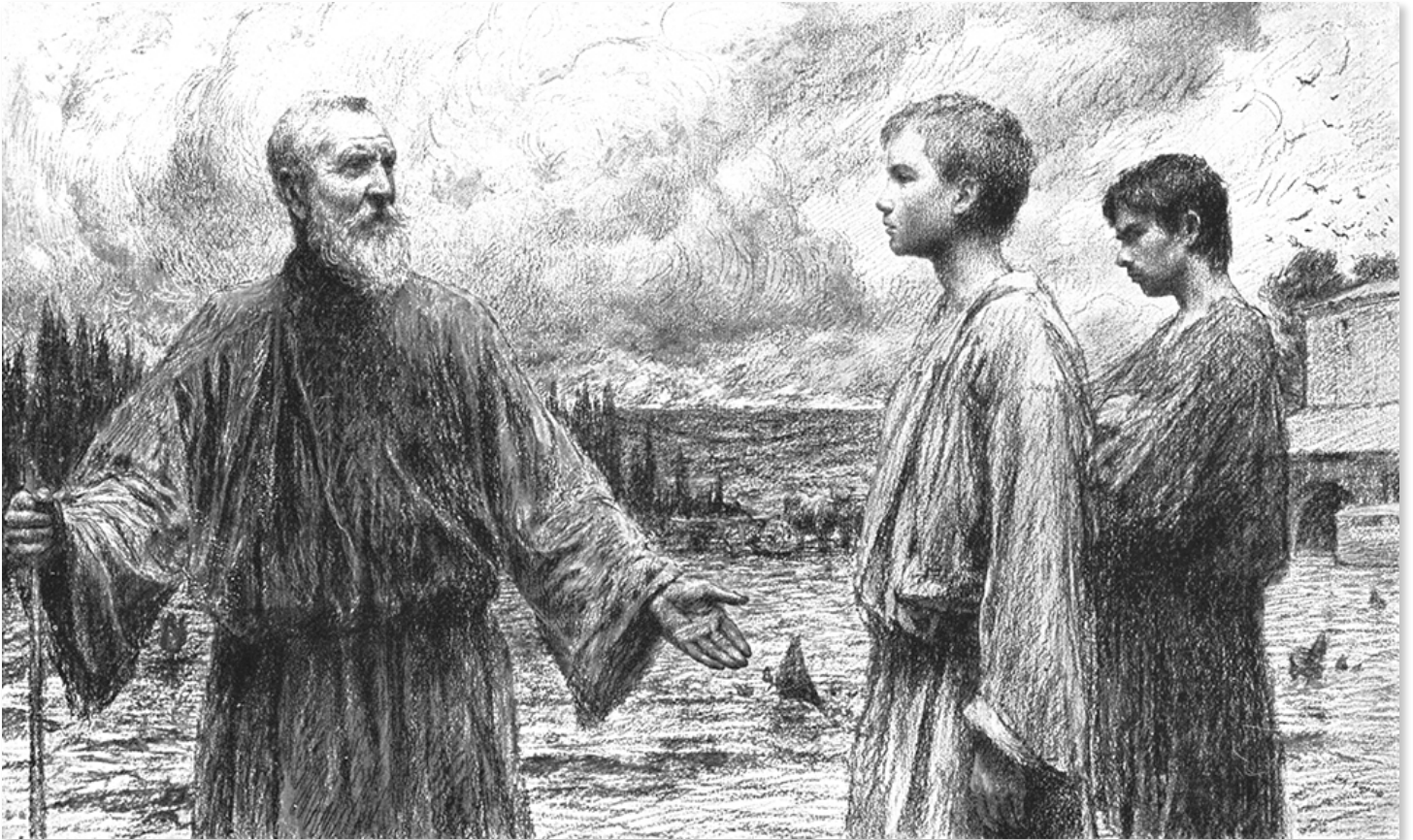


# Trinity Episcopal Church

*Cranford, in the Diocese of New Jersey*



*The Two Sons — Eugène Burnand*

## *The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Rite I Holy Eucharist

September 27, 2026 at 8 AM — Proper 21

*The Reverend Andrew David Kruger, Rector & Presider*

*Anthony Rafaniello, Director of Music*

*Casey Woodruff, Senior Warden & Kathleen M. Murray, Junior Warden*

*The Sanctuary Candle and the Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God  
& in loving memory of Milt Kelly (Nate Kelly's Dad and Arwen's Grandpa) by the Morgan Kelly Family.*

## 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.

## Collect of the Day

BCP 182

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

O God, who declarest thy almighty power  
chiefly in showing mercy and pity:  
Mercifully grant unto us such a measure of thy grace,  
that we, running to obtain thy promises,  
may be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure;  
through 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

Exodus 17:1-7

*Reader* A reading from the Book of Exodus.

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

1. Hear my teaching, O my people; \*  
**incline your ears to the words of my mouth.**
2. I will open my mouth in a parable; \*  
**I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.**
3. That which we have heard and known,  
and what our forefathers have told us, \*  
**we will not hide from their children.**
4. We will recount to generations to come  
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, \*  
**and the wonderful works he has done.**
12. He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, \*  
**in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.**
13. He split open the sea and let them pass through; \*  
**he made the waters stand up like walls.**
14. He led them with a cloud by day, \*  
**and all the night through with a glow of fire.**
15. He split the hard rocks in the wilderness \*  
**and gave them drink as from the great deep.**
16. He brought streams out of the cliff, \*  
**and the waters gushed out like rivers.**

**Second Reading**

Philippians 2:1-13

*Reader*      A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he existed in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be grasped,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
assuming human likeness.  
And being found in appearance as a human,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God exalted him even more highly  
and gave him the name that is above every other name,  
so that at the name given to Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*The People stand.*

## **Gospel**

Matthew 21:23-32

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

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

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?”

Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

*Presider*        The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*         **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## **Homily**

Andrew Kruger

## **Nicene Creed**

BCP 326

*The People stand.*

**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 Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury, 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, Rebecca Michelle, our governor, and Kathleen, 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*

## Announcements

Andrew Kruger

## Ministry Minute

Casey Woodruff

## Peace

BCP 332

*The People stand.*

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

## Offertory Sentence

BCP 344

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
and make good thy vows unto the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*



*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, who by water and the Holy Spirit hast made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth thy glory in all the world. 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

*The Presider and People say*

**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.*

## Post Communion Prayer

Traditional

*Presider* Let us pray.

*The People stand, and all pray together*

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee,  
For that thou hast fed us with this holy sacrament,  
to knit us in one with Christ our Savior,  
and to grant us a foretaste of that Heavenly Banquet  
which thou hast prepared for all peoples. Amen.**

## Blessing

BCP 339

*The Presider pronounces the blessing*

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.**



## ***Copyright Acknowledgments***

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## **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...**

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

**Sunday School** 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.

**Children's Choir** Registration is open. Rehearsals are on Sunday mornings from 11:30 AM to 12 PM in the church and is recommended for novice readers in Grade 1 or older. Please register your child using the QR code here:



**The Sacrament of Baptism** Candidates will be enrolled today at the 10 AM Eucharist. Baptism will be offered on the Feast of All Saints (observed on Sunday, November 1).

**Outreach** Today is the last day for a collection for Disaster Relief for the ERD (Episcopal Relief & Development); donations by cash, check or breeze.

**Financial Snapshot** \$143,000 has been received versus \$157,000 pledged year to date. Thanks is given for the continued support of the congregation, if the financial situation has changed, or to adjust a pledge, please inform the financial secretary, Carol Beier.

**Vestry Meeting** Today at 11:30 AM in Witherington Hall, please pray for the leadership of our parish:

*Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in Trinity's Vestry for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach them in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide them to perceive what is right, and grant them both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Trinity Episcopal Senior Youth (TESY)** Today from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM in Witherington Chapel. The focus will be a discussion of loft renovation. All confirmed youth and 2026 confirmation candidates are invited.

**TEDS Aftercare Aides Needed** Trinity Episcopal Day School (TEDS) is currently seeking aftercare aides to help supervise children in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. Aides must be 18 years of age or older and available to work from approximately 3 PM or 3:30 PM until 6 PM. This is a paid position. Responsibilities include supervising children during the aftercare program and assisting them with homework. Anyone interested in learning more is encouraged to contact Nancy Ditzel at teds205@gmail.com.

### **What you need to know this week...**

**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** This Wednesday, September 30 from 7 PM to 7:50 PM in the church.

**Trinity Adult Choir** This Wednesday, September 30 from 8 PM to 9 PM in the church.

**Compline** This Thursday at 8 PM online. A contemplative Office that emphasizes spiritual peace.

**The Colgate Thirteen** This Friday, October 2 at 7PM. Colgate University's premier a cappella group, and one of the nation's oldest collegiate all-male a cappella groups, will bring its classic sound to Trinity Church. The concert is open to the public, and a free-will offering will be collected to help cover the group's visit to Cranford.

**Trinity Men's Group** This Saturday, October 3 from 8 AM to 9 AM in Witherington Hall.

### **What you need to know in the future...**

**Blessing of the Animals** Next Sunday, October 4 at both services. Bring your pets or photographs of your pets to both services.

**Outreach Committee** Next Sunday, October 4 at 11:30 AM, meeting in Witherington Hall.

**Confirmation Class** Next Sunday, October 4 from 5 PM to 7 PM in Witherington Hall.

**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 this 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.

**Outdoor Eucharist & Spiritual Hike** Saturday, October 17 at 9 AM. See below for details.

**Acolyte & Thurifer Training** Sunday, October 18 immediately after the 10 AM Eucharist for all current and aspirant acolytes.

**Family Game Night** Saturday, October 24 from 5 PM to 8 PM in Sherlock Hall. All ages are welcome. Enjoy a light dinner, play an old favorite, learn a new game, or bring one to share.

**St Mark's Gospel** Saturday, November 28 from 10 AM to 12:30 PM in Witherington Chapel. The Gospel will be read from cover to cover.

## Outdoor Eucharist and Spiritual Hike

Experience a unique encounter with the Eucharist celebrated in the splendor of God's creation. This popular semiannual event returns for the fourth time against the backdrop of stunning fall foliage, on Saturday, October 17 at 9 AM. Everyone will meet in front of the Trailside Nature Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside. From there, it is a very short walk to a seating area where a special outdoor Eucharist liturgy will be celebrated. An easy one-hour hike will follow. Those who choose not to hike can sit quietly in the beauty of the Watchung Reservation after the service. This is a great activity for families and has always been a memorable event for everyone who attends. Please contact Senior Warden, Casey Woodruff ([woodruff5073@gmail.com](mailto:woodruff5073@gmail.com)), to register or with any questions.



Website: [TrinityCranford.org](http://TrinityCranford.org)

Instagram: [@trinity\\_cranford\\_1872](https://www.instagram.com/trinity_cranford_1872)

Facebook: Trinity Episcopal Church, Cranford

Connect to Online Services and Meetings: [us04web.zoom.us/j/595488321](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/595488321)

Meeting ID: 595 488 3214

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