

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:

Gracious and loving God, as we place these gifts upon your altar, we ask for a special blessing upon them. These are gifts that represent who and where we are in this life. Bless the giver and the gifts. Amen.

*Hymn:

“It’s Me, It’s Me O Lord”

UMH# 352

Benediction:

One: We came to worship

Many: We go now to serve.

One: We have been given the light.

Many: We go now to let it shine.

One: We have been blessed by God’s love.

Many: We go now to share it.

One: We are Christ’s disciples.

Many: We go now to witness to all. Amen.

Postlude:

“Agincourt Hymn”

J. Dunstable

We thank those who participated in today’s service:

Accompanist: Steve Hays

Acolytes: Arianna Bhajjan, Raizel Bhajjan, Ella Butcher

Altar Flowers: In memory of George S. by his daughter Jane S. and family.

Altar Guild: Phyllis and Chad Thompson

Carillonneur: Thomas St. Marie

Chancel Art: Nicole Baker

Fellowship Hour this Month: Administrative Council Committee Members & Volunteers

Liturgist: Lisa Bakowski

Ushers: Head Usher, Sheila Womble; Asst. Head Usher, Don Cushing; Ushers, Clayton Calhoun

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 Cy (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 K, 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 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 in Lent

March 5, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Meditation:

“Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies.” - - Mother Teresa

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: “The Journey Begins” S. Eithun

Welcome and Announcements

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

Introit: “Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

***Call to Worship:** --Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Director of Worship Arts

One: Welcome pilgrims on the way to the cross.

Many: We are learning to follow Jesus.

One: When God says, “Go!” without telling us the destination,

Many: Show us, Christ, how to go forward in faith.

One: When re-birth is the impossible way forward,

Many: Christ, be our midwife as we accept God’s call to be reborn.

One: When we find ourselves in the in-between of where we’ve been and where we’re going,

Many: Christ, meet us on the way and bless us in the going.

One: Pilgrims on the way, come let us worship God!

Many: We come to worship God as we learn to live inside out! Amen.

***Hymn:** “Gather Us In” TFWS# 2236

***Prayer of Confession:** --Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, ‘Hold Fast to What Is Good.’

Holy God, Creator of all that is, Donor of Grace, and Giver of Life: Hear our prayer.

There are chasms in our lives, deep valleys that separate us from one another and from You.

We confess that we have allowed those rifts to grow, for fear of admitting our part in the

separation, for fear of being rejected when we reach out. You call us to a reconciled life, to

healed relationships, to a wholeness with each other and with You. Forgive us, we pray, and

make us new creations through the power and love of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness:**

One: Forgiveness calms the ocean of anger, stills the waves of anxiety and settles the ripples of revenge. O loving God, let your words open the way to forgiveness. **Amen.**

Special Music:

“Sharing the Joy!”

S. Eithun

***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 Christian Join to Sing” UMH# 158

(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 3: 1-17 (NRSV) N.T. p. 18

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. Amen!

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

RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT’S PROMPTINGS

Invitation to Offering: -- Discipleship Ministries

O Loving God, as we share our tithes and offerings today, we pray that you, through Jesus, will continue the work of creation in us, that we might become more tolerant, more forgiving, more generous, and more loving. In that name, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, we pray. Amen.

Offertory: “On Eagle’s Wings” M. Joncas arr. D. Wagner

***Doxology:** UMH# 94