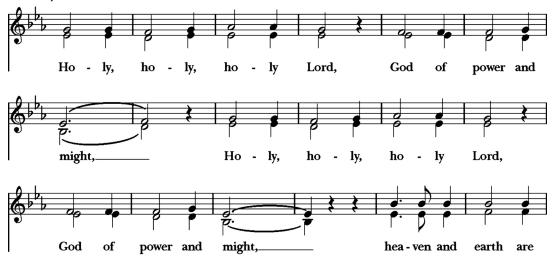
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

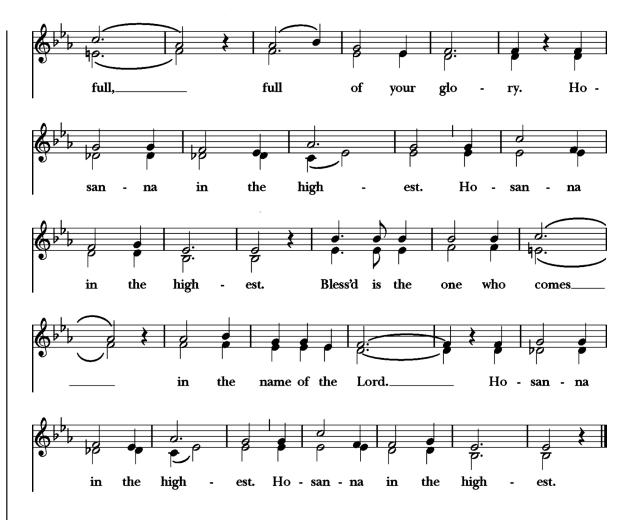
It is always right, and a good thing to thank God for creation and for the love with which God made and sustains and redeems all of existence. The last night Jesus gathered with his closest friends, he gave them the promise that he would always be with them, nourishing them as truly as the food and drink 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 *QR* code:

This Eucharistic Prayer is by Matt Lincoln.

Sanctus from Schubert's Deutsche Messe



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:

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 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: 1) 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

with you now and always. Amen.

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.
And may the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us, and who animates and guides us be

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.

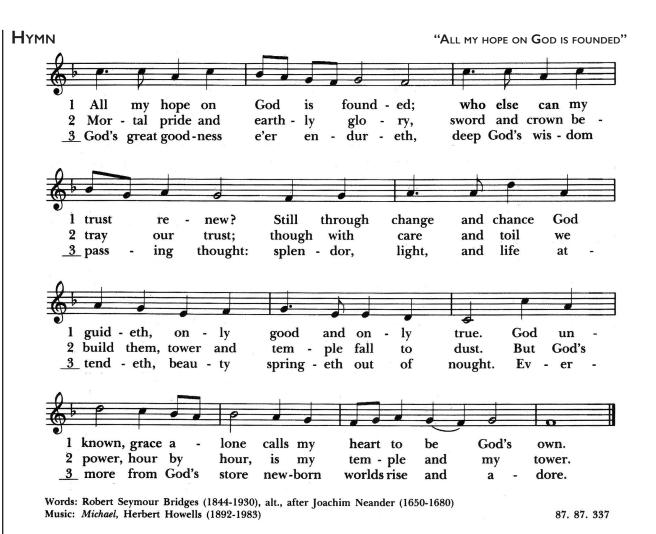
This version of the Lord's Prayer is what many of us grew up learning. *It is also the* version shared at the end of many 12 Step meetings. Although it is important to stay fresh and engaged by the words of our prayers, it is also important to be reminded that we as *individuals* are part of a great 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 was offered by the Rev. Brian Baker at Burning Man 2015. In spirit or in body, the congregation stands to sing hymns.

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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

"BLUESETTE" BY TOOTS THIELEMANS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trinity Discussion Group: Calming Your Inner Critic

Negative self-talk can produce several emotions and can affect our relationships with people and with God. We watch a short video and discuss how our lack of self-love can detract from the life we want to live and affects our love of neighbor. Join Tim Lane and Jeff Tooke on **Wednesdays @7pm** using the zoom link below:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81668634672?pwd=eTVJZXFoNzVYdHZvSHZONGINUUowZz09

Meeting ID: 816-6863-4672 Passcode: trintalk

Questions? Please email Jeffrey Tooke at jeffreytooke@outlook.com.

Your Thoughts Needed Again! Followup Survey

On September 17, Trinity folks met in the Marfield Room to talk about the situation that we find ourselves in as a congregation and possible visions for what the future might look like. A major part of what guided that work was your feedback from this summer's Priorities survey. You can watch the video of that presentation! At the end of that meeting, we were all asked to reflect on where we heard God in

these ideas, what parts brought us alive, and how we each would personally like to act on it. With the benefit of some time to think about these things more deeply, we once again ask you to share your thoughts with us and to commit yourself to the work we have to do. Please go here to share your opinions, your questions, but most importantly your gifts and talents in service of the work ahead.

QR for survey



Slow Down Yoga

Yoga is returning to Trinity! **Tuesdays @noon** we will learn and practice slowing down, tuning in, and taking care with a gentle, mindful yoga class for any level of skill. Facilitated by Heather Henry Rawlins, LMHC, RYT200, one of several therapists occupying Trinity spaces, this Hatha yoga-based practice will move with care to cultivate calm awareness, stability, and flexibility as well as practices for calming the nervous system and feeling grounded in the body—a good practice for interrupting the accumulations of stress in mind and body and feeling vividly present and full of ease. For more information go to https://www.groundedinbirdsong.org/yoga or email Heather at https://www.groundedinbirdsong.org/yoga or email Heather at https://www.groundedinbirdsong.org/yoga

Trinity Halloween Party - Friday, October 27

It's time to dust off your costumes and mark your calendars for "Trinitreat" on **Friday, October 27**, a night of fun and games for folks of all ages. Contact Tim Lane <u>t.w.lane@outlook.com</u> or Kayla Kisenwether <u>kkisenwether@gmail.com</u> if interested in helping make this event a spooktacular success.

Barbecue Chicken Dinner on November 5!

Order early, order often. Trinity will be selling Weidner's chicken for takeout on **Sunday, November 5**, from right after the morning service until Ipm. Dinners are \$15 and include macaroni and cheese and glazed baby carrots. Yum. We'll also have desserts available that day for cash sales. Dinners are pre-sale only. Order deadline is **Sunday, Oct 29**. Proceeds to support Trinity!



Volunteers Needed

If you can help out on **Nov 5** by working at the chicken barbecue takeout or baking desserts for that same event, please email Teresa Maciocha at tmaciocha@aol.com. If you work the takeout, your shift would be from I lam to Ipm. If you bake a dessert, it can be delivered to church that morning. Of course, you are welcome to do both. Thanks very much.

Friends of Night People

We are looking for volunteers to help out at Friends of Night People, which provides food, clothing, medical care, counseling and other necessities to people in our community experiencing homelessness and poverty. We would love to have you join us on the **second Monday**) of each month from 4:45-7. Questions? Speak to Emily Carlin or email: emily.g.carlin@gmail.com

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

The Comfort and Care Team is here to help and support to you or someone you know experiencing health or other life challenges. Email any one of us to request prayers, a caring phone call, notes, information on resources, a friendly visit, or arranging meals.

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

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





Frinity is an Episcopal Church in the Diocesan Partnership of Western New York and Northwest Pennsylvania. 371 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14202



The Reverend 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. William Roberts, Assisting Priest

Jeffrey Tooke, Cyber Sacristan

Julie Keller-Rizzo, "Voice of Trinity" on

Facebook

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

Sarah Caputi, Caretaker Denise Lanzilotta, Caretaker Jay Mpelezos, Caretaker

Janene Gall, Environmental Services

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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

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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

Patti & Bruce Nisbet Greeters: Cross Bearer: Christina Kinney

Readers: Jeffrey Tooke, Karl Bernhardt, Missy Stolfi

Altar Server: Jill Hilburger Matt Harris Guest musician: Baker: Patti Nisbet

Counters: Tim Lane, Emily Carlin

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.

