



## **An Offering of Reflection, Prayer, and Music**

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

09.06.2020

## Welcome to Trinity's online community!

**As you watch the live stream of this service, feel free to add comments, likes, etc. to the comment section at any time!**

**You might want to light a candle and place it near you. During the service, you will be invited to light a candle if you haven't already, so at least gather what you need for that moment if you wish to participate.**

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, that food really is spiritual, and there isn't a physical, sacramental aspect. Nevertheless, this is a time of sharing and connecting with one another, knowing that we are bound together by God's love. 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

"IN A SENTIMENTAL MOOD" BY DUKE ELLINGTON

### CENTERING PRAYER

Let us pray out loud, together:

**This church is a field where mustard seeds are planted.**

**Oh, God, let our small faith grow.**

**This church is a loaf leavened with your hope.**

**Oh God, let our trust rise with your Spirit.**

**This church is prepared for a banquet.**

**Oh, God, let us come dressed in the garment of love,  
which holds all together in harmony.**

**Amen.**

*This centering  
prayer is by Matt  
Lincoln, based on  
a quotation from  
Tirabassi & Grant,  
An Improbable Gift  
of Blessing.*

# OPENING HYMN

"COME, LIVE IN THE LIGHT"



1. Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the  
 2. Come! O - pen your heart! Show your mer - cy to  
 3. Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when



love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the  
 all those in fear! We are called to be hope for the  
 all will be one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each



king-dom, to live in the free-dom of the cit - y of  
 hope-less so all ha - tred and blind-ness will be no  
 oth - er as sis - ters and broth - ers u - ni - ted in



God! We are called to act with jus - tice,  
 more!  
 love!



we are called to love ten - der - ly, we are



called to serve one an - oth - er; to



walk hum - bly with God!

*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.*

*Middle Reading  
author Scott Cairns  
(b. 1954 in Tacoma,  
Washington) is an  
American poet,  
memoirist, librettist,  
and essayist. He  
recently retired  
as Curators'  
Distinguished  
Professor of English  
at the University  
of Missouri. He  
has published nine  
collections of poetry  
plus other works.  
He has been a  
Guggenheim Fellow  
and in 2014, was  
awarded The Denise  
Levertov Award.*

## FIRST READING

Exodus 12:1-14

God said to Aaron and Moses in the land of Egypt, "This month will be the first of all months to you. You will count it as the first month of the year. Say this to the whole community of Israel: On the tenth day of this month, every family in Israel will take an animal from the flock, one for each household. If your household is too small for a whole animal, join with your next door neighbor, and divide the animal as the number of persons requires. The animal must be a year-old male without blemish. You may take it from either the sheep or the goats. You must keep it until the fourteenth day of the month, then the whole community of Israel is to slaughter it at sunset. Some of the blood must then be taken and applied to the two doorposts and the lintel of every house where the animal is eaten.

"That night you will eat the roasted flesh with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled, but roasted over the fire—the head, feet and entrails. You must not leave any over until morning. Whatever is left in morning you are to burn.

"This is how you are to eat it: with your belt buckled, your sandals on your feet, and a staff in your hand; you will eat it in haste. It is the Passover of God. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night and strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both humans and animals. I will execute this judgment on all the gods of Egypt: I am God. The blood will mark the houses where you live. When I see the blood I will pass over you, and no harm will come to you when I strike the land of Egypt.

"This day will be for you a memorial day, and you must celebrate it as a feast to God. All generations are to observe it forever as a feast day."

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

**Thanks be to God.**

## ECHO

"JESU, JESU"

*Jesu, Jesu fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.*

*Neighbors are rich and poor, neighbors are black and white, neighbors are near and far away.*

*Jesu, Jesu fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.*

## MIDDLE READING

"LATE RESULTS" BY SCOTT CAIRNS

*We wanted to confess our sins but there were no takers.*

—Milosz

And the few willing to listen demanded that we confess on television.

So we kept our sins to ourselves, and they became less troubling.

The halt and the lame arranged to have their hips replaced.

Lepers coated their sores with a neutral foundation, avoided strong light.

The hungry ate at grand buffets and grew huge, though they remained hungry.

Prisoners became indistinguishable from the few who visited them.

Widows remarried and became strangers to their kin.

The orphans finally grew up and learned to fend for themselves.

Even the prophets suspected they were mad, and kept their mouths shut.

Only the poor—who are with us always—only they continued in the hope.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

*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 Iona Community, a spiritual community in Northern Scotland and is excerpted from their prayer book, A Wee Worship Book. Like the Nicene Creed that it reflects, it is an expression of faith intended as a symbol of solidarity with other Christians throughout history but not as a pledge of allegiance required for membership. Participate at your own level of comfort.*

## ECHO

“JESU, JESU”

*Jesu, Jesu fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.*

*These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should love; all these are neighbors to us and you.*

*Jesu, Jesu fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.*

## THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 18:15-20

Jesus said, “If your sister or brother should commit some wrong against you, go and point out the error, but keep it between the two of you. If she or he listens to you, you have won a loved one back; if not, try again, but take one or two others with you, so that every case may stand on the word of two or three witnesses. If your sister or brother refuses to listen to them, refer the matter to the church. If she or he ignores even the church, then treat that sister or brother as you would a Gentile or a tax collector.

“The truth is, whatever you declare bound on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you declare loosed on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again I tell you, if two of you on earth join in agreement to pray for anything whatsoever, it will be granted you by my Abba God in heaven. “Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there in their midst.”

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

**Thanks be to God.**

## ECHO

“JESU, JESU”

*Jesu, Jesu fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.*

*Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet, this is the way we should live with you.*

*Jesu, Jesu fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.*

## SERMON

THE REV. MATT LINCOLN

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We have heard about you,**

**God of all power:**

**You made the world out of kindness,**

**creating order out of confusion;**

**you made each one of us**

**in your own image;**

**your fingerprint is on every soul.**

**So we praise you.**

**We have heard about you, Jesus Christ:**

**the carpenter who left his tools and trade;**

**the poor man who made others rich;**

**the healer who let himself be wounded;**

**the criminal on whom the soldiers spat**

**not knowing that yours was the face of God;**

**the savior who died and rose again.**

**So we praise you.**



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

#### **COMMUNITY PRAYER: RECEIVING AND RELEASING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

If you haven't already lit a candle near where you are seated, you are invited to do so now. Spend a moment gazing at it, receiving the light through your eyes, receiving God's assurance that you are loved, as are all the people who are in your prayers. Today's invitation to pray is a riff on the beatitudes by Marion Wright Edelman, adapted for liturgical use. Please say the words in bold type out loud, and as the Spirit moves you to pray, share your concerns and thanks in the comment section.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

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.**

*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. While the church is not open, Trinity has made a commitment to keep staff on the payroll. Plus, all the Trinity services are available online, either with Zoom or Facebook live streaming. You can [donate online here](#). You can also mail a check to Trinity at 371 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY 14202. Thank you!*

*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.*

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.**

## 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** "If WITH ALL YOUR HEARTS" FROM "ELIJAH" BY FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1809-1847)  
JOHN CLAYTON, TENOR

## CONCLUDING PRAYERS

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 prayer of St. Chrysostom is found in both Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer in the Book of Common Prayer.*

## PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Let us pray:

**Gracious God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

## BLESSING

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

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.**

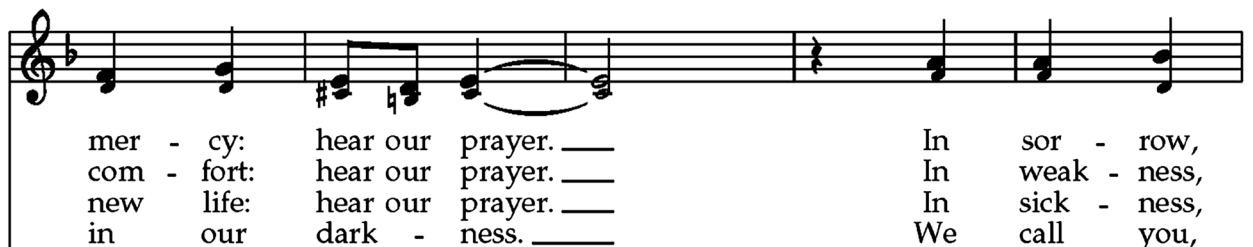
*Closing hymn on next page*



# CLOSING HYMN

"THERE IS A LONGING IN OUR HEARTS, O GOD"

## Refrain



Words and Music: Anne Quigley © 1992, 1994 Oregon Catholic Press, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213-3638.  
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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

"CORTÈGE ET LITANIE" BY MARCEL DUPRÉ — PAUL CENA, ORGAN

## 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** Live streaming on Facebook. The Sunday online Live Stream service remains accessible as a video recording on Trinity's Facebook page after the service is over.

**TRINITY @7** Zoom gatherings on Sunday night @7pm featuring poetry and jazz.

**WEDNESDAY @NOON** Zoom gatherings offering prayer and holy conversation.

**THURSDAY @7** Zoom gatherings @7pm offering the wisdom and fellowship of 12-Step recovery.

This plan will be in place for the foreseeable future. It's clear we will not have any sizable groups for many months to come. If you have ideas about safe ways to use our building for spiritual enrichment, please contact the church office to share your ideas and plans for implementation. Please continue to read the newsletters to stay informed.

Click here to [find the readings](#).

Email your request for a [link to the Zoom worship services here](#).

**MONDAY @5 TO 7PM AND THURSDAY @NOON TO 2PM** 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. Please wear a mask. You are required to sign a registry at the entrance to be used in the event contact tracing is necessary.



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[Instagram: @trinity.church.buffalo](https://www.instagram.com/trinity.church.buffalo)  
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[www.trinitybuffalo.org](http://www.trinitybuffalo.org) • (716) 852-8314

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

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Teresa Maciocha, Senior Warden  
 Judy Atkinson Miller, Junior Warden  
 Bing Sherrill, Treasurer  
 Susana Bernhardt, Clerk  
 John Alduino  
 Joe Chamberlain  
 Edward Fries  
 Karen Hall  
 Jane Kearns  
 Christina Kinney  
 Kayla Kisenwether  
 Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick  
 Tom Owen

## CHOIR MEMBERS

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  
 Nicholas Williams, *Section Leader*  
 Peter Curtis  
 Tom Owen

## TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Vocal Soloist: John Clayton, tenor  
 Readers: Kristine Caughell, Davis Bradley, Kenyon Clemons  
 Saxophone: Matt Harris  
 Cyber Sacristan: Jeffrey Tooke  
 Music Mixologist: Jane Lincoln

**Sunday @10:30am** Reflection, prayer, and music  
**Sunday @7:00pm** An encounter with God through poetry and jazz  
**Wednesday @Noon** Prayer and holy conversation  
**Thursday @7pm** 12steps@Trinity, based on 12-step spirituality