

Trinity Episcopal Church

Cranford, in the Diocese of New Jersey



“The Unjust Judge — Rużena Zátková

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Stewardship Season

Rite I Holy Eucharist

Proper 24 — October 19, 2025 at 8 AM

The Reverend Andrew David Kruger, Rector & Presider

Anthony Rafaniello, Director of Music

Casey Woodruff, Senior Warden & Thomas Kaercher, Junior Warden

*The Sanctuary Candle and the Altar flowers are given to the glory of God
& in celebration of the 20th Wedding Anniversary of Jim Behnke and Denise Alvarez*

Welcome

Andrew Kruger

The bell is rung and the People stand.

Acclamation

BCP 323

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

BCP 323

Presider Let us pray.

People **Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love thee,
and worthily magnify thy holy Name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Great Commandment

BCP 324

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Kyrie

BCP 324

Presider Kyrie eleison.

People **Christe eleison.**

Presider Kyrie eleison.

**Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

BCP 183

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in Christ hast revealed thy glory among the nations:
Preserve the works of thy mercy,
that thy Church throughout the world may persevere
with steadfast faith in the confession of thy Name;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:27-34

Reader A reading from the book of the Prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the Lord. In those days they shall no longer say: “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge.” But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge. The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt — a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:97-104

Quomodo dilexi!

BCP 771

97. Oh, how I love your law! *

all the day long it is in my mind.

98. Your commandment has made me wiser than my enemies, *

and it is always with me.

99. I have more understanding than all my teachers, *

for your decrees are my study.

100. I am wiser than the elders, *
because I observe your commandments.
101. I restrain my feet from every evil way, *
that I may keep your word.
102. I do not shrink from your judgments, *
because you yourself have taught me.
103. How sweet are your words to my taste! *
they are sweeter than honey to my mouth.
104. Through your commandments I gain understanding; *
therefore I hate every lying way.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 3:14 — 4:5

Reader A reading from Paul's second letter to Timothy.

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching.

For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand.

Gospel

Luke 18:1-8

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus told the disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Homily

Andrew Kruger

Nicene Creed

BCP 326

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,
Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate
from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

BCP 328

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all humanity: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Sean, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, Sally our Bishop, and Andrew our Rector, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially Donald, our President, Philip, our governor, and Terrence, the mayor of this town, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear [*especially...*], beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP 331

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

The People kneel.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

Absolution

BCP 332

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Comfortable Words

BCP 332

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden,
and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that
believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

Peace

BCP 332

The People stand.

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

Announcements

Andrew Kruger

Ministry Minute

Bonnie Gentesse

Offertory Sentence

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of God's might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.



*The Ushers pass the collection plates among the People.
Alternatively, you may give to Trinity online:
scan the QR code and go directly to our Breeze link.*

The Presentation of Gifts

1 Chronicles 29:14b

Presider All things come of thee, O Lord:
People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

Eucharistic Prayer II

BCP 340

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest; in whom we are built up as living stones of a holy temple, that we might offer before thee a sacrifice of praise and prayer which is holy and pleasing in thy sight. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption.

He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup;
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,
“Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant,
which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins.
Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with
these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath
commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious
death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming
again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy
Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they
may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise
and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our
souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy
Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son
Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that
we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in
us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor
and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking the Bread

BCP 337

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is observed, then the Presider says

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Prayer of Humble Access

BCP 337

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Invitation

BCP 338

Presider The Gifts of God:

People **For the People of God.**

Holy Communion

The ushers guide the people to receive Holy Communion. All who hunger for God, including children, are cordially invited to share the Gifts of God offered at this table. Whoever you are, wherever you are in your life's journey, you are welcome here. 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 simple request to the priest.

A Prayer of Self-Dedication

BCP 832

Presider Let us pray.

The People stand, and all pray together

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to thee, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly thine, utterly dedicated unto thee; and then use us, we pray thee, as thou wilt, and always to thy glory and the welfare of thy people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Blessing

BCP 339

And now may the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The ministers recess.

Dismissal

BCP 340

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



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.

What you need to know today...

Archbishop of Canterbury The Rt. Rev. and Rt. Hon. Dame Sarah Mullally, Bishop of London, is the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury.

Stewardship Season Envelopes containing the stewardship letter, smart ways of giving document, and pledge card may be collected from the narthex of the church beginning this week.

Fellowship Hour In Sherlock Hall, immediately after this service.

St. John's Sandwich Sunday Today; people are needed to make sandwiches after the services and deliver them to St. John's in Elizabeth. Sandwich donation items needed are listed in this week's email blast. To help, please contact Marion Nechuta (marionnechuta@yahoo.com) or Helen Shteynberg (hshteynberg@gmail.com).

Acolyte Training Today immediately after the 10 AM Eucharist for all current and aspirant acolytes.

Trinity Episcopal Senior Youth (TESY) Today from 12 noon to 1:30 PM in Sherlock Hall. The topic is "Painting: Paint by the Numbers." To sign up, contact Katie Annarelli (Kathleen.M.Annarelli@outlook.com).

Northern Convocation Today at 4 PM in Spotswood.

What you need to know this week...

The Daily Offices Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer are offered online from Monday to Friday at 8:30 AM and 5 PM.

Parish Office Parish Administrator Marion Nechuta is in Tuesday (12 noon-2:30 PM), Wednesday (1 PM-3:30 PM) and Thursday (12 noon-2:30 PM). Father Andy's sabbath day is now Friday (it had previously been on Monday).

Kitchen Cleanup Tuesday, October 21 from 10 AM to 12 noon. Volunteers are needed for the annual Health Department inspection. Please contact the parish office.

Handbells and Choir Rehearsals Wednesday, October 22; rehearsal for Handbells is 7 to 7:50 PM and Adult Choir is 8-9 PM.

Compline Thursdays at 8 PM online. A contemplative Office that emphasizes spiritual peace.

Spiritual Hike with Outdoor Eucharist This Saturday, October 25 at 9 AM. Meet in the parking lot of the Deserted Village (“Feltville”) in the Watchung Reservation. From there, it is a five-minute walk down a paved road to a secluded pergola to celebrate Eucharist. An easy one-hour hike will follow. This is a great activity for families and promises to be a memorable event. Please contact Senior Warden, Casey Woodruff (woodruff5073@gmail.com) to register or with any questions.

What you need to know for the future...

Cameroon Orphan, Musaga Richards Bake Sale on October 26 during the 8 and 10 AM fellowship. Items needed are in this week’s email blast. Each year, the parish pays \$360 to sponsor Musaga, which covers his education, food, clothes, and medical expenses.

Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls) Saturday, November 1 at 7:30 PM in the Church.

Discussion on use of icons in worship Sunday, November 16 at 11:30 AM in the church; Father Andy will facilitate. Details on preparing for the discussion will be found in this week’s email blast.

242nd Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey November 21–22 at Christ Church in Toms River. Registration is now open; this year, the convention will be a two-day event.

Taizé Service Sunday, December 7 at 7:30 PM in the church. Please email Fr Andy to assist with set up and take down.

Lectionary & Liturgy

Today, Jesus uses a parable to teach about prayer. In it, an unjust judge grants his petitioner’s plea only because she will not leave him alone until he does. Jesus says that God will also grant the prayers of those who cry to God day and night. The point is not that God, like the judge, will only be responsive to those who nag. It is, as Luke says, to teach us the need to pray always and not lose heart.

We continue with Jeremiah today. His word from God is a solemn promise by God to restore Israel and Judah. God promises in the days still to come to make a new covenant with the people, a covenant that will be written in their hearts. Never again, God promises, will they be ignorant of God’s will and God will forgive all their sins.

In today’s reading from the second letter to Timothy, this early church leader is called to persevere in teaching and preaching the faith he has been given both by his family and in his study of the scriptures. This letter was written in a time when an aberrant form of Christianity was being proclaimed. Timothy is to stick with what he has learned from the scriptures and from Paul.

Our baptism has called us into a life characterized by the need never to give up our search for God. Faithfulness involves a giving of all that we are and all that we have. God asks us never to lose heart and to give all of our time, treasure, and talents to the ministry of God in this world.

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*.
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Hodegetria Icon

During his sabbatical in Greece Fr Andy purchased an icon for the parish. This *Hodegetria* icon (meaning she who shows the way), is a Byzantine iconographic type of the Virgin Mary holding the infant Christ and pointing to him with her hand, thus guiding the viewer to salvation. The [icon](#) will be displayed alongside the votive tree (next to the pulpit) in the church. The vestry approved this location for trial use in order to afford the parish an opportunity to venerate or reflect upon this icon while lighting a candle at the votive tree. Fr Andy will facilitate a discussion on the use of icons in worship, and the placement of the *Hodegetria* in our church on Sunday, November 16 at 11:30 AM in the church. All parishioners are encouraged to read chapters by Rowan Williams and Henri Nouwen; links to them can be found in this week's email blast. In addition, or if listening to a podcast is preferred, the *Yale Center for Faith & Culture* offered an excellent interview with Art historian Matthew Milliner on the subject, the link to which is also found in this week's email blast. If you have comments, positive or negative, during this period of trial use please share them with the rector, wardens, or members of vestry.



Website: TrinityCranford.org

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[Connect](#) to Daily Office Services and Meetings on Zoom

[Connect](#) to Sunday 10 AM Eucharists and High Holy Day Services on Trinity's YouTube

Instructions for Zoom and YouTube are on the homepage of Trinity's Website

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