



An Offering of Reflection, Prayer, and Music

First Sunday after the Epiphany

01.10.2021

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!

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.

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.

*Cover image:
"Wings and Water"
by Matt Lincoln,
2020*

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.

PRELUDE

"AIR FROM WATER MUSIC" BY G.F. HANDEL

CENTERING PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**Before, behind, beneath,
Creation, conception, birth, redemption.
This prayer, this moment: Creator's spirit.
Holy Spirit, infinitude eternally pouring forth,
Energy of love sustaining the universe.
Come Creator Spirit
Conceiving Spirit, Initiating Spirit
Life-giving, birth-giving Spirit
Life-breath of love.
Holy Spirit,
Your blessed unction from above
Is fire of love.
Amen.**

*This centering
prayer is by
Brendan O'Malley.*

OPENING HYMN

"SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER"



1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, Where bright an - gel feet have trod; ___
 2. On the mar - gin of the riv - er, Wash - ing up its sil - ver spray, ___
 3. Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, Lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down; ___
 4. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, Soon our pil - grim - age will cease, ___



1. With its crys - tal tide for - ev - er Flow - ing by the throne of God?
 2. We will walk and wor - ship ev - er, All the hap - py gold - en day.
 3. Grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, And pro - vide a robe and crown.
 4. Soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er With the mel - o - dy of peace.



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, The beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er That flows by the throne of God.



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

GENESIS 1:1-5

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. But the earth became chaos and emptiness, and darkness came over the face of the Deep—yet the Spirit of God was brooding over the surface of the waters. Then God said, "Light: Be!" and light was. God saw that the light was good, and God separated light from darkness. God called the light "Day" and the darkness "Night." Evening came, and morning followed—the first day.

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

Thanks be to God.

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.

Jimmy Santiago Baca (b. 1952) is an American poet and writer of Apache and Chicano descent. While incarcerated for five years in a maximum security prison, he decided to turn his life around; he taught himself to read and write, and left prison as a writer, having published some of his work in Mother Jones Magazine whose editor at the time was Denise Levertov.

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.

MIDDLE READING

I feel foolish,
like those silly robins jumping on the ditch boughs
when I run by them.
Those robins do not have the grand style of the red tailed hawk,
no design, no dream, just robins acting stupid.
They've never smoked cigarettes, drank whiskey, consumed drugs
as I have.
In their mindless
fluttering about
filled with nonsense,
they tell me how they
love the Great Spirit,
scold me not to be self-pitying,
to open my life
and make this day a bough on a tree
leaning over infinity, where eternity flows forward
and with day the river runs
carrying all that falls in it.
Be happy Jimmy, they chirp,
Jimmy, be silly, make this day a tree
leaning over the river eternity
and fuss about in its branches.

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

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

MARK 1:4-11

And so John the Baptizer appeared in the desert, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to John and were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist, and he ate nothing but grasshoppers and wild honey. In the course of his preaching, John said, "One more powerful than I is to come after me. I am not fit to stoop and untie his sandal straps. I have baptized you in water, but the One to come will baptize you in the Holy Spirit." It was then that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan River by John. Immediately upon coming out of the water, Jesus saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. Then a voice came from the heavens: "You are my Beloved, my Own. On you my favor rests."

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 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.**

*Like all summaries
 of historic and
 communal belief,
 this affirmation of
 faith is intended as a
 symbol of unity and
 continuity rather
 than a litmus test
 of one's individual
 commitment to a
 particular dogma.*

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. For the next few moments, sit quietly and offer your prayers to God for yourself, those close to you and all of the human family. Today's invitation to pray for each other, the church and the world is based on a Shabbat prayer adapted from *Mishkan T'Filah: A Reform Siddur*, published by the Central Conference of American Rabbis in 2007. 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.

There are days when we seek things
 for ourselves and measure failure
 by what we do not gain.
 On the Sabbath, we seek not to acquire
 but to share.

There are days when we exploit nature
 as if it were a horn of plenty
 that can never be exhausted.
 On the Sabbath, we stand in wonder
 before the mystery of creation.

Musical Response

Continued on next page

There are days when we act as if we
cared nothing for the rights of others.
On the Sabbath, we remember that justice is
our duty and a better world our goal.

So we embrace this Sabbath day:
day of rest, day of wonder, day of peace.

Musical Response

Gracious God, heal us and strengthen us this day
to love you with our whole heart and mind and strength
and to love our neighbors as ourselves
every day of our lives.

Sung Response: "Sow In Tears"

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

It's the song of the dreamer, from the dark place it grows.

Like a flower in the desert, the oasis of our souls.

Come back, come back where we belong,
you who hear our longing sighs.

Our mouths, our lips are filled with song.

You can see our tear filled eyes.

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

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

Jesus autem hodie regresusest a Jordane
(Today, Jesus returned to the Jordan)

When Jesus Christ baptised was,
The Holy Ghost descended with grace;
The Father's voice was heard in this place:
Hic est filius meus, ipsum intende.
(This is my Son, listen to Him).

"THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST" BY MICHAEL BEDFORD

There were three persons and one Lord,
The Son baptised with one accord,
The Father said this blessed word:
Hic filius meus, ipsum intende.

Now, Jesu, as thou art both God and man,
And were baptised in from Jordan,
At our last end we pray thee, say then:
Hic filius meus, ipsum intende.

*"Sow In Tears"
written by Debbie
Freidman, based on
Psalm 126.*

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

This blessing comes to us from the Rev. Isaiah "Shaneequa" Brokenleg.

CONCLUDING PRAYERS

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.**

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

May the sun bring you new energy by day, may the moon softly restore you by night, may the rain wash away your worries, may the breeze blow new strength into your being, may you walk gently through the world and know its beauty all the days of your life. And the blessing of God; the Creator, who made and knows us; the Savior, who redeems and befriends us; and the Spirit, who enlightens and sustains us, be with you this day and always.

Amen.

Closing hymn on next page

CLOSING HYMN

"O GOD OF EVERY NATION"

1 O God of ev - ery na - tion, of ev - ery, race and land,
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
 3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that we may find re - lease
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

re - deem the whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc-tion through the night,
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
 from pride of race and na - tion and blind-ness to your way,
 when hope and cour-age fal - ter, your still small voice be heard;
 till dawns the morn-ing glo-rious when truth and jus - tice reign

in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
 de - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray!
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

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

"SPAIN" BY CHICK COREA

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](#).

An Evening Moment of Prayer and Fellowship: Are you struggling to process recent events? Looking for an outlet to share some prayer and your thoughts? Trinity is here for you. Join **Jeffrey Tooke** and **Tim Lane** on Tuesday, January 12, @ 7pm for a short prayer service followed by some time for conversation and fellowship. Hope to see you there! To join us on Tuesday, please use the zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81668634672?pwd=eTVJZXFoNzVYdHZvSHZONGlNUUowZz09>

Meeting ID: 816-6863-4672

Passcode: trintalk

February 24, 7pm Trinity will host a Zoom appearance by Debby Irving, author of "Waking Up White: And Finding Myself in the Story of Race." Irving, who is white and was raised in upper middle class Massachusetts, writes plainly and clearly about her discoveries of how much she had benefited over the years because she was white and how she began to question her long-held assumptions about race and culture. Her book is eye opening, possibly life changing in its revelations about white privilege. We encourage you to read the book though it is not a requirement for her appearance. To register, click on [kindridgiving link](#).



We encourage you to purchase your book locally from [Talking Leaves](#).

It is also available at the public library and at a number of online venues.

On **Tuesday, January 12, @ 7:00pm**, Krista Seddon continues the Steinway Sundays series to benefit Central Park United Methodist Church via Zoom. Hear the music and stories of Chopin, Debussy, Marian McPartland, Cole Porter, and Chick Corea in the lecture-performance: "Nights In The Garden of Sounds: Exotic Influences In Jazz."

Each ticket covers an entire household. PayPal is accepted at the following link: centralparkcomplex.com/steinway-sundays.html

Checks are accepted, please email Steve Hunt for instructions: shunt@huntcommercial.com.

Music from Church Publishing (Hymnal 1982; Wonder Love & Praise; Lift Every Voice and Sing II) is reproduced under a license from RiteSong. Other music is reproduced under OneLicense A-700776.



STAFF

The Reverend Matthew R. Lincoln, Rector

mlincoln@trinitybuffalo.org
(716) 852-8314 ext. 14

Krista Seddon, Director of Ensembles; Pianist

krista@kristaseddon.com
www.kristaseddon.com

Paul Cena, Organist and Choir Director

prcena@verizon.net

Colleen O'Neill, Parish Administrator and Director of Children's Ministries

coneill@trinitybuffalo.org
(716) 852-8314 ext. 10

Margaux Charlier, Child Care Worker

Jennifer Frey, Office Volunteer

clerical@trinitybuffalo.org
(716) 852-8314 ext. 19

Rich Mpelezos, Facility Manager

rmpelezos@trinitybuffalo.org
(716) 852-8314 ext. 24

Jay Mpelezos, Caretaker

jmpelezos@trinitybuffalo.org

Sarah Caputi, Caretaker

scaputi@trinitybuffalo.org

Meghan Arnold, Caretaker

marnold@trinitybuffalo.org

Dale Worwa, Facility Cleaner

VESTRY

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
Tyler Mecklenburg, *Section Leader*
Peter Curtis
Tom Owen

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Vocalists: Laura Munson, Suzanne Fata, John Clayton, Tyler Mecklenburg
Guest Musician: Bobby Militello
Readers: Renee Severson, Ansie Baird, Megan Hurley
Cyber Sacristan: Jeffrey Tooke

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

www.facebook.com/TrinityBuffalo

[https://www.youtube](https://www.youtube.com/)

[@trinity.church.buffalo](https://www.instagram.com/trinity.church.buffalo)

[@trinitybuffalo1](https://www.twitter.com/trinitybuffalo1)

www.trinitybuffalo.org • (716) 852-8314

