

**Offertory:** “Here I Am, Lord” C. Courtney

**\*Doxology:** UMH# 94

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

Dedication of the Offering: O God, giver of all good gifts, we offer these gifts to you in return, with gratitude for the gifts you have showered upon us, including the gift of our very lives. May they, and we, bear your peace, love and justice into our community and our world. **Amen.**

**\*Hymn:** “In the Midst of New Dimensions” (vv.1-3) TFWS# 2238

**Benediction**

**Postlude:** “Make a Joyful Noise” A. Viner

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**We thank those who participated in today’s service:**

**Accompanist:** Steve Hays

**Acolytes:** Mason Hedeem, Anthony Skridulas, Nicholas Skridulas

**Altar Flowers:** In loving memory of Eulalia & Pauline, from Judy C.

**Carillonneur:** Thomas St. Marie

**Chancel Art:** Nicole Baker

**Fellowship Hour:** The Missions Committee & Volunteers

**Flautist:** Lynette Varnon

**Liturgist:** Steve Sheffield

**Ushers:** Head Usher, Sheila Womble; Rita Auchy, Holly Blair, Ray Miller

**Video Team:** Nicole Baker, Brian Crawford, Nic Odell, Jack Rust, Anthony & Nicholas Skridulas

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***Please Pray for:***

Mary A, Borys B, James B (Bridget’s brother), Marilyn C, Margaret (Peg) C, Mary C (Matt's mother), Dominick E, Jo Anne E, Courtney H (Sheila W's daughter), Blair J (Brenda L's grandson), Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, (Katherine's sister-in-law), Holly Joy P, Daryl P, Claire (LaPierre) P, Catherine Ann R, Christopher S, Lynn T, Mary (Twining) G (Nate T’s sister & Camille’s sister-in-law), Alison (Allie) W, Andrew W (Phyllis T's nephew), our service members and their loved ones, those affected by gun violence and natural disasters.

# Trinity United Methodist Church

361 Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA 01108

[www.trinityspringfield.org](http://www.trinityspringfield.org)

*Minister, Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun*

*Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Michael Carney*

*Director of Family Ministries & Connections, Rob Powell*

*Spiritual Director, Cathy MacGovern*

*District Superintendent, Rev. Megan Stowe*

*Bishop, Peggy A. Johnson*



*Believing that all persons are created in God's image and are of sacred worth, that Jesus' message was one of inclusion of those rejected by mainstream society, and that each member makes inherent and valuable contributions to the Body of Christ, we of Trinity Church welcome into this congregation people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic condition, family structure, and physical or mental ability.*



**Celebrate** God’s love

**Nurture** relationships with God and one another

**Serve** our community and world, as we share the light of Christ

## Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 10, 2023

10:30 a.m.

### Meditation:

As we look to where we're going, help us to reflect on you.  
May our actions and intentions, mirror what we learn is true. ~ Jane Schneeloch

### WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE FOR A TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

*Welcome. We are so glad you have joined us for worship today. Please fill out our Friendship Pad, located at the end of your pew, so we can get to know you. Prayer cards are also available in the pew pockets. If you would like to have your prayer shared, please place it on the offering plate. All prayer requests will be lifted up during the Wednesday morning prayer meeting at 9:30 a.m. We worship using the liturgy printed in your bulletin and two songbooks: The United Methodist Hymnal (UMH), and The Faith We Sing (TFWS). Please silence electronic devices before the service. Nursery care is available downstairs for children ages birth- 3 years. \*Please stand in body or in spirit. Items in bold are read in unison.*

**Prelude:** "Open the Eyes of My Heart" M. Hayes

### Welcome and Announcements

**Introit:** "Christians We Have Met to Worship" Words: J. Schneeloch

### \*Call to Worship:

One: Come, let us praise the Lord!

**Many: We praise God with our whole heart!**

One: God's works are great!

**Many: Open our hearts and spirits to see your works, O Lord!**

One: Come, let us worship the Lord who has saved us!

**Many: May our lives reflect the wondrous love of God that all may see and know of God's greatness. Amen.**

**\*Hymn:** "We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding" TFWS# 2103

### \*Unison Prayer of Confession:

**We think we know so much, O God, and with our meager knowledge we presume to judge others. We arrogantly announce our own righteousness without a compassionate thought. We proclaim your word when it suits us and often only to those with whom we want to associate. We shut others out because of our faulty judgment and our blindness. There have been so many times in which our humble help would have been a blessing to someone, but we have placed our comforts before serving others. In the competing voices of today's world, we have turned around and around, trying to find the way to live. Help us, merciful God, to again listen to you. Help us to truly open our hearts to you. Remind us again of your great love and presence in our lives. Forgive us our foolishness and our stubbornness. Create in us new spirits, filled with your love, offering peace and hope to all. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### \*Words of Assurance:

Quiet your hearts, beloved of God, for God is speaking to you with love. Rest your spirits, struggling ones, for God will surround you with peace. Open your lives to God's power and presence and do not be afraid. God is with us, now and for all time. **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

**Special Music:** "Clap Your Hands and Sing!" A. Pote

### \*Passing the Peace of Christ

### LISTENING FOR THE SPIRIT'S WORD TO US

### Children's Moment

### Pastoral Prayer, Joys and Concerns

### The Lord's Prayer:

**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, forever. Amen.**

### Prayer Response

**\*Hymn:** "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UMH# 206

**Scripture:** Mark 1: 21-28 N.T. p. 33

### Response to the Word:

**One:** The Word of God for the People of God.

**Many: Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon:** "Teaching With Power and Authority" Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

### RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT'S PROMPTINGS

### Invitation to Offering:

Holy God of infinite patience and grace, we bring our offerings today knowing that our actions too often don't live up to our intentions and aspirations. When calling ourselves Christians, we announce ourselves as followers of Christ, knowing how many times our choices have made us unrecognizable as his disciples. Yet you wait patiently for us to find our way back to the path. May our giving this day and our living reflect our desire to be on the path that would be recognized as faithful to the Savior, in whose blessed name we pray. **Amen.**