



An Offering of Reflection, Prayer, and Music

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

10.11.2020

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.

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.

PRELUDE

"AUTUMN IN NEW YORK" BY VERNON DUKE—KRISTA SEDDON, PIANO

CENTERING PRAYER

Let us pray out loud, together:

**I give thanks for arriving
Safely in a new dawn,
For the gift of eyes
To see the world,
The gift of mind
To feel at home
In my life,
The waves of possibility
Breaking on the shore of dawn,
The harvest of the past
That awaits my hunger,
And all the furtherings
This new day will bring.
Amen.**

*Cover image: "The Wall Street Bull."
Image found on
UnSplash.com, used
by permission.*

*The Centering
Prayer is the poem
"On Waking" by
John O'Donohue.*

OPENING HYMN

"SING OF THE LORD'S GOODNESS"



1. Sing of the Lord's good-ness, Au-thor of all wis-dom, come to the Lord, bless God's name.
2. Pow-er you have wield-ed, hon-or is your gar-ment, ris-en from the snares of death.
3. Cour-age in our dark-ness, com fort in our sor-row, Spir-it of our God most high;—
4. Praise God with your sing-ing, praise God with the Trum-pet, praise God with the Lute and Harp;



Mer-cy you have shown us, your love is for-ev-er, faith-ful to the end of days.—
Your word you have spok-en, one bread you have bro-ken, new life you now give to all.—
sol-ace for the wear-y, par-don for the sin-ner, splen-dor of the liv-ing God.—
praise God with the cym-bals, praise God with your danc-ing, praise God till the end of days.—



Come, then, all you na-tions, sing of your Lord's good-ness, mel-o-dies of praise and thanks to God



Ring out the Lord's glo-ry, praise God with your mu-sic, wor-ship the Lord bless God's name.—

FIRST READING

Exodus 32:1-14

Moses was an extremely long time in returning from the mountain, and when the people saw this, they turned to Aaron and said, "Come and make a god for us, someone who will lead us. We don't know what has happened to that Moses, who brought us up from the land of Egypt." Aaron replied, "Remove the gold earrings you are wearing—wives and husbands, sons and daughters alike—and bring them all to me."

All the people brought their gold earrings to Aaron. Aaron took the gold, melted it down and cast it in a mold, and made it into a calf, a young bull. Then the people said, "Israel, here is your God, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!" When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before the idol, proclaiming, "Tomorrow we will have a feast in honor of God!"

In the morning the people rose early, sacrificing burnt offerings and bringing communion offerings, and then they sat down to eat and drink, and lost themselves in debauchery. God said to Moses, "Go down, now! These people whom you led out of Egypt have corrupted themselves! In such a short time, they have turned from the way that I have given them, and made themselves a molten calf. Then they worshipped it and sacrificed to it saying, 'Israel, here is your God, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!'"

God then said to Moses, "I look at these people—how stubborn they are! Now leave me to myself so that my anger may pour out on them, and destroy them! But you I'll make into a great nation." Then Moses soothed the face of the Lord his God. "But why, my God, should you let your wrath pour out on these people whom you delivered from Egypt with great might, with a strong hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'Their God intended to destroy them all along, to kill them in the mountains, to erase them from the earth?' Turn your back on your rage; reconsider the disaster you intended for your people. Do not forget Sarah and Abraham, Rebecca and

*The Bible readings
are taken from
The Inclusive Bible:
The First Egalitarian
Translation by
Priests for Equality.*

Continued on next page

Isaac, and Leah and Rachel and Jacob, your chosen ones, to whom you promised, 'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky; I will give to you all this land which I have promised—I will give it to your descendants, and they will enjoy its inheritance forever.'"

So God relented, and the disaster that threatened the Israelites was forestalled.

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.

Middle reading author January Gill O'Neil is winner of a 2015 Paterson Award for Literary Excellence. The recipient of fellowships from Cave Canem and the Barbara Deming Memorial Fund, O'Neil was awarded a Massachusetts Cultural Council grant and was named the John and Renée Grisham Writer in Residence for 2019-2020 at the University of Mississippi, Oxford. She is an associate professor of English at Salem State University and holds board positions at the Association of Writers and Writing Programs and Montserrat College of Art.

MIDDLE READING

"OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE" BY JANUARY GILL O'NEIL

We draw breath from brick

step on stones, weather-worn,
cobble and carved

with the story of this church,

this meeting house,
where Ben Franklin was baptized

and Phillis Wheatley prayed—a mouth-house

where colonists gathered
to plot against the crown.

This structure, with elegant curves

and round-topped windows, was the heart
of Boston, the body of the people,

survived occupation for preservation,

foregoing decoration
for conversation.

Let us gather in the box pews

once numbered and rented
by generations of families

held together like ribs

in the body politic. Let us gaze upon
the upper galleries to the free seats

where the poor and the town slaves

listened and waited and pondered
and prayed

for revolution.

Let us testify to the plight
of the well-meaning at the pulpit

with its sounding board high above,

congregations raising heads and hands to the sky.
We, the people—the tourists

and townies—one nation under

this vaulted roof, exalted voices
speaking poetry out loud,

in praise and dissent.

We draw breath from brick. Ignite the fire in us.

Speak to us:

the language is hope.

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

Thanks be to 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 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.

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 22:1-14

Then Jesus spoke to them again in parables. He said, "The kingdom of heaven is like this: there was a ruler who prepared a feast for the wedding of the family's heir; but when the ruler sent out workers to summon the invited guests, they wouldn't come. The ruler sent other workers, telling them to say to the guests, 'I have prepared this feast for you. My oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding.' But they took no notice; one went off to his farm, another to her business, and the rest seized the workers, attacked them brutally and killed them. The ruler was furious and dispatched troops who destroyed those murderers and burned their town.

"Then the ruler said to the workers, 'The wedding feast is ready, but the guests I invited don't deserve the honor. Go out to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find.' The workers went out into the streets and collected everyone they met, good and bad alike, until the hall was filled with guests.

"The ruler, however, came in to see the company at table, and noticed one guest who was not dressed for a wedding. 'My friend,' said the ruler, 'why are you here without a wedding garment?' But the guest was silent. Then the ruler said to the attendants, 'Bind this guest hand and foot, and throw the individual out into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

"Many are called, but few are chosen."

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

THE REV. MATT LINCOLN

MUSICAL REFLECTION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

NEW ZEALAND (MAORI) CREED

You, O God, are supreme and holy.

You create our world and give us life.

Your purpose overarches everything we do.

You have always been with us.

You are God.

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.**

You came to us before we came to you.

The creed is from A New Zealand Prayer Book and is a contemporary and vernacular expression of the historic faith described in The Nicene Creed (see the red Book of Common Prayer, page 358). Like all summaries of historic and communal belief, this is intended as a symbol of unity and continuity rather than a litmus test of one's individual commitment to a particular dogma.

**You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who loved and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.**

You are our God. We worship 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 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 Olcott to Olean, from Angola to Albion, 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

Continued on next page

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.

We pray also for all 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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"COME TO THE FEAST" BY CAROL McCLURE/HYUN KOOK

*Come to the feast that our Lord has provided,
Brothers and sisters who gather in this place;
Come savor this meal as you savor this moment;
Come giving thanks as you meet Him face to face.*

*Bread of redemption, cup of salvation,
Served by our Savior, this sweet celebration;
Glory and honor, praise adoration
Unto our Lord for His table set with grace.*

*Come offering your hearts to be bathed in His mercy,
Humble and open to follow after Christ;
Come, laying aside all your strife and your anger,
Come in repentance to the One who offers life.*

*Partake of this bread; for you it is broken;
Come drink this wine; for you it has been poured.
Then brothers and sisters who meet at this table;
Go out to serve in the name of our Lord.*

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

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 Francis's friend, Clare of Assisi.

Live without fear. Your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Follow the good road 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

"O, FOR A CLOSER WALK WITH GOD"

1 O for a clos - er walk with God, a calm and heav - en - ly frame,
2 Where is the bless - ed - ness I knew when first I saw the Lord?
3 Re - turn, O ho - ly Dove, re - turn, sweet mes - sen - ger of rest;
4 The dear - est i - dol I have known, what - e'er that i - dol be,
5 So shall my walk be close with God, calm and se - rene my frame;

1 a light to shine up - on the road that leads me to the Lamb!
2 Where is the soul - re - fresh - ing view of Je - sus and his word?
3 I hate the sins that made thee mourn, and drove thee from my breast.
4 help me to tear it from thy throne, and wor - ship on - ly thee.
5 so pur - er light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

Words: William Cowper (1731-1800), alt. Music: *Beatitudo*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

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

"PRELUDE & FUGUE IN C MAJOR" BY GEORG BOEHM—PAUL CENA, ORGAN

TODAY, 4 to 5:30pm, Chicken Dinner Pick-up.

Supplies Needed for Hamlin Park School

Support Hamlin Park School by donating school supplies! Indicate what you will donate and drop off items at Trinity in the red carpet area when the sanctuary is open on Thursdays between 12 and 2pm. If it's not possible to make a church drop off and you're local, please contact Susie Green at susie432@gmail.com to arrange a time to drop the items by her house or for her to pick them up from you.

School supplies are needed by Monday, October 26 to be delivered to Hamlin Park. Click [here](#) to see what's needed.

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](#).

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.



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

 www.facebook.com/TrinityBuffalo

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

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

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

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

jmppelezos@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 Saxophone
Readers: Krista Vince Garland, Debra Park, John Fantini
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