

Offertory: “Joy in the Morning” Natalie Sleeth

Doxology UMH #94

***Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

Gracious God, we offer these gifts in response to your call to love and give abundantly, just as you have blessed us. May these offerings reflect your generosity and compassion, serving those in need and furthering your kingdom of justice and peace. We give knowing that our ministries return even to us – pressed down, shaken together, and overflowing with your grace. **Amen.**

***Hymn:** “It’s Me, It’s Me, O Lord” UMH# 352

Benediction

Postlude: “A Mighty Fortress” Fugue Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

We thank those who participated in today’s service:

Our guest organist Kell Julliard is Dean of the Western Massachusetts chapter of the American Guild of Organists. He plays flute as well as organ, is a chorister at Grace Episcopal Church in Amherst, and part-time organist for Trinity Episcopal in Ware, MA.

Accompanist/Collaborator: Steve Hays

Acolytes: Adeline & Anja Berke, Henry Gray

Altar Ministry: Judy Wing

Carillonneur: Thomas St. Marie

Fellowship Hour: Administrative Council and volunteers

Liturgist: Ella Butcher

Ushers: Head Usher; Lisa Bakowski, Asst. Head Usher; Sheila Womble, Jacki Barden, Ginger Elliott, Deb Garth, Dave Jenney

Video Team: Nicole Baker, Brian Crawford, Nic Odell, Jack Rust, Anthony & Nicholas Skridulas

Please Pray for:

Jim A, Vera B, Bridget B, James B, Meri B, Natalie Blanchard, Pat Cleland, Margaret (Peg) C, Mary C, Dominick E, Mary (T) G, Courtney H, Aurie I, the family of Tom L, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, Holly Joy P, Sue P, Catherine Ann R, Henry (Bing) S, Jane S, Thomas S, Carl S, Lynn T, Alison (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 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

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 23, 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

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time.

We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.” – Barack Obama

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “Preamble” Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Moment of Reflection

Introit: “A Canon of Praise” Natalie Sleeth

***Call to Worship:** – *Discipleship Ministries*

Leader: Come and learn the ways of life.

People: We have come to follow Jesus.

Leader: Love your enemies, and do good to those who hate you.

People: We have come to follow Jesus.

Leader: Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who persecute you.

People: We have come to follow Jesus.

Leader: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

People: We have come to follow Jesus.

Leader: Come and learn the ways of life.

***Hymn:** “Now Thank We All Our God” UMH# 102

***Unison Prayer of Confession:**

Teacher of hard truths, it is difficult to let go of our anger toward those who prosper through deceit and unscrupulous ways; it is not easy to make ourselves believe that the meek will inherit the earth, when they are being crushed by the unjust systems stacked against them. We long to see the vindication of the righteous and the prosperity of those who work selflessly to bring your realm here on earth. We yearn for the day when all people will treat one another as they wish to be treated. Help us live into that day, Holy One, even when it is difficult, that your love might shine like the sun through our lives and our ministries. Amen.

***Words of Assurance:**

When we treat others as we would have them treat us, Jesus calls us beloved children of the Most High. If God is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked, how much more will God be kind to those who love the Lord and seek to live the Golden Rule? Rest in this assurance and be at peace. **Amen.**

***Response:** “It's Me O Lord” (refrain only) UMH# 362

It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.

It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.

Choir Anthem: “Christians We Have Met Together” Lloyd Larson

Passing the Peace of Christ

Children's Moment Madeline Jarvinen

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

***Hymn:** “Help Us Accept Each Other” UMH #560

(5-13 yr. olds are invited to Grace Chapel for Chapel Kids. Parents please escort your children & pick them up.)

Scripture Reading: Luke 6: 27-38 (NRSV) N.T. p. 60

Response to the Word:

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

Many: Thanks be to God!

The Word in Reflection: “For Good Measure” Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT'S PROMPTINGS

Invitation to Offering: – *Discipleship Resources*

Jesus said, “Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure...running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.” Let us bring our offerings to God. **Amen.**