

Trinity United Methodist Church

361 Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA 01108

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

***Prayer of Thanksgiving:** --David S. Bell

O God, you have blessed us. We find it hard to name and explain your blessings so that they will make sense to others. Yet they are real. We are grateful . . . for friends, for faith, for freedom. Now, we offer these gifts in thankfulness and in joy. We are giving money and rejoicing about it. We can't explain it, even to ourselves, as we offer these gifts. We rejoice because we offer this money to be used for good in this world. In Jesus' name, we pray. **Amen.**

***Hymn:** "Thine Be the Glory" UMH# 308

Benediction:

Postlude: "Prelude in C Major" J.S. Bach

We thank those who participated in today's service:

Accompanist: Steve Hays

Acolytes: Charlotte, Greta and Jack Rust

Altar Guild: Deb Garth

Carillonneur: Thomas St. Marie

Chancel Art: Nicole Baker

Fellowship Hour this Month: Worship Committee Members & Volunteers

Liturgist: Deb Marden

Ushers: Head Usher, Sheila Womble; Karen Andros, Lisa Foster, Wendy Regan,

Margo Sweetland

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

Please Pray for:

Borys B, James B (Bridget's brother), Vonda B (Chad T's sister), Marilyn C, Margaret (Peg) C, Mary C (Matt's mother), Leslie D (friend of Mary Beth G), Dominick E, Courtney H (Sheila W's daughter), Blair J (Brenda L's grandson), John Kc, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, (Katherine's sister-in-law), Dorothy M, Holly Joy P, Daryl P, Claire (L) P, Catherine Ann R, Lynn T, Mary (T) G (Nate T's sister & Camille's sister-in-law), Alison (Allie) W, Andrew W (Phyllis T's nephew), our service men, women and their loved ones, those affected by gun violence and natural disasters.



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

Second Sunday of Easter

April 16, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Meditation:

“Doubts are the ants in the pants of faith. They keep it awake and moving.” --Frederick Buechner

GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT TO WORSHIP

** Those who are able are invited to stand. * Items in bold are read in unison.*

We are invited to observe silence during the prelude. Please turn off cell phones.

If you have a prayer request, please write it on a “Prayer Card” found in the card rack, and place it in the offering plate.

All prayer requests will be lifted up during the Wednesday morning prayer meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Prelude: “Above All” P. Baloché, L. LeBlanc

Welcome and Announcements

(New visitors only please fill out the blue paper in the red folder. Others, please sign the white attendance sheets.)

Introit: “Alleluia Brasiliera” (Brazilian Alleluia) R. Manuel

*Call to Worship:

One: Come, you scattered and torn;

Many: Here, find hope.

One: Come, you scared and lonely;

Many: Here, find rest.

One: Come, you confused and searching;

Many: Here, find guidance.

One: Come, happy or sad:

All: Here join the song. Here let your lives be embraced by God’s grace.

***Hymn:** “Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise” UMH# 312

*Prayer of Confession:

Many: Risen Lord Jesus, what is it that keeps us from recognizing you? From burning bushes, majestic sunrises, gentle streams, cluttered desks, and hurried meals, you invite us to know you and to hear your message. You visit us in so many ways. Your Presence can transform even the most ordinary into holy ground. Yet we are blind to you, for we expect you only in ways that fit our expectations, our conceptions. We are reluctant to heed your call, for it asks for commitment. We are filled with excuses and self-doubts when action is called for. Remind us again that we are not alone, that in our weakness is your strength, and that in your call is our joy. Forgive us O God, and help us to empty ourselves of all that hinders our awareness of your presence with us. Amen.

*Words of Assurance:

The Lord did not abandon Thomas to his unbelief, nor will the Lord abandon us to ours. God hears our cries for help and answers us. See God at work in your life from this day forward.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **Amen.**

Special Music: “Easter Day in the Morning” English Carol arr. P. Kern

*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:** “Easter People, Raise Your Voices” UMH# 304
(Children 4-6 years old are invited to Bible Story Time downstairs. Chapel Kids for 7-12 year olds are invited to Grace Chapel. Parents are asked to escort their children and pick them up. Thank you.)

Scripture Reading: John 20: 19-31(NRSV) N.T. pp. 108-109

Response to the Word:

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

Many: Praise be to God!

Sermon: “Doubt” Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT’S PROMPTINGS

Invitation to Offering: --Discipleship Ministries

God of miracles, in the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ, you overturned natural laws. Thank you for the patience Jesus showed to Thomas who was afraid that it was too good to be true. You still do wonders, transforming people’s lives by your Spirit working through disciples like us. Direct our offerings to strengthen the ministries of this church, especially among people who struggle with doubt or feel distant from you. We pray through Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

Offertory: “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” BEACH SPRING arr. M. Hayes

***Doxology:** UMH# 94