



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

Seventh Sunday of Easter

05.16.2021

# 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!**

**This service, streamed live on Facebook, is a complete offering in itself. Nevertheless, it is followed by an opportunity to participate in online communion via Zoom. 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, 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.

*Cover image: Detail,  
"Heather, Iona"  
Matt Lincoln, 2005*

## PRELUDE

"I SHOULD CARE" BY AXEL STORDAHL, PAUL WESTON AND SAMMY CAHN

## CENTERING PRAYER

Alleluia! The Lord is risen!

**The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Let us pray together.

**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.**

*The centering prayer  
is a poem written by  
John Philip Newell  
and can be found in  
his book, Praying  
With The Earth.*

OPENING HYMN

"WHEN CHRIST WAS LIFTED FROM THE EARTH"

1 When Christ was lift - ed from the earth, his  
 2 Still east and west his love ex - tends and  
 3 Where gen - er - a - tion, class, or race di -  
 4 Thus free - ly loved, though ful - ly known, may

arms stretched out a - bove through ev - ery cul - ture,  
 al - ways, near or far, he calls and claims us  
 vide us, to our shame, he sees not la - bels  
 I in Christ be free to wel - come and ac -

ev - ery birth, to draw an an - swering love.  
 as his friends and loves us as we are.  
 but a face, a per - son, and a name.  
 cept his own as Christ ac - cept - ed me.

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*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

ACTS 1:6-14

While meeting together they asked, "Has the time come, Rabbi? Are you going to restore sovereignty to Israel?"

Jesus replied, "It is not for you to know times or dates that Abba God has decided. You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; then you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and even to the ends of the earth."

Having said this, Jesus was lifted up in a cloud before their eyes and taken from their sight. They were still gazing up into the heavens when two messengers dressed in white stood beside them. "You Galileans—why are you standing here looking up at the skies?" they asked. "Jesus, who has been taken from you—this same Jesus will return, in the same way you watched him go into heaven."

*Continued on next page*

The apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath's walk away. Entering the city, they went to the upstairs room where they were staying—Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James ben-Alphaeus; Simon, a member of the Zealot sect; and Judah ben-Jacob. Also in their company were some of the women who followed Jesus, his mother Mary, and some of Jesus' sisters and brothers. With one mind, they devoted themselves to constant prayer.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

## MIDDLE READING

*At the ruins of the Seven Churches Inishmore*

Pick a crevice,  
a homey gap  
between stones  
and make it  
your own.  
Grow a life here  
from wind  
rain  
and the memories of ancients  
embedded in limestone.  
The bees will use you  
for their sweet honey.  
The rock will soften under  
your touch.  
You will draw moisture from fog  
and hold it.  
Your presence  
will build soil.  
This is all we have  
in this life  
all we own:  
a flowering  
an opening  
a gap between stones  
for tiny tender roots.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL

JOHN 17:1-11

After Jesus said this, he looked up to heaven and said, "Abba, the hour has come! Glorify your Only Begotten that I may glorify you, through the authority you've given me over all humankind, by bestowing eternal life on all those you gave me. And this is eternal life: to know the only true God, and the one you have sent, Jesus, the Messiah. I have given you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. Now Abba, glorify me with your own glory, the glory I had with you before the world began. I have manifested your Name to those you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me; and now they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you've entrusted to me does indeed come from

*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.*

*Linda Buckmaster has lived within a block of Route 1 most of her life, growing up in "Space Coast" Florida during the Fifties and Sixties and being part of the back-to-the-land movement in Midcoast Maine in the Seventies. Over time, her poetry, essays, and fiction have appeared in over thirty journals.*

*The Seven Churches of Inishmore are actually only two churches surrounded by other monastic buildings that date to the 7th and 8th centuries CE. Inishmore is the largest of the Aran Islands in Galway Bay in Ireland.*

*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.*

you. I entrusted to them the message you entrusted to me, and they received it. They know that I really came from you; they believe it was you who sent me. And it is for them that I pray—not for the world, but for these you have given me—for they are really yours, just as all that belongs to me is yours, and all that belongs to you is mine. It is in them that I have been glorified. I am in the world no more, but while I am coming to you, they are still in the world. Abba, holy God, protect those whom you have given me with your Name, the Name that you gave me, that they may be one, even as we are one.”

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,  
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 invitation to pray for each other, the church, and the world is based on the prayers of Walter Brueggeman and several others. Words will alternate with music, giving you a chance to listen to the still, small voice only you can hear, and to respond in the comment section if you wish.

The Lord be with you.

### **And also with you.**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Loving God, you have set us in families and clans, in cities and neighborhoods.

Our common life began in a garden, but our destiny lies in the city.

You have placed us in and around Buffalo. This is our home.

Your creativity is on display here through the work of human hearts and hands.

We pray for Buffalo today—for the East Side and the West Side, North Buffalo and South Buffalo.

#### *Musical Response*

We pray for our poorest neighbors and for powerful people in banks and businesses downtown. We pray for people from the First Ward and the Fruit Belt.

We pray for neighboring communities from across our partnership: from Olcott to Olean, from Angola to Albion, from Erie to Edinboro, from Emporium to New Castle and a thousand other cities connected to our own.

#### *Musical Response*

In all our neighborhoods this day there will be crime and callous moneymaking; there will be powerful people unable or unwilling to see the vulnerable who are their neighbors.

There will also be beautiful acts of compassion and creativity in all these places—forgiveness and generosity; neighbors working together for a more just community.

Help us see this place as something other than a battleground between us and them, where our imaginations are limited by win/lose propositions and endless rivalry.

Show us a deeper reality, God: Show us your Beloved Community.

#### *Musical Response*

We pray for the protection of all people around the world from the coronavirus, and for those who care for the sick, for those who are helping us all get vaccinated, for those who have taken great personal risks to maintain the well-being and safety of others throughout the pandemic. We pray also for all others who are sick or lonely, all who are overwhelmed by difficult circumstances, or trapped in harmful relationships. We pray for all who grieve, and all who live in fear. We pray for all who are dependent on the compassionate care of others, and for those who work tirelessly to care for the ones who are in need.

Prosper our city, and help us to trust that you are God, we pray in the name of the one who wept over the city.

### **Amen.**

#### *Musical Response*

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!*

**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](#), or initiate an online donation by texting the word "give" to (716) 221-8580.**

*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.*

*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, etc.*

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

*This blessing is from the Book of Common Prayer.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST" BY GIOVANNI BATTISTA PERGOLES

*Glory to God in the highest,  
And on earth peace, good will to all people.*

### 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.**

### PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

**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

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, make you perfect in every good work to do God's will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight; 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

"ALLELUIA, GRACIOUS JESUS"



Al - le - lu - ia! Gra - cious Je - sus! Yours the  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ e - ter - nal, noth - ing



scep - ter, yours the throne! Al - le - lu - ia! Yours the  
 left in sor - row now. Al - le - lu - ia! You are  
 can dis - rupt your reign; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of



tri - umph, yours the vic - to - ry a - lone!  
 near us; faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.  
 Mar - y, heaven and earth are your do - main.



Hark! the songs of peace - ful Zi - on  
 Though the cloud from sight re - ceived you  
 Hu - man life you ful - ly en - tered,



thun - der like a might - y flood; Je - sus, out of  
 when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our hearts for -  
 tend - ing those we count the least, serv - ing both as



ev - ery na - tion you've re - deemed us by your blood.  
 get your prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more."  
 Priest and Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

*William C. Dix, manager of a marine insurance company, was also a gifted writer who made a significant contribution to hymnody. This hymn was written to fill a need for communion hymns in Church of England hymnals.*

Tune: HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7.D.  
 Rowland H. Prichard, 1844  
 Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

**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**

"TRIO SONATA IN E FLAT (3RD MVT. ALLEGRO) BY J.S. BACH

## **NOT YOUR GRANDMA'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP DISCUSSION**

On **Tuesday evenings @7pm**, Tim Lane and Jeffrey Tooke are facilitating a group discussion called "Not Your Grandma's Bible Study: Devised Scripture" in which we will devise Scripture collectively from the Old Testament. Each evening we will read a narrative from the Old Testament, explore its components, and then reconstruct the narrative with an awareness of its meaning for us today.

The theme for our reading and discussion on May 18 @7pm will be "**Experiencing God's Call**" during which we will focus on I Samuel 3:1-19.

Click [here](#) for the zoom link for the discussion group on Tuesdays @7pm.

Meeting ID: 816-6863-4672

Passcode: trintalk

If you are interested in joining the discussion group or have questions about the group, please send an email to Jeffrey Tooke at [jeffrey@bayharboradvisors.com](mailto:jeffrey@bayharboradvisors.com) for more information.

## **MOTHER'S DAY DONATION DRIVE**

**TODAY** is the last day that we are collecting items for [Homespace](#) and [Journey's End](#). The drive is hosted by the Bishop Holly Chapter, Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE) in partnership with St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Trinity Church, St. John's-Grace Church, and St. Paul's Cathedral. You can participate in one of two ways:

(1) Purchase \$25 or \$50 gift cards from Save-A-Lot, TOPS, Walmart, or Target and mail them to UBE c/o St. Philip's Episcopal Church, 15 Fernhill Ave, Buffalo, NY 14215.

OR

(2) Drop off your donation at one of the churches. Please call or email ahead to find out when the building will be open and how to drop off items safely. Items needed include \*NEW\* dishes, silverware, sheet sets, crayons, activity books, or other arts & craft supplies for children, hygiene items for men & women, hand sanitizers, and face masks.

St. Paul's Cathedral (716) 855-0990

St. Philip's Episcopal Church (716) 860-0406

St. John's-Grace (716) 855-1112

Trinity Episcopal Church email [parishadministrator@trinitybuffalo.org](mailto:parishadministrator@trinitybuffalo.org)

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

For more information, contact Gabriele Atchison at [gatchison@episcopalwny.org](mailto:gatchison@episcopalwny.org).

## **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 and [YouTube](#) 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.

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

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](#).

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Judy Atkinson-Miller, Senior Warden  
Kayla Kisenwether, Junior Warden  
Bing Sherrill, Treasurer  
Susana Bernhardt, Clerk  
John Alduino  
Erickson Contreras  
Judy Fitzgerald  
Edward Fries  
Karen Hall  
Jane Kearns  
Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick  
Tom Owen  
JoAnne Sundell

## 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  
Brandon Mecklenburg, *Section Leader*  
Peter Curtis  
Tom Owen

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## TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

*Vocalists:* Laura Munson, Suzanne Fatta, John Clayton, Brandon Mecklenburg  
*Guest Musician:* Bobby Militello, saxophone  
*Readers:* Dave Brand, Abigail Ruggles, Judy Shanley

**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

