Thank you to those listed in the bulletin who participated in today’s service. We also thank:
Altar Guild: Vera Baker
Bulletin Cover: Graphic art by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC
sanctifiedart.org.
Coordinators for Online Worship: Clara Lee and Jim Sharrard
Videographer: Nic Odell

Reminders:
Trinity Church's Building & Offices are Closed Monday, January 18 in Observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Remembering Martin Luther King, Jr. - January 18, 2021

There have been a lot of people that have inspired me over the years. One of them has been the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. I have read his biography, read articles about him, visited the King Center in Atlanta, GA, and have done other things to familiarize myself with the struggle of the civil rights movement. Although Dr. King always fought for justice, he always did it non-violently, peacefully and with love in mind. One of my favorites quotes from Dr. King is so fitting for our times and our theme as a church: “Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”

As we turn the page into 2021, I invite us to celebrate and honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin King, Jr. by allowing love to lead the way, love for God, love for one another, love for the stranger, love for ourselves…love for all people. On Monday, January 18, take 2 minutes to PRAY AND THANK GOD for people like Dr. King, who gave his life so that we could have a better and more harmonious world, and for God to shed peace across our nation and our world. [PR]

It Is Not Too Late to Give Towards the Christmas Is Not Your Birthday Offering

Christmas is Not Your Birthday (CNYB), is an opportunity for Trinity Church to proclaim Jesus as the real miracle of Christmas and reclaim Christmas as an opportunity to become miracle workers for people who are poor, hungry, and marginalized. What better way to extend hospitality to our neighbors than thru Missions? Although the season of Christmas has passed, it is never too late to give and make a difference. You can go to Trinity's online giving page, scroll down to the Christmas is Not Your Birthday (CNYB) section, and enter your donation amount for any or all of the CNYB options. To give in this way, click here You can also mail in your gift to TUMC, 361 Summer Ave., Springfield, MA 01108, indicating it is CNYB and which fund. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Mackie (dmackie@charter.net).

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.
Second Sunday After the Epiphany ~ January 17, 2021

See words to the right  See words on the back

Prelude:  “How Firm a Foundation”  M. Ijames
Rev. Erin Newcomb-Moore, violin

Welcome & Announcements:

Introit:  “Surely the Presence of the Lord”  L. Wolfe
Herb Menzel, baritone

Call to Worship:  ♦

Opening Prayer:  ♦

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.

Special Music:  “Give to My Eyes”  R. Corp

Scripture:  Psalm 139:1-12 (NRSV)

Sermon:  “God Is Everywhere We Are”

Closing Response:  “Irish Blessing”  B. Chilcott

Benediction

Closing Hymn:  “For the Healing of the Nations”  Cwm Rhondda

Call to Worship:


Come, all you whose souls thirst for the living God.
We come in search of help and hope.
Come, you who are acquainted with grief or oppression.
We come bearing our doubts, our wounds, and our fears.
Come, you who are in need of good news.
We come in search of joy, truth, and light.
Come and find refuge in the God to whom all hearts are known.
We come, to praise the One who is our help, our hope, and our hiding place.

Opening Prayer:  (Written by Rev Abi, and posted on her Long and Winding Road blog. Modified)

O Lord, you who in Jesus asked the disciples, “What are you looking for,” and who offered the invitation to “Come and See,” open our hearts to see the evidence of your love all around us and give us the courage to follow you. By Your Spirit aid us in our journey, so that our words and deeds point to your ever-loving presence. Strengthen the work of our hands so that in following you we will comfort those who are suffering, feed those who are hungry, and encourage those in the grip of despair. We pray for our country, our leaders and especially our new president and vice-president as they lead our country in tumultuous times. We pray for the healing of our country, for reconciliation, forgiveness and peace. We pray for your compassion and healing for those individuals in our congregation who need it. We pray for your comforting presence for those who are grieving, lonely and oppressed, and who often wonder “where is God?” You who knows the deepest parts of our being, we say to you this day, here we are willing to share your love, to be your presence and to give love where your love is needed. In the name of Christ. Amen.