

Offertory Anthem: “I will lift up my Eyes to the Hills” text, Ps. 121, music by Kenneth Potter
I will lift up my eyes to the hills, from where does my help come? It comes from the Lord, the maker of Heaven and Earth. He will not let you fall. He who watches over you, neither slumbers nor sleeps. The Lord watches over you. The Lord is your shade at your right hand: The sun will not harm you by day, the moon will not harm you by night.

The Lord will protect you always. The Lord will keep you from harm. He will watch o'er your life. The Lord will be wherever you go! Both now and forevermore.

Doxology UMH #94

Prayer of Thanksgiving:
Loving God, we come to You, trusting that you will guide us with your love. As we give our offerings today, let them be a sign of our desire to grow closer to you and to deepen our love for you. Open our hearts to your grace so that we might be agents of peace and reconciliation in this world. **Amen.**

***Hymn:** “Here I Am, Lord” UMH# 593

Benediction

Postlude: “Postlude” Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)



The postlude today was composed by Theodore Dubois, a noted French composer who won France's premier musical prize, the Prix d Rome in 1861. He taught harmony and composition at the Paris Conservatory and became the director of the conservatory in 1896. He is best known for his church music and his books on music theory which were influential for many years.

- We thank those who participated in today’s service:**
Accompanist: Steve Hays
Acolytes: Adeline and Anja Berke, Meriel Everett
Altar Flowers: In loving memory of her father John, from Doreen B
Altar Ministry: Shonali Bhajjan and Jennifer Rowell
Carillonneur: Thomas St. Marie
Fellowship Hour: Trustees Committee and volunteers
Handbells: Trinity Youth Handbell Choir & Trinity Adult Handbell Choir
Liturgist: Holly Blair
Ushers: Head Usher, Lisa Bakowski; Asst. Head Usher, Karen Andros, Wendy Regan, Ian Smythe, Judy Wing
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, the family of Peg C, Mary C, Dominick E, Sophia G, Courtney H, Pete L, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, Diane M, Carlos M, Herb M, Holly Joy P, Sue P, Catherine Ann R, Alfredo R, Jennifer R, Pat D, 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

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Bishop, Thomas J. Bickerton
District Superintendent, Rev. Megan Stowe
Minister, Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun
Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Bruce Glenney
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

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

“What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.”
– Ralph Waldo Emerson

Welcome and Announcements

Stewardship Moment Vera Baker

Prelude: “Come, Christians, join to sing” tune: Madrid, arranged by Kevin McChesney
“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” tune: St. Denio, arranged by Kevin McChesney

Introit: “God is My Rock”
God is my rock, He is my hope and I will trust in Him.
God is my fortress; I will not be shaken,
God is my rock, my strength; I will trust in Him.
God is my rock, my strength, and my song.

*Call to Worship: –Discipleship Ministries
One: We are all called to go and share Christ’s love with the world.
Many: We gather to grow deeper in faith.
One: We learn to recognize grace everywhere, in every life.
Many: We wait for God’s saving love.
One: We remember our purpose through the means of grace.
Many: God’s love is remaking the world!

*Hymn: “God of Grace and God of Glory” UMH# 577

*Unison Prayer of Confession:
We can get caught up in selfish pursuits and completely overlook the wonders of your creation, O God. All around us are majestic reminders of the beauty you offer to us. But we are weak and easily trapped into attitudes of indifference or destructive behavior. You have not given this world to us that we should destroy it, but rather that we should cherish it and make sure that all receive from its bounty. Forgive our overwhelming greed and selfishness. Help us to let go of the petty desires for wealth, position, and power, and bring us into a ministry which proclaims your love and justice for all your people. These things we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Words of Assurance: – Ministry Matters
God hears the cries of our hearts, sees our actions, knows our attitudes. In the midst of our struggles, God reaches out to heal and forgive us. Receive the forgiveness which God has offered to you. Live in God’s love. **Amen.**

*Response: “As the Deer” TFWS# 2025
As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

Anthem: “Jubilation” Mary Kay Parrish

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.**

Choral Response: “In Jesus' Name We Pray”
O Lord, we ask that we may find your loving grace in heart and mind.
In Jesus' name we pray, O Lord, in Jesus' name we pray.

*Hymn: “This Is the Day of New Beginnings” UMH# 383
(5-13 yr. olds are invited to Grace Chapel for Chapel Kids. Parents please escort your children & pick them up.)

Scripture Reading: Luke 18: 1-8 (NRSV) N.T. p. 76

Response to the Word:
One: The Word of God for the People of God.
Many: Thanks be to God!

The Word in Reflection: “The Parable of the Unjust Judge” Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT’S PROMPTINGS

Invitation to Offering:
God of grace and mercy, this day we offer ourselves, our tithes, and our offerings to you. Our giving is only the beginning of how we might honor you in gratitude, for you desire even more that our lives, lived in you, might be all love towards you and all your children on earth. We give joyfully, knowing instead that grace and love are ours to be claimed in Jesus Christ. Such a gift, to be freed from judgment, is far beyond our giving. May our gratitude be shown, not just in what we give but also in how we share our lives in love and compassion. In thankfulness, we pray. **Amen.**