Offertory: "Gonna be a Great Day" Traditional Spiritual arr.by Joseph M. Martin

Doxology UMH# 94

*Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Loving God, you bring freedom to those who are bound and healing to those who are hurting. As we offer our gifts today, we pray that they will be used to bring release to the captives and comfort to the oppressed. May our actions reflect your love for all people. We pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen**.

*Hymn: "Here I Am Lord" UMH# 593

Benediction

Postlude: Voluntary VI, "Poco Vivace" Hermann Schroeder

Hermann Schroeder, the composer of today's prelude and postlude, was a member of a group of German musicians in the early to mid-twentieth century who composed a genre of music known as "Gebrauchsmusik" or "Utility Music". This music was composed with a specific purpose in mind. Schroeder's Gebrachsmusik was meant to be played at church services. In fact, most of his compositions both vocal and instrumental were used in the Catholic Mass.

We thank those who participated in today's service:

Altar Flowers: In memory of Rev. Philip L's birthday, from his daughter, Ellen.

Altar Ministry: Sherry Authier **Carilloneur:** Thomas St. Marie

Fellowship Hour: Worship Committee and volunteers

Liturgist: Jennifer Rowell

Soloists: Ella Butcher and Christina Weeks

Ushers: Head Usher; Lisa Bakowski, Asst. Head Usher; Sheila Womble, Rita Auchy,

Holly Blair, Matt Connelly, Ray Miller

Video Team: Brian Crawford, Samuel Crawford, Nic Odell, Anthony and Nicholas Skridulas

Please Pray for:

James A, Bridget B, James B, Meri B, Natalie B, Peg C, Mary C, Dominick E, Sophia G, Courtney H, Pete L, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, Carlos M, Herb M, Holly Joy P, Sue P, Catherine Ann R, Jennifer R, Alfredo R, Henry (Bing) S, Carl S, Lynn T, Tina W, Allie W, 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 • 413-737-5311

Bishop, Thomas J. Bickerton
District Superintendent, Rev. Megan Stowe
Minister, Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun
Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Bruce Glenny
Director of Family Ministries & Connections, Rob Powell, M.Div
Spiritual Director, Cathy MacGovern





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

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

August 24, 2025 10:30 a.m.

WELCOME

We worship using this liturgy and two songbooks: The United Methodist Hymnal (UMH) and The Faith We Sing (TFWS). Please silence your electronic devices. Nursery care is downstairs for children birth - 4 years.

*Please stand in body or in spirit. Items in bold are read in unison.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE FOR A TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

— Jesus Christ ~ Gospel of Matthew 11:28

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: Voluntary IV, "Allegretto" Hermann Schroeder (1904-1984)

*Call to Worship: - Discipleship Ministries

Leader: In the midst of trouble and turmoil, God is our refuge.

People: God is our mighty fortress and shield. Leader: In God's strength we shall be healed.

People: In God's love we shall witness the Good News.

Leader: Come, let us worship God, grateful for God's wondrous power.

People: Open our hearts, Lord, that we might truly become bearers of peace and justice.

Amen.

*Hymn: "Immortal Invisible, God Only Wise" UMH# 103

*Unison Prayer of Confession:

Lord God, we are so bound by rules and regulations that we fail to see the human need that goes beyond the bounds of structures. We easily relegate compassionate service to those agencies in our society that have that as their mandate, forgetting that you have given us the supreme mandate to care for one another, even as you have cared for us. We turn our backs on those in need, giving the responsibility to someone else. "Let someone else do the work," we proclaim. And in that proclamation we have revealed our selfishness and our inability to be your disciples. Stop us from our selfish ways, and heal our hardened hearts. Forgive us, again, as you have so often before when we have failed to be your witnesses and workers. Help us become involved in ministries of peace and justice right where we are, for there is nowhere in creation where your love is not needed. Let us bring messages of love and hope to all people. Bring us to an understanding of the partnership of healing and hope that abides in your service. For we ask these things in Jesus' Name. Amen.

*Words of Assurance: – Ministry Matters

Though we have failed time and time again to be God's people, yet God heals and forgives us. God is with us always, ready to lift and guide our lives. Place your life and your cares in God's loving presence. **Amen**.

*Response: "We Are One In The Spirit" TFWS# 2223 (v.4)

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come, and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son, and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Special Music: "Psalm" by Natalie Sleeth

Passing the Peace of Christ

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.

*Hymn: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" UMH# 140

(Chapel Kids is on hiatus for the summer.)

Scripture Reading: Luke 13: 10-17 (NRSV) N.T. p. 71

Response to the Word:

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

Many: Thanks be to God!

The Word in Reflection: "The Lifting Up of the Bowed Down" Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT'S PROMPTINGS

Invitation to Offering: – Discipleship Resources

Unshakable and Holy God, we bring these gifts before you, not as mere offerings, but as acts of faith in your unshakable kingdom. Though the world around us trembles, we trust in your steadfast love, knowing that in Christ, we are welcomed, transformed, and sent forth to serve. Bless these gifts, that they may be used to build your justice and mercy, bringing hope to the broken and light to the weary. With grateful hearts, we offer ourselves alongside these gifts, that we may be signs of your grace in the world. In Jesus' Name, we pray. **Amen.**