

## RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT’S PROMPTINGS

### **Invitation to Offering:** – *Discipleship Resources*

Steadfast and sheltering God, you are our refuge in every age, our hope when foolishness abounds and justice seems far off. Even when the world disappoints, you call us to faithfulness, to community, to generosity that reflects your own heart. Receive these offerings as signs of our trust in you and our desire to live differently, to live redemptively, and to live hopefully. Use them—and us—for the good that ripples outward, for the healing of hearts and the strengthening of your people. We give not because all is well but because you are good. **Amen.**

**Offertory Anthem:** “Amazing Grace” Early American Hymn arr. By John Rutter (b.1945)  
The text may be found at UMH# 378

**Doxology** UMH# 94

### **\*Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

God of mercy, thank you for the incredible grace we have received through Jesus. As we give our offerings today, help us, like Paul, to be vessels of grace, showing love and forgiveness to everyone we meet. Empower us to live humbly, always remembering that we are redeemed and called to reflect your mercy in everything we do. In Jesus’ name, **Amen.**

**\*Hymn:** “Come Ye that Love the Lord” UMH# 733

### **Benediction**

**Postlude:** “Postlude in the 18th Century Style” Eric H. Thiman

---

The prelude and postlude this morning were composed by Eric Thiman, a British composer, organist and educator. He was Professor of Harmony at the Royal Academy of Music from 1930 until his death. Thiman valued music education and training and to this end, he composed music for the piano and various other instruments.

### **We thank those who participated in today’s service:**

**Accompanist & Soloist:** Steve Hays, Teri LaFleur, soprano, Holly Joy Pearson, mezzo soprano

**Acolytes:** Sam Crawford, Anthony and Nicholas Skridulas

**Altar Flowers:** In loving memory of Eulalia & Pauline, from Judy C

**Altar Ministry:** Julie Calhoun and Jennifer Rowell

**Carillonneur:** Thomas St. Marie

**Liturgist:** Allison Berke

**Ushers:** Head Usher, Lisa Bakowski; Asst. Head Usher, Sheila Womble; Jacki Barden,

Ginger Elliott, Deb Garth, Dave Jenney

**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, Mary C, Dominick E, Sophia G, Courtney H, Pete L, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, Carlos M, The M family, Herb M, Holly Joy P, Sue P, Catherine Ann R, Alfredo R, Jennifer R, Henry (Bing) S, Carl S, Lynn T, 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](http://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

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

“I believe the best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”  
– Mahatma Gandhi

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “A Simple Air” Eric H. Thiman (1900-1975)

Moment of Reflection

Introit: “Christians, We have met to Worship”  
Christians we have met to worship and adore the lord our God.  
Will you pray with all your power while we try to preach the Word.  
All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down,  
Christians pray and Holy manna will be showered all around.

\*Call to Worship: - *Discipleship Ministries*  
Leader: We come seeking refuge in a world where goodness and good news can feel far away.  
**People: God is our hope and our refuge.**  
Leader: We come searching for safety in a world that often calls foolishness wisdom and wisdom foolishness.  
**People: God is our hope and our refuge.**  
Leader: We come longing for rest in a world that bombards us with all the ways people work against the abundant life and flourishing of their neighbors.  
**People: God is our hope and our refuge.**  
Leader: Come, children of God, to find refuge and hope in God who delivers and restores us.  
**People: May God teach us and guide us to find refuge and be refuge with and for our neighbors today and every day.**

\*Hymn: “Amazing Grace” UMH# 378 (vv. 1-4)

\*Unison Prayer of Confession:  
**Loving Shepherd, pour your grace upon us this day. Seek those who are wandering and lost, for they too need your grace. For you know when we are wandering, and you know when we are lost. You know when we have sinned, and when we have forsaken your call. Forgive us, and bring us home. Reclaim us and make us your own. For you are our shepherd and we are the sheep of your pasture. For this grace and mercy, we are ever grateful. Amen.**

\*Words of Assurance: – *Ministry Matters*  
Rejoice, God has changed our circumstances for the better! Christ’s mercy and grace redeem us and and bring us home. We who were lost have been found.

\*Response: “As the Deer” TFWS# 2025

Anthem: “Lead Me, Lord” Samuel S. Wesley (1810-1876)  
Lead me Lord, lead me in Thy righteousness, make Thy way plain before my face.  
For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.  
Lead me, Lord, lead me in true holiness, teach me to love and trust in Thee.  
Thou art our God, the God of our salvation, all nations shall praise Thy holy name.

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.**

Prayer Response “God be in my Head”  
God be in my head, and in my understanding; God be in my eyes, and in my looking;  
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking; God be in my heart and in my thinking.

\*Hymn: “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” UMH# 381  
(*Chapel Kids resumes on September 21<sup>st</sup>.*)

Scripture Reading: Luke 15: 1-10 (NRSV) N.T. p. 73

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

The Word in Reflection: “Lost and Found” Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun