

**Offertory:** “Come Follow Me” J. M. Martin

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion** (see insert)

**Music During Communion:** “Ecce Fidelis” G. Faure  
*Behold the faithful and wise servant whom the Lord places at the head of the community.  
Justice will grow like a lily and flourish eternally with the Lord.*

**\*Hymn:** “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms” UMH# 133

**Benediction**

**Postlude:** “Hornpipe” G.F. Handel

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

**Acolytes:** Arianna and Raizel Bhajjan, Aisla Varnon

**Altar Flowers:** In loving memory of John and Zachary F, from their wife and mother, Lisa F.

**Communion Servers:** Kris Goold, Deb Marden, Susan Mulvey and Wendy Regan

**Altar Ministry:** Deb Garth and Kathy Hathaway

**Carillonneur:** Thomas St. Marie

**Fellowship Hour:** Administrative Council and volunteers

**Liturgist:** Hope Lewis

**Ushers:** Head Usher; Lisa Bakowski, Asst. Head Usher; Sheila Womble, Clayton Calhoun,

Fred Lewis, Margo Sweetland

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

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***Please Pray for:***

Jim A, Lisa B, Bridget B, James B, Meri B, Natalie B, Jean C, Pat C, Margaret (Peg) C, Mary C, Benard D, Dominick E, Jo Anne E, Mary (Twining) G, Courtney H, Aurie I, the family of Tom L, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, Holly Joy P, Sue P, Daryl P, Catherine Ann R, Henry (Bing) S, Jane S, Thomas S, Carl S, Lynn T, Alison (Allie) W, Sheila W, the W family, 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*

*Interim Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Christopher White*

*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

**Fourth Sunday After Epiphany - Communion Sunday**

**February 2, 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**

“Love is the condition in which the happiness of another person is essential to your own.”

– Robert A. Heinlein

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude:** “Water in the Moonlight” T. Wiggins (emancipated 1862)

**Moment of Reflection**

**Introit:** “Deck Thyself, My Soul with Gladness” J. Cruger

**\*Call to Worship:** –*Ministry Matters*

Leader: In the midst of the challenges of our lives

**People: we gather, turning to God, our refuge!**

Leader: We ask God to rescue us from unjust and cruel situations.

**People: We trust in the goodness of the Holy, knowing our Creator yearns for all to be safe.**

Leader: Together we raise our voices to worship God, who holds each one like a loving mother.

**People: Praise God!**

**\*Hymn:** “Come, Christians, Join to Sing” UMH# 158

**\*Unison Prayer of Confession:**

**God, you share with us words of love, and words of Good News. But sometimes, we are unable to hear them. You call us to treat others the way we would like to be treated, You call us to share the Good News with those around us. But sometimes we fall short. You encourage us to love one another and we forget what that means. In a multitude of ways, we can and have subverted your message of freedom and healing, and love for all of your children. We have left the path of true wisdom and we call upon your Grace to lead us back on track. Forgive us and empower us with the spiritual gifts we need for the journey. Amen.**

**\*Words of Assurance:**

This is the time of God's favor, God's grace continues to proclaim release to the captives, Good News to the poor and freedom to the oppressed We live as loved, forgiven, and free people through the grace of God! **Hallelujah! 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.

**Special Music:** “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” R. Robinson, arr. L. Pfausch

**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**

**\*Hymn:** “The Gift of Love” UMH# 408

*(Chapel Kids for 5-13 year olds will resume on January 26, 2025.)*

**Scripture Reading:** I Corinthians 13: 1-13 (NRSV) N.T. p. 164

**Response to the Word:**

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

**Many: Thanks be to God!**

**The Word in Reflection:** “The Greatest of These” Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

**RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT’S PROMPTINGS**

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

Compassionate God, who sees beyond our boundaries and loves without limit, we bring these offerings with grateful hearts. Use them to proclaim your good news, heal the broken, and extend your love to all, especially those we struggle to accept. Transform our gifts into a beacon of hope and inclusion that reflects the boundless love of Christ in every corner of our community. In his holy name, we pray. **Amen.**