

Offertory: "Here I Am, Lord" D. Schutte

***Doxology:** UMH# 94

***Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

Gracious and Loving God, receive our gifts and our lives. Cause all of these blessings to work for you in this world which you have trusted to us for safekeeping. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn:** "Wonderful Words of Life" UMH# 600

Benediction

Postlude: Solo on "For the Beauty of the Earth" C. Kocher

We thank those who participated in today's service:

Altar Flowers: In loving memory of Greta B-R, from her husband, Scott and their daughters, Isabelle and Emma.

Altar Guild: Deb Garth

Carillonneur: Thomas St. Marie

Chancel Art: Nicole Baker

Fellowship Hour: Membership & Evangelism Committee & volunteers

Liturgist: Lisa Bakowski

Ushers: Head Usher, Sheila Womble; Lisa Bakowski, Jacki Barden, Ginger Elliott, Deb Garth, David Jenney

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), the D family, Dominick 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), the M family, Holly Joy P, Daryl P, Claire (L) P, Catherine Ann R, Christopher S, 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 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

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

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

July 30, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Meditation:

“One can never consent to creep when one feels an impulse to soar”
– Helen Keller

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: “Here I Am to Worship” T. Hughes

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship:

One: The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed.

Many: It is a small seed, but has some surprises in store for us.

One: When it is grown, it is a very large shrub.

Many: Even the birds can find places in its branches for their nests.

One: God’s transforming love begins in small ways to enter our hearts.

Many: Lord, plant those amazing seeds of transforming love in us that they may grow into deeds of service to others in your name. Amen.

***Hymn:** “Gather Us In” TFWS# 2236

*Prayer of Confession:

Diligent Lord, who watches over us at all times, be with us all these days. We confess that we have allowed a host of worries and frustrations to crowd out your word for us. As you give us peace and your transforming love, also forgive all those times when we have been less than faithful disciples. Gently visit us again with your healing powers. Restore our hope and courage and joy for all the times ahead. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***Words of Assurance:** Ministry Matters Resources
Here is some wonderful news! While we were worrying and fretting, God has been at work in our lives offering healing and peace. Receive these gifts in the name and love of the Lord our God. Amen.

Special Music: “Your Grace Is Enough” M. Maher

*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:** “For the Beauty of the Earth” (vv. 1-4) UMH# 92

Scripture: Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52 (NRSV) N.T. p. 14

Response to the Word:

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

Many: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: “The Parable of the Mustard Seed” Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT’S PROMPTINGS

Invitation to Offering:

God gives us the opportunity to share from our bounty for the ministries of our church that Christ’s redeeming love may be known to all people. Let us joyfully receive our morning offering.