



trinity @7

04.25.2021

## welcome

Trinity @7 welcomes you via Zoom where we enjoy jazz combined with poetry and a thoughtful reflection. We're always glad to see you and to share this special time together. May you experience stillness when it is needed and much joy and laughter when they are needed, or perhaps when least expected.

Cover photo by  
Matt Lincoln

Besides beautiful music and words, we hope this time brings you a little bit of peace.

Before we get started, you're welcome to bring a candle and some matches for a brief candle lighting time. Place the candle near you so we'll see it on the screen.

If you'd like to stay online after the readings and music, we can check in with one another. If you'd rather leave the meeting, that's fine, too. Do what feels right.

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## a minute for wilderness as we watch a brief video from nature365.tv

## a centering prayer

Let us pray.

God help us to change.

To change ourselves and to change our world.

To know the need for it. To deal with the pain of it.

To feel the joy of it.

To undertake the journey without understanding the destination.

The art of gentle revolution.

**amen.**

## interlude

## Instructions on Not Giving Up

by Ada Limón

More than the fuchsia funnels breaking out  
of the crabapple tree, more than the neighbor's  
almost obscene display of cherry limbs shoving  
their cotton candy-colored blossoms to the slate  
sky of Spring rains, it's the greening of the trees  
that really gets to me. When all the shock of white  
and taffy, the world's baubles and trinkets, leave  
the pavement strewn with the confetti of aftermath,  
the leaves come. Patient, plodding, a green skin  
growing over whatever winter did to us, a return  
to the strange idea of continuous living despite  
the mess of us, the hurt, the empty. Fine then,  
I'll take it, the tree seems to say, a new slick leaf  
unfurling like a fist to an open palm, I'll take it all.

Ada Limón  
(b. 1976) is the  
author of five  
poetry collections,  
including *The  
Carrying*, which  
won the National  
Book Critics  
Circle Award for  
Poetry. She serves  
on the faculty of  
Queens University  
of Charlotte Low  
Residency MFA  
program and lives  
in Lexington,  
Kentucky.

Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer is a published Colorado poet and acappella singer. Since 2006, she's written a poem a day. Trommer's favorite one-word mantra: Adjust. Visit her at [www.wordwoman.com](http://www.wordwoman.com)

## interlude

### Kindness

by Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer

Consider the tulip,  
how it rises every spring  
out of the same soil,  
which is, of course,  
not at all the same soil,  
but new. How long ago  
someone's hands planted a bulb  
and gave to this place  
a living scrap of beauty.  
Consider the six red petals,  
the yellow at the center,  
the soft green rubber of the stem,  
how it bows to the world. How,  
the longer we sit beside it,  
the more we bow to it.  
It is something like kindness,  
is it not? The way someone plants  
in you a bit of beauty—a kind word,  
perhaps, or a touch, the gift  
of their time or their smile.  
And years later, in the soil that is you,  
it emerges again, pushing aside  
the dead leaves, insisting on beauty,  
a celebration of the one who planted it,  
the one who perceives it, and  
the fertile place where it has grown.

## interlude

### Another Spring

by Kenneth Rexroth

The seasons revolve and the years change  
With no assistance or supervision.  
The moon, without taking thought,  
Moves in its cycle, full, crescent, and full.

The white moon enters the heart of the river;  
The air is drugged with azalea blossoms;  
Deep in the night a pine cone falls;  
Our campfire dies out in the empty mountains.

Kenneth Rexroth (1905 – 1982) was a prolific American poet and translator. He was a central figure in the San Francisco Renaissance in the 1940s and was also regarded as the “godfather” of the Beat movement. Largely self-educated, he was attracted to Eastern and Western philosophy, mysticism, and environmentalism.

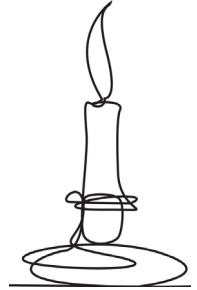
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The sharp stars flicker in the tremulous branches;  
The lake is black, bottomless in the crystalline night;  
High in the sky the Northern Crown  
Is cut in half by the dim summit of a snow peak.

O heart, heart, so singularly  
Intransigent and corruptible,  
Here we lie entranced by the starlit water,  
And moments that should each last forever.

## the candle lighting

After Krista plays, feel free to light a candle.



## interlude

## Quotes from Robin Wall Kimmerer

In some Native languages the term for plants translates to “those who take care of us.”

### interlude

This is really why I made my daughters learn to garden—so they would always have a mother to love them, long after I am gone.

### interlude

I close my eyes and listen to the voices of the rain.  
interlude

Sometimes I wish I could photosynthesize so that just by being, just by shimmering at the meadow's edge or floating lazily on a pond, I could be doing the work of the world while standing silent in the sun.

### interlude

Paying attention is a form of reciprocity with the living world, receiving the gifts with open eyes and open heart.

## interlude

## reflection

## interlude

Robin Wall Kimmerer (b. 1953) is a mother, plant ecologist, writer, enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, and SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, New York. In *Braiding Sweetgrass*, her 2013 book from which tonight's quotes are taken, she weaves indigenous wisdom with the pursuit of scientific knowledge.

## closing prayer

May you have the grace and wisdom  
To act kindly, learning to distinguish between what is  
Personal and what is not.

**May you be hospitable to criticism.**

**May you never put yourself at the center of things.**

May you act not from arrogance but out of service.

**May you work on yourself**

**Building up and refining the ways of your mind.**

May you learn to cultivate the art of presence  
In order to engage with those who meet you

**When someone fails or disappoints you**

**May the graciousness with which you engage**

**Be their stairway to renewal and refinement.**

May you treasure the gifts of the mind  
Through reading and creative thinking  
So that you continue to be a servant of the frontier  
Where the new will draw its enrichment from the old,  
And you never become a functionary.

**May you know the wisdom of deep listening,**

**The healing of wholesome words,**

**The encouragement of the appreciative gaze,**

**The decorum of held dignity,**

**The springtime of the bleak question.**

May you have a mind that loves frontiers So that you can evoke the bright  
fields That lie beyond the view of the regular eye.

**May you have good friends**

**To mirror your blind spots.**

May leadership be for you

A true adventure of growth.

As we move our bodies to offer our prayers, move our hearts to have the  
serenity, courage, and wisdom to embody your love in the world.

**amen**

## postlude

## invitation

Please stay online if you'd like to say hello to others and/or to bring up something  
from the readings or the reflection that moved you or prompted a question.

## **Not Your Grandma's Bible Study Group Discussion**

On **Tuesday evenings @7pm** starting **April 27**, Tim Lane and Jeffrey Tooke are facilitating a 6-week 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 April 27, 2021 at 7pm will be "Unable to See God."

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.

## **COMMISSION TO DISMANTLE RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT REGARDING VERDICT IN DEREK CHAUVIN CASE**

The Commission to Dismantle Racism and Discrimination of the Episcopal Dioceses of Western New York and Northwestern Pennsylvania stand in solidarity with the family of George Floyd and all those who have suffered because of the sin of racism and oppression.

The Commission is committed to working with the Partnership (WNY/NWPA) and the community to dismantle the structures of systemic racism that have existed since the founding of this country. Silence is complicity.

We recognize the conviction of Derek Chauvin holds him accountable but that he is one person in a police culture that devalues and endangers black and brown lives. The Commission urges people of faith to speak out with the Episcopal Public Policy Network to support the **George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021**. God brought us to this moment. Let us follow his lead with love.

We encourage and support the clergy and laity as we continue to work toward fair and equitable treatment for all God's children.

"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy  
and to walk humbly with your God."

Micah 6:8

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

We will be collecting items for [Homespace](#) and [Journey's End](#) from Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9 through Sunday, May 16. 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).



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

Thank you to our pianist, Krista Seddon!

Thanks to Matt Lincoln for bringing us together virtually and for reflecting from his heart.

Thank you to our host and readers.

Thank you to all the poets and musicians in the world who reflect life back to us in the most beautiful ways.

And of course, thank you.

If you'd like to visit Trinity Church in person for some quiet contemplation or to view the stunning stained glass windows, the building will be open on Thursdays from noon to 2pm or by appointment. Please wear a mask and sign the contact-tracing register at the entry.

## Financial Support

Your financial support is meaningful in several ways. First it's a practical offering; Trinity has made a commitment to keep staff on the payroll during the pandemic. Plus, all the Trinity services are available online, either with Zoom or Facebook live streaming which requires just as much if not more work to carry out. Your donation can be a symbolic gesture, too, expressing your gratitude for all the blessings in your life and your hope for health in the world.

You can [donate online here](#), or initiate an online donation by texting the word "give" to (716) 221-8580.

Thank you for your participation and contribution. Peace.

## Online Services:

**Sunday @10:30am**

Reflection, prayer, and music - Facebook live.

**Sunday @7:00pm**

An encounter with God through poetry and jazz - Zoom

**Wednesday @Noon**

Prayer and holy conversation - Zoom

**Thursday @7pm**

12steps@Trinity, based on 12-step spirituality - Zoom