

***Doxology:** UMH# 94

***Prayer of Thanksgiving:**
Gracious and loving God, we place these gifts upon your altar. May they be acceptable unto you, and may they be instruments to further your kingdom here on this earth. **Amen.**

***Hymn:** “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” UMH# 557

Benediction

Postlude: “Prelude in F Major” J.S. Bach

We thank those who participated in today’s service:

Accompanist: Steve Hays

Acolytes: Charlie, Henry and Julia Gray

Altar Flowers: In loving memory of Michael W, from Mark W and family

Altar Guild: Deb Garth and Kathy Hathaway

Carillonneur: Thomas St. Marie

Chancel Art: Nicole Baker

Fellowship Hour this Month: Membership & Evangelism Committee Volunteers

Flute: Janet Dixon-Metcalf

Liturgist: Andrew Berke

Ushers: Head Usher, Sheila Womble; Asst. Head Usher, Don Cushing; Ushers, Lisa Bakowski, Holly Blair, Ray Miller

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, Kelly H, Courtney H (Sheila W's daughter), Blair J (Brenda L's grandson), John K, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, (Katherine's sister-in-law), Velma M, Dorothy M, Holly Joy P, Daryl P, Claire (L) P, Catherine Ann R, Nancy S, Lynn T, Mary (Twining) G (Nate T’s sister & Camille’s sister-in-law), Alison W, The W family, Andrew W (Phyllis T's nephew), our service men, women 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

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

Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany

February 12, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Special Music:

“Clap Your Hands and Sing!”

A. Pote

Meditation:

“The mystery of God hugs you in its all-encompassing arms”- Hildegard of Bingen

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: “Be Thou My Vision” Irish Traditional arr. T. Quigley

Welcome and Announcements

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

Introit: “This Little Light of Mine”

***Call to Worship:** *(Written by Rev Mindi and posted on Rev-o-lution)*

One: Our hearts are hard, O God—

Many: Soften them with your love.

One: Our hands are clenched, O God –

Many: Open them with your grace.

One: Our feet are planted too firmly, O God –

Many: Invite us to dance with you.

One: Our lives are not our own, we know –

All: Let us live and move and have our being in you, O God. Amen!

***Hymn:** “Heralds of Christ” UMH# 567

***Unison Prayer of Confession** (Litanies and Other Prayers – Phyllis Cole)

Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful.

We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do.

We love with condition.

We are prone to gossip.

We are quick to anger, and slow to forgive.

We do not turn to You as the source of our inspiration and purpose.

Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sin, and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and in service. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness:**

Followers of Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting, and I remind you of this surpassing grace – in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! **Amen.**

***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:** “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessings” UMH# 400

(Children 4-6 years old are invited to Bible Story Time downstairs. Parents are asked to escort their children and pick them up. Chapel Kids is still on hiatus until next week.)

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5: 21-25 & 33-37 (NRSV) N.T. pp. 4 & 5

Response to the Word:

One: For the words of challenge, for the words of blessing, for the spirit of wisdom moving in our midst,

Many: We give God honor, thanks and praise.

Sermon: “Called to a New Understanding” Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT’S PROMPTINGS

Invitation to Offering:

Holy God, as we offer to You gifts from the abundance You have provided us, we recognize that the offering that concerns You is more than what is in our wallets and purses, but in our hearts. Help us to clear out long-held anger and resentments. Help us to furnish our hearts with love, mercy, justice, compassion, and forgiveness so they might be a place where You feel welcome and at home. **Amen.**

Offertory: “Keep Your Lamps!” A. Thomas