

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.
 Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil
 For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Thank you to those listed in the bulletin who participated in today's service.

We also thank:

Altar Guild: Vera Baker

Coordinators for Online Worship: Clara Lee and Jim Sharrard

Lenten Display: Ken Guerin

Liturgy: Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Videographer: Nic Odell

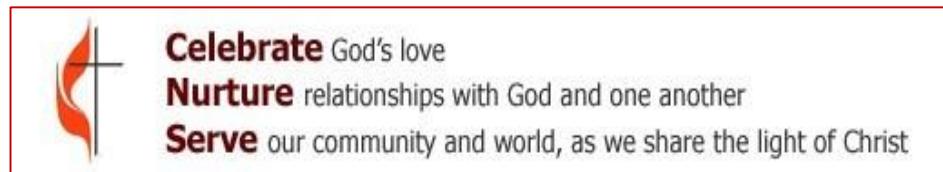
Think on these words: The sense of togetherness we may feel today is symbolic of the love we have for one another. It allows us to freely and trustingly share in this sacred space, knowing that each of us will do everything in our power to keep one another as safe as possible. We do this knowing every action we take can be the difference between being sick or healthy, peaceful or anxious, open or closed. So, please respectfully follow our protocol and the directions of the ushers.

Trinity Celebrates Black History Month

Thanks to the efforts of the worship committee, Trinity has been celebrating Black History month in a couple different ways. We have lifted up the history of African American spirituals, which are a part of our worship services. And, we have shared a bit of Springfield history, lifting up black-owned businesses in the community. Find out more here: <https://www.trinityspringfield.org/worship/black-history-month/>

The 2020 Annual Report is Available

If you would like to view the 2020 Annual Report, you can take a paper copy at the back table in the Sanctuary.



Trinity United Methodist Church

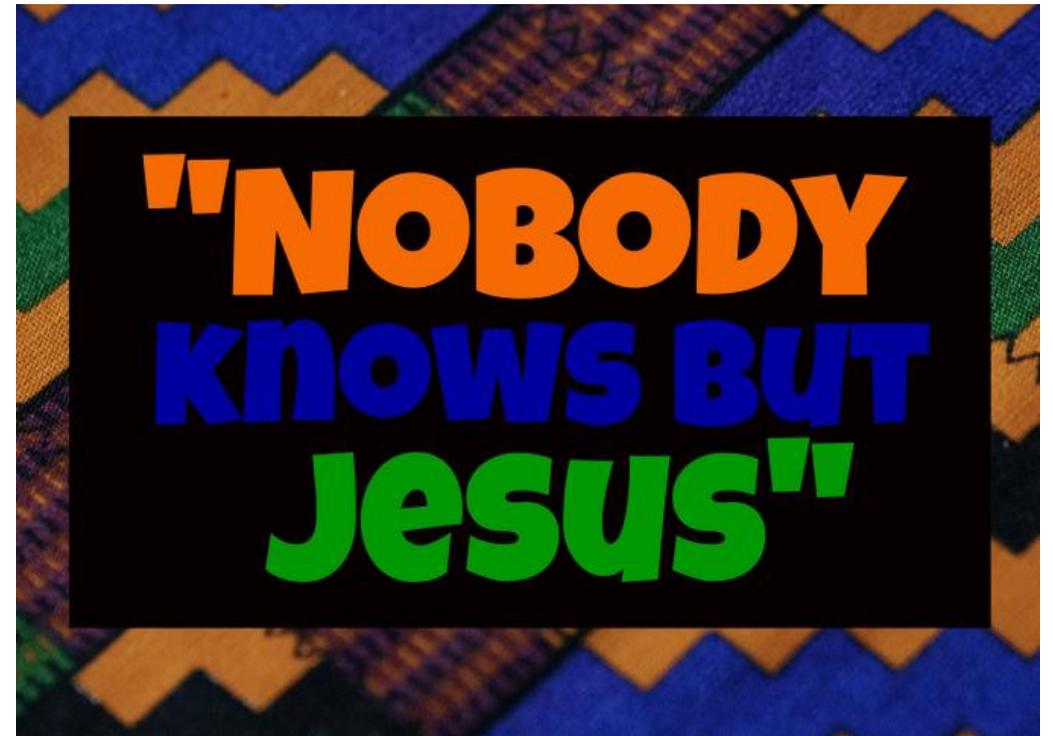
361 Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA 01108

www.trinityspringfield.org

Director of Music Ministry, Becky Rosendahl Isaacson

Associate Pastor, Rev. Erin Newcomb-Moore

Senior Pastor, Rev. René Perez.



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.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Sunday in Lent ~ February 21, 2021

** See words to the right * See words on the back

Prelude: “My Lord, What a Morning” M. Kim
Janet Dixon-Metcalf, flute

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship: **

Introit: “Down to the River” arr. A. Gilbert
Stephanie & Andrew Gilbert

Prayer of Confession: **

Extinguishing the Lenten Candle

Words of Assurance: *

The Lord’s Prayer: *

Special Music: “Jesus Walked/Nobody Knows” arr. A. Gilbert

Scripture: Mark 1:9-15 (NRSV)

Sermon: “God Meets Us”

Closing Response: “Where Could I Go But to the Lord” arr. A. Gilbert

Benediction:

Closing Hymn: “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” Cwm Rhondda

WORDS TO FOLLOW ALONG

Call to Worship: (Sarah Are)

L: God meets us in the night—

P: Before the sun rises, before the wound heals, before there are answers, before there is closure.

L: God meets us in the light--

P: Where joy is effervescent, where laughter is contagious, where flowers bloom from cracks in the sidewalk, and where people gather around the table.

L: God meets us at the threshold--

P: At the edge of the water, at the beginning of the wilderness, at the start of something new, on the edge of faith.

L: And if God meets us in all those places,
Then surely God meets us in between--

P: Staying with us through the wilderness.

L: We are not alone. God is all around.

P: Let us worship the God of the here and now.

Prayer of Confession: (Sarah Are)

L: God who meets us where we are--there is nowhere we can go that you are not.

P: You were with Jesus at his baptism. You were with him in the wilderness, and even in between, you were there, saying aloud, “This is my beloved.”

L: We know that you are with us too--in the good, the bad, and everything in between--but so often we act like we are alone.

P: Instead of coming to you with our hurt, we hold it in or cast it onto others.

Instead of coming to you with our joy, we credit ourselves and offer you nothing.

L: How can we long for a deeper relationship with you while living like you are nowhere to be found?

P: Forgive our self-centered ways. Remind us that in every breath, in every step, you are there. Before and behind, above and below, within and around. Amen.

Words of Assurance: (Sarah Are, adapted)

Family of faith, if you hear nothing else today, here this: God is here. God sees you. God knows you. God meets you at the edge of every new beginning, and God calls you beloved.