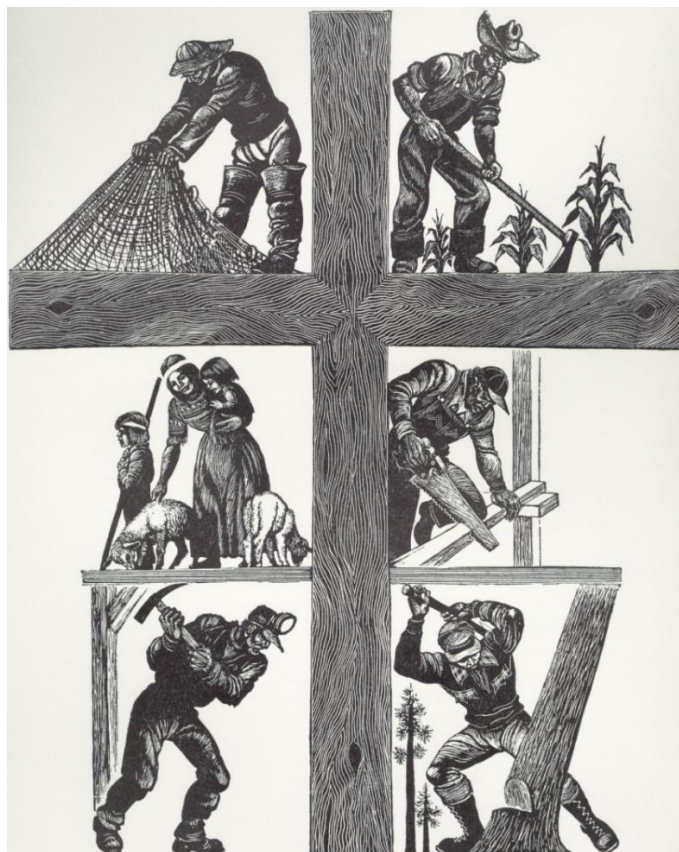


Trinity Episcopal Church

Cranford, in the Diocese of New Jersey



"The Worker's Cross" – Fritz Eichenberg

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Holy Eucharist ~ Rite II ~ Proper 18

September 6, 2026 at 10 AM

The Reverend Andrew David Kruger - Rector & Presider

Casey Woodruff - Senior Warden & Preacher

Susan Caldwell Nelson - Musician-in-Residence and Organist

Anthony J. Rafaniello - Director of Music

Kathleen M. Murray - Junior Warden

*The sanctuary candle and altar flowers are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Anthony Charles Alfano by Cheryl Pantina
and in loving memory of Carol Fricke from Arlene Fricke*

Welcome

Andrew Kruger

Prelude

“Reflection on *Amazing Grace*” – Charles Callahan

At the end of the prelude, the bells are rung and the People stand and face the Narthex.

I. Gathering of God's People

At the First Use of the Thurible

Psalm 141:2 & Revelation 8:3-4

Presider Let our prayer be set forth in your sight as incense.

People **Let the prayers of the saints rise before God.**

The Presider charges the thurible with incense, then blesses the incense with the sign of the Cross.

The bell is rung and the hymn is sung.

Gathering Hymn

Abbot's Leigh

Hymnal 379

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind-ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -
ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Gathering Sentences

Enriching Our Worship 50

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Presider There is one Body and one Spirit;

People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Presider One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

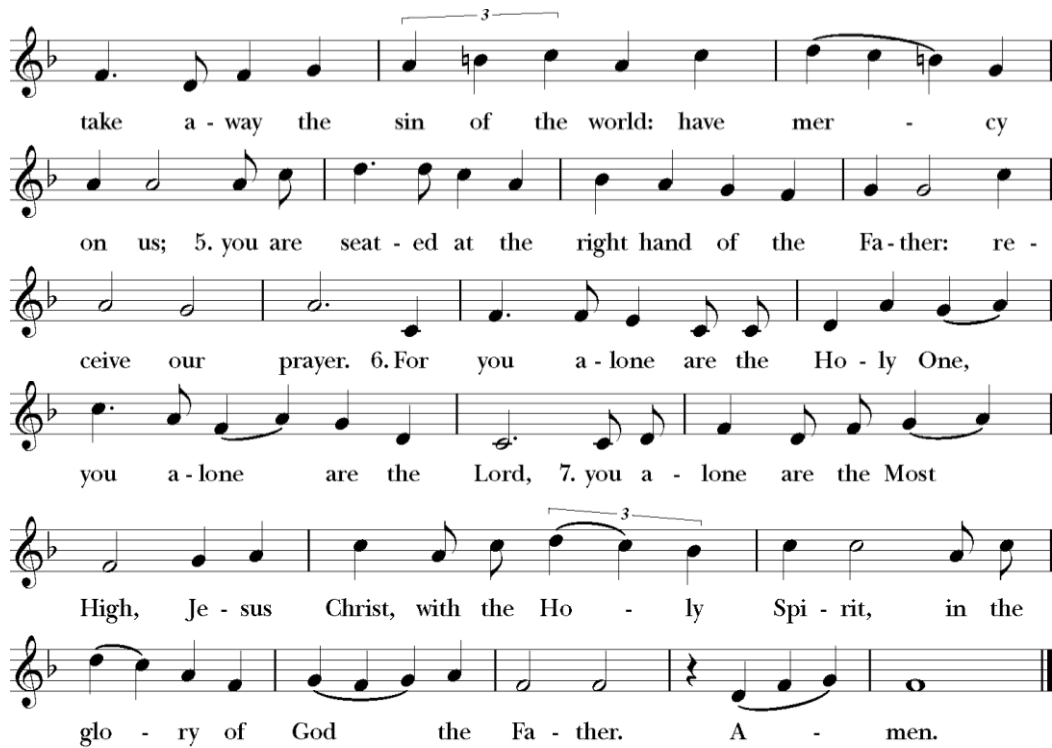
People **One God and Father of all.**

Gloria

Robert Powell

Hymnal S 280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



Collect of the Day

BCP 233

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

II. Proclaiming and Receiving the Word of God

First Reading

Exodus 12:1-14

Reader A reading from the book of Exodus.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: "This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: When I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 149

Cantate Domino

BCP 807

- 1** Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD a new song; *
 sing his praise in the congregation of the faithful.
- 2** Let Israel rejoice in his Maker; *
 let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.
- 3** Let them praise his Name in the dance; *
 let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.
- 4** For the LORD takes pleasure in his people *
 and adorns the poor with victory.
- 5** Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *
 let them be joyful on their beds.
- 6** Let the praises of God be in their throat *
 and a two-edged sword in their hand;
- 7** To wreak vengeance on the nations *
 and punishment on the peoples;
- 8** To bind their kings in chains *
 and their nobles with links of iron;
- 9** To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *
 this is glory for all his faithful people. Hallelujah!

Second Reading

Romans 13:8-14

Reader A reading from Paul’s letter to the Romans.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery. You shall not murder. You shall not steal. You shall not covet” and any other commandment are summed up in these words, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Proclaiming Hymn

Detroit

Hymnal 674

The People stand.

1 "For - give our sins as we for - give" you
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls, and

taught us, Lord, to pray; but you a - lone can
 un - for - giv - ing heart that broods on wrongs and
 truth we dim - ly knew, how small the debts men
 bid re - sent - ment cease; then, re - con - ciled to

grant us grace to live the words we say.
 will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 owe to us, how great our debt to you.
 God and man, our lives will spread your peace.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

III. Responding to the Proclaimed Word of God

Homily

Casey Woodruff

Affirmation of Baptismal Faith

BCP 292 alt.

The Presider moves to the font and the People stand.

Friends in Christ, Baptism is not the rite of a moment but the commitment of a lifetime. In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with our Lord.

Therefore let us reaffirm our Baptismal Vows together with all those who celebrate the anniversary of their baptism this month.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

Blessing the Water

Common Worship alt.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord:

People **God is worthy of all thanksgiving and praise.**

The Presider pours the water into the baptismal font.

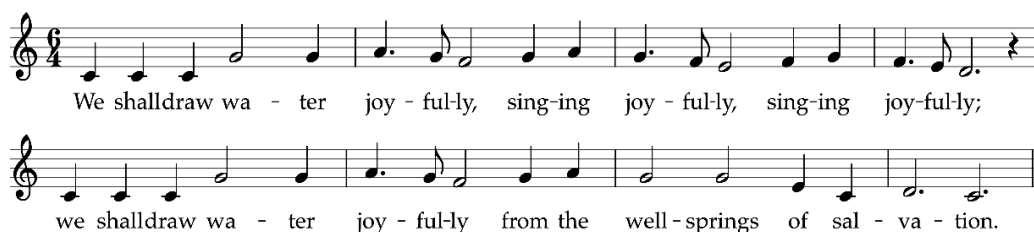
Blessèd are you, Sovereign God of all, to you be glory and praise for ever! You are our light and our salvation. From the deep waters of death you have raised your Son to life in triumph. Accept our sacrifice of praise, we pray, and sanctify these waters of your new creation, that we, with all who have been born anew by water and the Spirit, may be renewed in your image, walk by the light of faith, and serve you in newness of life; through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit we lift our voices of praise, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **Blessèd be God for ever.**

The Presider sprinkles the People with the aspergillum.

Baptismal Chant

“We Shall Draw Water” – Paul Inwood



1. Truly God is our salvation; we trust, we shall not fear.
For the Lord is our strength, the Lord is our song; he became our savior.
2. Give thanks, O give thanks to the Lord; give praise to his holy name!
Make his mighty deeds known to all of the nations; proclaim his greatness.
3. Sing a psalm, sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds.
Make known his works to all of the earth; people of Zion, sing for joy,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Blessing of Students and Educators

The Presider says

At the beginning of this new academic year, let us remember before God all educational institutions and those who teach and learn within those organizations.

Prayer for Educational Institutions

BCP 824

The Presider invites the staff, representatives, and leaders of educational institutions to stand and name the institutions to which they are connected.

Let us pray.

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities and especially Trinity Episcopal Day School, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer for Educators

NZPB 140

The Presider invites all educators to stand at the crossing and receive anointing.

Let us pray.

God the source of all our inspiration: help us to understand ourselves, our world and you; and grant to those who teach us and our children respect for others' inventiveness and questioning, and for themselves commitment to truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for Students

Andrew Kruger

All students are invited forward, with their backpacks, to receive a blessing.

Let us pray.

God of wisdom and truth, you have given us minds to wonder, hearts to love, and lives to offer in your service: Give these students curiosity to explore, humility to listen, courage when challenges arise, and joy in discovery. Most of all, grant them the grace to recognize your presence and power in the gift of learning; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

BCP 360

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The People greet one another in the Name of the Lord.

Announcements

Andrew Kruger

IV. Celebrating at the Lord's Table

Offertory Sentence

Psalm 50:14

Presider Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offering of bread and wine to the Holy Table.



*The Ushers pass the collection plates among the people.
Another option is to give to Trinity online –
scan the QR code and go directly to our Breeze link.*

Offertory Hymn

New Britain

Hymnal 671

The People stand.

1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
*5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Presentation of Gifts

An Anglican Prayer Book 1989

Presider

Source of all life, everything in heaven and on earth is yours:

People

All things come from you, and of your own do we give you. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer 1

EOW 57

Presider

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Presider

Lift up your hearts.

People

We lift them to the Lord.

Presider

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for your delight is in your people, and the day of our salvation is near.

You are our King and our maker, for all things came into being at your command. You came to save your people from slavery, striking the land of their oppressors, and setting free all who identified themselves with the blood of your lamb.

In your child, Jesus, you have again come to save us. In his love we have seen the fulfilment of your law and the revelation of your desire to reconcile all people – to yourself and to one another. When he was killed you raised him to life, and marked us for salvation with his blood. Now wherever two or three gather, clothed in his love, you are present in the midst of us and we rejoice in you forever.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus

Robert Powell

Hymnal S 129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est._____

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus.

Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Presider Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

Great Amen

McNeil Robinson

Hymnal S 147



Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.**

Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Invitation

BCP 364

Presider

The Gifts of God:

People

for the People of God.

The ushers guide the people to receive Holy Communion. All persons may, but no person must, receive communion in both kinds to receive the full spiritual benefits of communion. Wine is offered by way of a sip from the common cup. You may choose to receive only the host. Gluten-free wafers are available by request to the priest.

Communion Hymn

Omni die

Hymnal 341

1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the
2 By this pledge, Lord, that you love us, by your
3 As our bless - ed ones a - dore you, seat - ed
4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our
wine which you have poured, for the words which you have
gift of peace re - stored, by your call to heaven a -
at our Fa - ther's board, may the Church still wait - ing
hearts keep watch and ward, in the world to which you
spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.
for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.
send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.

Post Communion Prayer

Common Worship

Presider Let us pray.

**We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
prepared for all peoples. Amen.**

Commission and Blessing

Nathan Nettleton alt.

Be reconciled to one another in Christ.

Lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Live honorably, fulfilling the law through love for all.

And may God mark you out for salvation;

May Christ Jesus be present among you always,

And may the Holy Spirit reconcile you to one another and fulfil the law of love among you.

Amen.

V. Going out as God's People

Sending Hymn

Hymn to Joy

Hymnal 376

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,
hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!
Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;
giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

People **Thanks be to God.**

“Postlude” – Denis Bédard

For Friends, Visitors and Newcomers

Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church in Cranford, New Jersey. Thank you for joining us in worship. The bulletin is designed to make you feel at home and includes everything you need for the service (liturgy, hymns, rubrics, etc.). Please connect with us; introduce yourself to the ushers so they can make you feel more comfortable. Father Andy is in the narthex (entrance) at the end of the service; it is an opportunity to connect on a more personal level. All are invited to Fellowship Hour in Sherlock Hall immediately after the service. An email blast is sent every Thursday by 2 PM with hyperlinks to sign-up sheets, methods to contribute to the parish or other charitable organizations, ways to contact individuals or receive information on events, etc. Please contact the parish office to receive it or alternative methods of communication.

Baptismal Anniversaries

When we think about birthdays, we immediately recall the date we were born and took our first breath in this world. But if we take a moment to reflect, we will realize that we have another “birthday” of even greater significance: the day we became members of the body of Christ – our Baptismal birthday. Through the waters of baptism, the Holy Spirit anoints us and sets our inner compass, to walk in a path that is pleasing to God, to do all good works that God has planned for us, and to “seek God’s face” [Psalm 27:8]. This is the path that ultimately leads us into abundant life both in this earthly existence, and in the world to come. Whether baptized as a child or an adult, we prayerfully grow in our understanding and appreciation of our baptismal identity, as individuals and as a community.

Usually, on the first Sunday of every month, we acknowledge those who have a baptismal “birthday” during the month in question and share in their renewal of baptismal vows. This monthly recognition of our “birth from above” [John 3:3] allows us to develop a deeper appreciation for the essence of our baptism.

Parishioners who are celebrating their Baptismal Anniversaries in September include:

Charlotte Bain	Sept. 1	Ray Berry	Sept. 14	Heather Burnett	Sept. 23
Robert Barone	Sept. 23	Allyssa Knapp	Sept. 10	Ruth Uhde	Sept. 21
Carolyn Dittmar	Sept. 12	Toru Ishiyama	Sept. 2	Cindy Concannon	Sept. 11
James Patrick Gluck	Sept. 21	Anthony Rafaniello	Sept. 11	Logan Garstka	Sept.
Madeleine Brennan	Sept. 4	Lynn Solecki	Sept. 2	Bethany Williams	Sept 25

What you need to know today...

The Blessing of Students and Educators Sunday, September 6 during the 10 AM Eucharist.

Fellowship Hour Today, in Sherlock Hall, immediately after this service; coffee, tea and snacks are provided.

What you need to know this week...

Labor Day Tomorrow, Monday September 7 *From the Book of Common Prayer:* Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. *[Collects for Various Occasions, Book of Common Prayer 261]*

The Daily Offices Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer are offered online from Monday-Friday at 8:30 AM and 5 PM. Add and update prayer requests online at the church website. The list is prayed twice a day at Morning and Evening Prayer.

Parish Office Hours Office Manager Marion Nechuta is available from Tuesday to Thursday from 12 noon to 3:30 PM.

Handbell Choir Rehearsals Starting Wednesday, September 9 from 7 PM to 7:50 PM in the church. Contact Anthony Rafaniello with any questions.

Trinity Adult Choir This Wednesday, September 9 from 8 PM to 9 PM in the church.

Annual Cranford 9/11 Memorial Service Thursday, September 10 at 6:30 PM at the 9/11 park in Cranford.

Compline This Thursday at 8 PM online.

What you need to know in the future...

Children's Choir Registration is open. Rehearsals are on Sunday mornings from 11:30 AM to 12 PM in the church the choir sings at each month's Intergenerational Service. Children's Choir is recommended for novice readers in Grade 1 or older. Rehearsals will begin on Sunday, September 20. Please register your child using the QR code here:



Sunday School Sunday, September 13 is the first day of class and open to children 3½ years to Grade 4. After the blessing at the beginning of the service, the children go to class with their teachers and return to the worship service for the Eucharist.

Round Up Sunday September 13, only ONE service at 10 AM for Trinity's annual after-summer welcome-back service followed by a parish-wide BBQ. Everyone is encouraged to come and help kick-off the church year. Learn about the church ministries and volunteer opportunities to grow the body of Christ here at Trinity. There will be great food and games for all ages. Click on the QR code for attendance (to help plan the food) or to volunteer to help on the BBQ. For questions, please contact Tom Kaercher (908-757-9561 home, 908-591-0962 cell) or tkaercher7@gmail.com .



Pledge Giving Wondering how things are going with pledge-giving this year? Summer schedules can sometimes make it easy for payments to fall behind. During Round Up Sunday, financial secretary Carol Beier is available to meet privately with anyone who wants to check their pledge status, review their giving record or discuss any other concerns or questions. Just stop by for a quick, confidential chat. She is here to help.

Outreach September 13 to September 27, there will be a collection for Disaster Relief for the ERD (Episcopal Relief & Development); donations by cash, check or breeze. The Committee thanks all who donated to the "Mothers & Newborn" project for the ERD in June. \$540 was collected which the parish has rounded up to \$600; the check will be sent to ERD shortly.

Trinity Women's Group Monday, September 14 at 7 PM online.

Anti-Racism Training September 16, 23, 30 and October 7, 14, and with a follow-up session on November 11 from 7 PM-9 PM. Provided by the The Diocesan Anti-Racism Commission; \$100 per person. Registration link in the email blast.

Fellowship Luncheon Thursday, September 17 from 12:30 to 2 PM in Witherington Hall. Speaker is parishioner Scott Nelson, who recently served with the Peace Corps in Vietnam. On the menu is quiche with sides & desserts. All are welcome. Please call Susan Olszewski (908-757-9561) or Susan Nelson (908-397-3944) for questions or to volunteer help.

Sing at St. John's The Trinity Choir has been invited to sing at the Feast of St. Francis service at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in New York City on Sunday, October 4, with a rehearsal on Saturday, October 3. It will be an extraordinary experience to sing in one of the great cathedrals of the world, as part of one of its signature celebrations. The trip will involve some expense, including the use of a TEDS bus and driver for transportation. To help sponsor this special opportunity, or would like more information, please speak with Anthony Rafaniello or contact the Parish Office.

A New Thurible Set for Trinity

This Sunday, Trinity will use for the first time a new polished brass thurible, incense boat, and spoon, generously given by Arlene Fricke in loving memory of her sister, Carol Fricke. The set was supplied by *Adrian Hamers* and will become part of the parish's regular liturgical furnishings.

In Anglican practice, the first use of a liturgical object serves as its blessing. By being taken up into the worship of the Church and used for the purpose for which it was given, the thurible and its accompanying vessels are set apart for the service of God. Their dedication is expressed most fittingly in the liturgy itself. We give thanks for Arlene's generosity, for the memory of Carol, and for this beautiful gift to the worship of Trinity Church.

Blessing of Students and Educators

As a new school year begins, we invite students, educators, and all who support the ministry of education to join us for a special Blessing of Students and Educators during the 10 AM Holy Eucharist today. During the service, prayers will be offered for students as they learn and grow, for educators as they teach and inspire, and for the staff, representatives, and leaders of educational institutions who create communities where learning can flourish. Children are invited to bring their backpacks to the service. As part of the blessing, students will receive a special gift for their backpack as a reminder that God's wisdom, love, and presence go with them wherever they learn. Whether you are returning to school, beginning a new year of teaching, or supporting education in another way, we hope you will join us as we pray for a year filled with curiosity, courage, friendship, and wisdom.

Trinity Choir at St. John the Divine

The Trinity Choir has received an extraordinary invitation to sing at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City as part of its annual Feast of St. Francis celebration. We will travel to the Cathedral on Saturday, October 3 for a rehearsal, returning the following morning for the 10:30 AM service on Sunday, October 4. The choir will sing under the direction of the Cathedral's acclaimed music director, Kent Tritle, alongside other experienced musicians. I am particularly excited about what this experience will offer our singers. We will learn and perform challenging music in one of the world's great sacred spaces, adapt to an entirely different acoustic, and collaborate with musicians beyond our usual Trinity community. Experiences like this push an ensemble beyond what is familiar and give us opportunities to grow in ways that our regular work does not always provide.

The invitation came from Bryan Zaros, one of the Cathedral's music directors. Bryan and I studied together at Westminster Choir College, where we both earned degrees in Sacred Music, and I was delighted to hear from him with this invitation for the Trinity Choir. Music has a wonderful way of creating and sustaining community, and the relationships we form through it can continue to bring new connections and opportunities years later.

This year's Feast of St. Francis celebration will be particularly special. The Cathedral is marking the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis with a renewed focus on his vision of creation and our responsibility for the earth. While the traditional procession of animals will not take place this year, the service will feature singers, instrumentalists, and dancers, with music including selections from Paul Winter and Paul Halley's *Missa Gaia*. Above it all will be *Gaia*, a 23-foot illuminated representation of the Earth suspended in the Cathedral's immense nave. It promises to be a remarkable setting for worship and music, and an unforgettable experience for the Trinity Choir.

The choir will travel together by bus, thanks to TEDS and Nancy Ditzel for making the bus available to us. If you would like to help with the transportation costs, including the driver, your support would be greatly appreciated. To contribute to the choir's participation, or for more information, please speak with me or contact the Parish Office. Thank you for supporting the music ministry and helping make this special experience possible for the Trinity Choir.

Anthony Rafaniello, Trinity Music Director

Lectionary & Liturgy

We now reach a section of Matthew's Gospel in which Jesus teaches about God's way of dealing with humanity: namely, forgiveness. Today's reading is primarily concerned with the Church's role as the agent of forgiveness. Even when a member of the Church is unrepentant, the Church is not to give up on that person easily. We are to make every effort to move the sinner to repent and accept the forgiveness of God, which Jesus has commissioned the Church to offer.

The story of Moses and the Exodus continues today. God and the Egyptian king have been in a struggle. Now comes the final test. We hear the instructions to the Israelites about the meal that will protect them from Egypt's final plague and prepare them to set forth on their journey to freedom. This became the Passover meal of the Jews, the precursor of the Eucharistic meal.

Today's passage from the Epistle to the Romans continues to deal with the characteristics of Christian living. We are to live in good relationships with all people, to respect the laws and authorities of human society, and above all to express love by mutual behavior based on God's law.

We gather as the People of God, having found in our relationship with God that he is our lover and our savior, not an angry or condemning judge. We find in our lives together as Church that we are not only the recipients of God's love and forgiveness but also sent into the world as the instruments of that love and forgiveness to all people.

From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year. © 2007 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Inc. NY

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- † **Cover Art** – “The Labor Cross” © 1954 by Fritz Eichenberg. “He gathers images of people from several races at work – fisherman, farmer, woman caring for both children and sheep, carpenter, miner, and logger. The cross is shown as providing the context and basic architecture of daily life. The image confesses the burden of labor but still more its glory. The panel affirms a fundamental value of the Catholic Worker, that human dignity is inseparable from work and that unemployment undermines the soul. –[“Fritz Eichenberg: Artist of the Peaceable Kingdom” by Jim Forest]
- † **Prelude** – Dr. Charles Callahan (1951-2023) was a composer and expert on organs; his books are standard reference works and his writing style has been described by The Washington Post as “gentle, confident lyricism.” He was honored by the American Guild of Organists with its 2014 Distinguished Artist award “for his illustrious career as composer, performer, teacher and consultant, and his lifelong service to the sacred music profession.” –[© 1994 Concordia Publishing House]
- † **Gathering Hymn** – Words: Timothy Rees (1874-1939) was born and served Anglican parishes in Wales, where he was lecturer and chaplain; after travelling widely, he was consecrated Bishop of Llandaff. Music: Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1992); composed in 1941 when he was working for the Religious Broadcasting Department of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and named for a village near Bristol, England.
- † **Gloria** – Words: Anonymous, 15th century medieval. Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), American composer and organist who spent his career serving churches across the Southern and Eastern United States, and currently serves as organist at Trinity Methodist Church in Greenville, SC. “I write tunes and play hymns. And I would have it no other way!” His “output bridges denominational boundaries and serves the larger Church. He has made ecumenical sharing a reality – and always with a genteel touch.” –[GIA] His conservative, neo-Romantic style stems from his approach to composition. “I write for choirs of 25 because that’s what most are. Most are not of cathedral ability or size. My pieces are practical and useful for specific occasions.” –[© Church Publishing]
- † **Collect of the Day** – New to this BCP, dating to the Leonine sacramentary. Translated from William Bright’s *Ancient Collects*. James 4:6 is the source of the allusion: pride is the enemy of trust; the Christian can boast only in God’s mercy. –[*Notes on the American Prayer Book* by Marion Hatchett]
- † **Epistle** – The longest and most systematic unfolding of Paul’s thought, expounding the gospel of God’s righteousness that saves all who believe. C.E.B. Cranfield says: “Today no responsible criticism disputes that Paul wrote it. The evidence of its use in the Apostolic Fathers is clear, and before the end of the second century it is listed and cited as Paul’s.” N.T. Wright notes it is “neither a systematic theology nor a summary of Paul’s lifework, but it is by common consent his masterpiece. It dwarfs most of his other writings, an Alpine peak towering over hills and villages. Not all onlookers have viewed it in the same light or from the same angle, and their snapshots and paintings of it are sometimes remarkably unlike. Not all climbers have taken the same route up its sheer sides, and there is frequent disagreement on the best approach. What nobody doubts is that we are here dealing with a work of massive substance, presenting a formidable intellectual challenge while offering a breathtaking theological and spiritual vision.”
- † **Proclaiming Hymn** – Words: Rosamond E. Herklots (1905-1987) by permission of Oxford University Press. She began writing poetry in her childhood and turned to hymn writing in her adult years. She wrote over seventy hymns, many specifically with children in mind. Music: from *Supplement to Kentucky Harmony*, 1820.

- † **Affirmation of Baptismal Faith** – Erasmus proposed a ritual in 1522 for adolescents to renew their baptismal vows; it was first recorded in the 1662 *Book of Common Prayer* as part of the confirmation rite. The ritual is conducted in both the Protestant and revised Catholic liturgies on similar lines. The presider faces the people, gives a short address and conducts a “dialogue” in the vernacular with the whole congregation.
- † **Celebrating Common Prayer** – Daily Office book for Anglicans, with Church of England texts, based on *Common Worship*.
- † **Baptismal Chant** – Words: Isaiah 12:2-6. Music Paul Inwood (b. 1946), published by OCP Publications © 1986, 1988.
- † **Prayers of the People** – According to the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer (1979), there is a great deal of flexibility with respect to the Prayers of the People. The single set form in Rite I and the six Forms in Rite II are available, but celebrants and liturgy planners are not limited to them. The only requirement is that the categories enumerated on page 359 are covered.
- † **Offertory Hymn** – Words: John Newton (1725-1807), English poet and Anglican clergyman, alt.; st. 5, from *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; compiled by Richard Broadbuss and Andrew Broadbuss. Music: from *Virginia Harmony*, 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (1919-2010) –[© 1974 Abingdon Press. Used by permission.]
- † **Sanctus** – Became part of the Roman Eucharistic Prayer around 450 AD, fairly late as by then the text of the Roman Canon was fixed and regarded as possessing great authority. It appears in the 1549 BCP in its current form. The 1552 Book of Common Prayer omitted it and, though it is now permitted, “the choice whether or not to use the Benedictus is still for some a matter of Eucharistic theology and churchmanship.” – [Paul Thomas, *Using the Book of Common Prayer*] The first part is based on Isaiah’s song of the seraphim –[Isaiah 6:1-3; cf., Revelation 4:8]. The second part is taken from Matthew 21:9, describing Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, which is based on the first half of Psalm 118:26. In its present liturgical context it points to the expected presence of the Lord in the eucharistic gifts.
- † **The Lord’s Prayer** – The BCP provides both Traditional and Contemporary versions; the parish alternates depending on the liturgical season. John Dominica Crossan writes “What if the Lord’s Prayer is neither a Jewish prayer for Jews nor yet a Christian prayer for Christians? What if it is instead a prayer from the heart of Judaism on the lips of Christianity for the conscience of the world? What if it is instead a radical manifesto and a hymn of hope for all humanity in language addressed to all the earth?”
- † **Proper Preface** – Nathan Nettleton –[©LaughingBird Liturgical Resources] is pastor to Open Icon Baptist Church (formerly known as South Yarra Community Baptist Church), a small congregation located in an inner-city neighborhood of Melbourne, Australia; he is a member of the Baptist World Alliance Study Commission on Worship & Spirituality, the Australian Academy of Liturgy and Societas Liturgica, and represents the Baptist Union of Australia on the ecumenical Australian Consultation on Liturgy (ACOL).
- † **Communion Hymn** – Words: Louis Benson (1855-1930); “As a hymn writer Dr. Benson is not widely known, mainly through the recent publication of his verse. His hymns deserve attention, and will, no doubt, gain the public ear in due time; whilst his hymnological researches and publications are thorough and praiseworthy.” –[John Julian, *Dictionary of Hymnology, New Supplement* (1907)] Music: melody David Gregor Corner (1585-1648), German Benedictine abbot, hymn writer and theologian best known for his influential *Gross Catholisches Gesängbuch*. He initially considered leaving out “all hymns found in heretical collections” but a colleague reminded him that hymns of Martin Luther and other Protestants were derived from earlier Catholic melodies, and “it was in no way desirable to leave out such good old hymns simply because they have been used by the enemies of the true faith and falsely ascribed to them.” Harmony: William Smith Rockstro (1823-1895) was an English musicologist, teacher, pianist and composer. He is best remembered for his books, including music textbooks, music history and biographies of famous musicians.
- † **Sending Hymn** – Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933), who wrote, “These verses are simple expressions of common Christian feelings and desires in this present time – hymns of today that may be sung together by people who know the thought of the age. They are not afraid that any truth of science will destroy religion, or any revolution on earth overthrow the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, this is a hymn of trust and joy and hope.” Music: Sung to the music of Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827); it has the “ability to carry massive ideas in its fifteen syllables per double line.” –[Austin Lovelace, *Anatomy of Hymnody*] “The words begin to bounce, and suddenly I’m singing it the way it was meant to be sung – at least in style.” –[Jerry Jenkins, *Hymns for Personal Devotions*] “This hymn is generally considered by hymnologists to be one of the most joyous expressions of hymn lyrics in the English language.” –[Kenneth Osbeck, 1982] –[©1942, 1970 Hope Publishing Co.]
- † **Postlude** – Denis Bédard, (b. 1950), Canadian composer of organ works, describes his music as “tonal-modal, essentially melodic, with a love for lush harmony, and with a touch of jazz and humor.” He retired in 2021, after exactly 20 years at Holy Rosary Cathedral in Vancouver.



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