

A Service of Holy Communion July 18, 2021; Year B, Proper 11

Welcome to Trinity's gathered community! We are together on-site and online!

If you are at Trinity in person, please maintain appropriate distance and wear your mask, considering the fact that some of us may not be fully vaccinated or may have other vulnerabilities. We will celebrate Holy Communion as we have all year, with all participants holding their own bread and wine during the prayers and receiving communion in their seats. In this way, all participants on-site and online will share the same practice.

If you are not on-site, rest assured that your presence online is felt and valued. As you watch the Live Stream, feel free to add comments, likes, etc. to the comment section at any time!

WiFi internet access is publicly available. Please feel free to log onto the "Trinity Open" network with the password "Welcome!"

If you are on-site, feel free to use your mobile device to join the Facebook Live Stream to connect with other worshipers in the comment section. Just make sure your volume is all the way down!

At the end of the service, we will start up a Zoom meeting for online conversation during the coffee hour. A link to that Zoom meeting will appear in the comments on Facebook at the end of this service.

When we don't have to practice social distancing, 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. For now, even though we are not standing shoulder to shoulder for communion, we are gathered in Spirit sharing the bounty of faith. 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.

Trinity Church is an Episcopal Church and a member parish of the Diocesan Partnership of Western New York and Northwest Pennsylvania in the United States and is a part of the Anglican Communion, which is based in England, but found worldwide. If you would like to learn more about Trinity, see all our contact information on the last page.

Prelude

WELCOME

MUSICAL MEDITATION

CENTERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

This centering prayer is by John Philip Newell from Celtic Prayers From Iona.

Cover image: Good Shepherd

Ossawa Tanner.

Tanner (1859 – 1937) was the first African-

American painter to gain international

acclaim. He moved to Paris, France, in

1891 to study and

continued to live

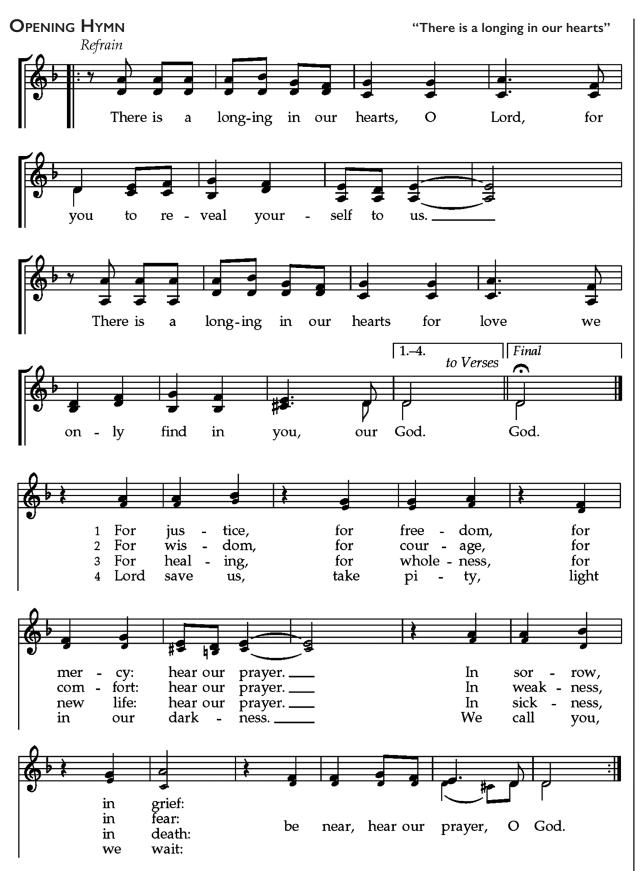
there after being accepted in French

artistic circles.

in the Atlas Mountains, Henry

> has been made. There is no plant in the ground but tells of your beauty, O Christ, There is no creature on the earth, there is no life in the sea but proclaims your goodness. There is no bird on the wing,

The compassion of God is for all that there is no star in the sky, there is nothing beneath the sun but is full of your blessing. Lighten my understanding of your presence all around, O Christ. Kindle my will to be caring for creation. Each Day and Each Night. Amen.



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FIRST READING 2 SAMUEL 7:1-14A

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.

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.

Ansie Baird, a member of Trinity, has taught for many years at Buffalo Seminary, the Just Buffalo Literary Center and other places, and her poetry has been published widely.

hen David finally settled into the palace, and God gave him rest from enemies on every side, he said to the prophet Nathan, "Here I am living in this house of cedar while the Ark of God sits in a tent!"

Nathan replied to David, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for God is with you."

That night the word of God came to Nathan, and said, "Go and tell my servant David that this is what God wants: 'Are you the one to build me a Temple? I have been without a Temple from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a Tent as my dwelling place. Wherever I traveled with the people of Israel, did I ever say to the governors whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, "Why have you not built me a Temple made out of cedar?"

"Now then, tell my servant, David, 'This is what God the Omnipotent says: I took you from the pastures and from following sheep to be the ruler of my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you went, and destroyed all your enemies in your path. I will give you fame like the fame of the great ones on the earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel. I will plant them where they will have a home of their own—a place where they will never be disturbed. Never again will the sinners oppress them as they did in the past ever since the time I appointed judges to lead my people Israel. I will give you security from all your enemies.

"'Furthermore, I alone will establish your house. And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you. Your successor will come from your own body, and I will establish your dynasty. It is you who will build a Temple to honor my Name, and I will establish your throne for an eternal dominion. I will be mother and father to you, and you will be my child."

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

Thanks be to God.

MIDDLE READING

"ANOTHER VERSION" BY ANSIE BAIRD

Dear Stranger who might be somewhere But then again might only be that which We mortals have created out of desperation: If I knew your name, I would praise it.

On Earth we try to do the right thing. What's it like at your place? Perhaps you are nearer than we know. We have hope. We count on it.

Nearly every day we do not go hungry.
We call that a blessing.
When we forget to be grateful or are
Cruel to others, as they occasionally are to us,
First we need to forgive the others; then ourselves.

It's a struggle not to give in to temptations, To be satisfied with our abundance. Struggle is good for us. We learn from it. Dear Stranger, if you press your ear
To the shuttered door of my heart, perhaps
You will hear me asking:
Is this earth truly glorious?
Does power yield to justice?
Will we find paradise within ourselves?

I am trying to encounter the shape of your name
In my own shadow.
I am trying to hear the echo of your answers
Forever and ever in the stillness at the core of the world.

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

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING MARK 6:30-34, 56

he apostles came back to Jesus and reported all that they had done and taught. Jesus said to them, "Come away by yourselves to someplace more remote, and rest awhile." For there were many people coming and going, and the apostles hadn't had time to eat. So they went away in a boat to a deserted area. The people saw them leaving and many recognized them, so they ran together on foot from all the cities and got there ahead of the apostles. When Jesus went ashore, there was a large crowd waiting for him, and he felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began to teach many things.

Wherever he appeared—in villages, in towns or in the countryside—they laid down the sick in the open places, begging him to let them touch just the fringe of his cloak, and all who touched Jesus got well.

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON THE REV. MATT LINCOLN

MUSICAL REFLECTION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone, we live in God's Creation.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,

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. An audio recording of the sermon is posted to the parish website each week, usually by Tuesday.

This creed comes from the United Church of Canada. 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.

to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus,
crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone. Thanks be to God.
Amen.

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Today's time for intercessory prayer is also a moment to ask God's blessing as we mark a sense of turning in the journey through the pandemic. 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.

These prayers are based on the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-11) and Marian Wright Edelman's reflections on them.

Blessed are the poor in spirit – who do not measure themselves by money or worldly power but who ask God for what they need and are not mired in pride – walk by our side as we seek the kingdom of God.

Amen.

Blessed are those who mourn – who are concerned about the needs of children and the poor and others in need who cannot speak for themselves – move us to be your comforters.

Amen.

Blessed are the meek – who do not seek only their own good but their neighbors' too – move us to be seekers who share in the gift of God's earth.

Amen.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness — who do not work for the praise of others or earthly gain or fame and share gladly their talents, energy and money — together may we be fulfilled.

Amen.

Blessed are the merciful – who know they are sinners and are dependent on God's and others' forgiveness every minute of every day — guide us as we seek your mercy.

Amen.

Blessed are the pure in heart – who are not hypocrites but who struggle to live what they preach – walk with us as we struggle to see the face of God. Amen.

Blessed are the peacemakers – who do not prepare for war while talking about peace, who do no kill others in order to stop killing, who do not love only those who love them but reach out to make their enemies friends – may we more clearly see ourselves and ALL others as children of God.

Amen.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake – who do not run or waver in the face of criticism, threats, or death — may we have the courage to speak truth to power.

Amen.

Blessed are those who speak kindly and not meanly of others – who do not tear down others but build them up for the kingdom's work and the well being of ALL – may we be strengthened by God's Love.

Amen.

Blessed are the just – who do not adhere to the letter of the law and regulations for some but ignore them for others – Let us walk together in our struggle so that we may hear God's voice say "well done, good and faithful servant."

Amen.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

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 HYMN

Ī.

Amazing Grace, How sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.

2.

T'was grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace, my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed!

3.

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures; He will my shield and portion be, As long as life endures.

1

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far

"AMAZING GRACE"

'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home,

5.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Your financial support is not only a practical necessity. It can also be a very meaningful symbolic gesture, expressing vour gratitude for the blessings in your life and your hope for health in the world. You can place cash or a check in the big blue urn at the head of the aisle or donate online here, or initiate an online donation by texting the word "give" to *(716)221-8580.*

HOLY COMMUNION

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.

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:

The Eucharistic Prayer is adapted from a prayer by Steven Shakespeare in his book, Prayers for an Inclusive Church.

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

At the following words, everyone lifts their plate and cup communion elements into view.

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:

God, who cares for us,
The wonder of whose presence fills us with awe.
Let kindness, justice and love shine in our world.
Let your secrets be known here as they are in heaven.
Give us the food and the hope we need for today.
Forgive us our wrongdoing
as we forgive the wrongs done to us.
Protect us from pride and from despair
and from the fear and hate which can swallow us up.
In you is truth, meaning, glory and power,
while worlds come and go.
Amen.

The disciples knew the Lord lesus in the breaking of the bread.

Were not our hearts burning within us as we walked along the road?

RECEIVING COMMUNION

During a moment of quiet, all receive their bread and wine while remaining where they are. In a few minutes, someone will come by with a tray to collect your cup.

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

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.**

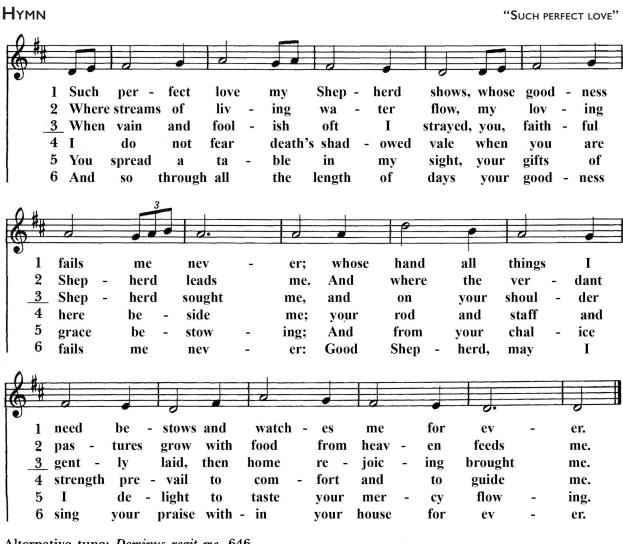
We are following a pattern of using an alternative interpretation of the Lord's Prayer for a few weeks and then using the traditional Prayer Book version for a week or two, and then going to a different interpretation for a few weeks, then the Prayer Book version for a week or two.

This version of the Lord's Prayer was written by Monica Furlong (1930-2003), a British author, journalist, and activist.

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.

The Prayer for the Road by Steven Shakespeare is from his book "Prayers for an Inclusive Church."

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



Alternative tune: Dominus regit me, 646.

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

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DISMISSAL

Take your leave, trusting that we are made one in Christ, to shine in the world with God's light. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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SERVICES @TRINITY

In the interest of staying connected and sharing what we can of our spiritual life together, here's our service lineup:

SUNDAY MORNING @10:30 In-person worship while live streaming on Facebook and now YouTube as well. The Sunday online Live Stream service remains accessible as a video recording on Trinity's Facebook page and YouTube page after the service is over.

TRINITY @7 Sunday night @7pm featuring poetry and jazz, in person as well as on Zoom. The remaining summer schedule is August I and I5.

WEDNESDAY @NOON offering prayer and holy conversation. This service is now both in person and on Zoom.

Thursday @7 offering the wisdom and fellowship of I2-Step recovery. Both in person and on Zoom.

THURSDAY BY APPOINTMENT the church will be open for private prayer or meditation. You can chat quietly with one of the volunteers, or if you need, you can ask them to pray with you. You are required to sign a registry at the entrance to be used in the event contact tracing is necessary. On Thursdays or other private visits, masks are not required if you are fully vaccinated.

For any group of more than 20 people, wearing a mask will be normal. For smaller groups, wearing a mask will be expected unless it is determined that everyone present is fully vaccinated. For any activities including children, mask wearing will be required of everyone. Please continue to read the eNews to stay informed.

Click here to find the readings.

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









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

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VESTRY

Kayla Kisenwether, Junior Warden Bing Sherrill, Treasurer Susana Bernhardt, Clerk John Alduino Erickson Contreras Judy Fitzgerald **Edward Fries** Karen Hall lane Kearns Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick Tom Owen

ludy Atkinson-Miller, Senior Warden

CHOIR MEMBERS

IoAnne Sundell

Paul Cena, Director

Laura Munson, Section Leader

Betsy Curtis Cheryl Fisher

Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick

Christina Kinney

Suzanne Fatta, Section Leader

Susana Bernhardt Sue Doherty Mimi Dow

Carol Case Siracuse

John Clayton, Section Leader

Peter Dow Dan Galley Steve Shanley

Brandon Mecklenburg, Section Leader

Peter Curtis Tom Owen

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Gretchen Brand, David Brand, Chris Cuccia Greeters: Readers: Chris Cuccia, Ansie Baird, Dan Galley

Guest Musicians: George Caldwell, piano; Harry Fackelman, saxophone

Judy Atkinson Miller, JoAnne Sundell Counters:

All services are in person AND online:

Sunday @10:30am Includes communion at an open table

Sunday @7:00pm An encounter with God through poetry, jazz, and meditation

Remaining summer schedule: Aug I and Aug I5.

Wednesday @Noon Rite 2 communion and coffee

Thursday @7pm 12steps@Trinity, based on 12-step spirituality