

Trinity Episcopal Church

Cranford, in the Diocese of New Jersey



"Sermon on the Mount" – Christian Rohlfs

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Holy Eucharist ~ Rite II

February 1, 2026 at 10 AM

The Reverend Andrew David Kruger ~ Rector & Presider

Tony Pagano ~ Aspirant & Preacher

Susan Caldwell Nelson ~ Musician-in-Residence & Organist

Anthony Joel 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
and in loving memory of Cathryn Behnke Villano by Denise Alvarez and Jim Behnke*

Prelude

"Fantasy on *Lobe den Herren*" – Aaron David Miller*At the end of the prelude, the bells are rung and the People stand.*

Gathering Hymn

Lobe den Herren

Hymnal 390

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord; o - ver all things he glo - rious - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy way and de -
 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion; O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth: borne as on ea - gle - wings, safe - ly his
 fend thee; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore him! All that hath life and breath come now with

health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng, psal - ter - y,
 saints he sus - tain - eth. Hast thou not seen how all thou
 ev - er at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 need - est hath been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 might - y can do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

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

Susan Caldwell Nelson

1. Glory to God in the high-est, and
peace to His peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heav-en - 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 take, a-way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the righthand of the
Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord.
7. You a - lone are the Most High, 2 Je-sus Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - - men.

Presider The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

Blessing of the Sunday School Children and their Teachers

Andrew Kruger

Presider May God bless those who teach and those who learn,

* in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

II. Proclaiming and Receiving the Word of God**First Reading**

Micah 6:1-8

Reader A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. “O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Reader The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 15*Domine, quis habitabit?*

Plainsong Psalter

All sing the Antiphon and Psalm.



Bles - sed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.



TONEVI

- 1 *LORD, whö may dwell in your ta/bernaclé? **
who may abide up/on yoür hóly hill?
- 2 *Whoever leads a blameless life and does / what is right, **
who speaks the / truth fröm his heart.
- 3 *There is no guile upon his tongue;*
*he does no e/vil tó his friend; **
he does not heap contempt up/on his neighbor.
- 4 *In his sight the wicked is / rejected, **
but he honors / those whö fear the LORD.
- 5 *He has sworn to / do nö wrong **
and does / not tåke båck his word.
- 6 *He does not give his money / in hópe of gain, **
nor does he take a bribe a/gainst thë innocent.
- 7 *Whoever / does thëse things **
shall ne/ver bë óverthrown. [Ant.]

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Reader A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Proclaiming Hymn*Franconia*

Hymnal 656

1 Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God; the
 2 The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring, to
 3 he to the low - ly soul will still him - self im - part and
 4 Lord, we thy pres - ence seek; may ours this bless - ing be; give

se - cret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's a - bode.
 dwell in low - li - ness with us, our pat - tern and our King;
 for his dwell-ing and his throne will choose the pure in heart.
 us a pure and low - ly heart, a tem - ple fit for thee.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

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

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying, “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

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

III. Responding to the Proclaimed Word of God

Homily

Tony Pagano

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.**

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.

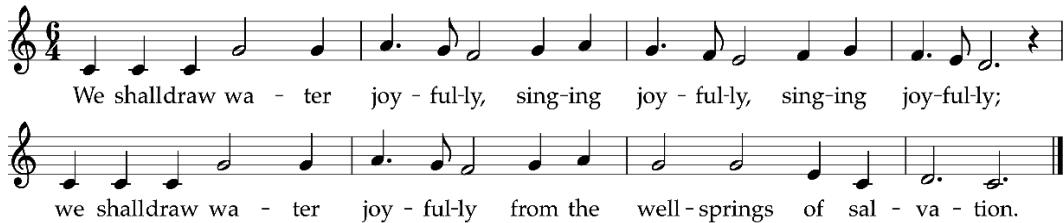
People

Blessèd be God for ever.

The Presider sprinkles the People.

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.

Prayers of the People

CW alt.

The Presider says

Let us pray to God who reveals divinity in the person of Jesus Christ.

The Intercessor prays

Gracious God, fountain of all wisdom, we pray for all Christian people; for Bishop Sally, for all Christian leaders, and for those who teach and guard the faith. May the word of Christ dwell richly in our hearts, and knit us together in the bond of your love.

Lord have mercy: **Christ have mercy.**

We pray for the leaders of the nations, and for those in authority under them. Give them the gift of your wisdom, and a right discernment in all things.

Lord have mercy: **Christ have mercy.**

We pray for our town and for all those who live and work here, and for those who visit this place. Speak your word of peace in our midst, and help us to serve one another as Christ has served us.

Lord have mercy: **Christ have mercy.**

We pray for those who do not believe, and yet who long to know you, the very Word of life. Open their ears to hear your voice, and open their hearts to the knowledge of your love in Christ.

Lord have mercy: **Christ have mercy.**

We pray for those bowed down with grief, fear or sickness. May your living Word bring comfort and healing to all those in need.

Lord have mercy: **Christ have mercy.**

We give thanks for all those who have died in the faith of Christ and we rejoice with all your saints, trusting in the promise of your word fulfilled.

Lord have mercy: **Christ have mercy.**

The Presider concludes

Source of Life, in Christ you open for us a new way of living: purge us of our easy acceptance of the ways of the world, and forge in us the radical vision of your reign, that your will may be done on earth as in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The 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 96:8

Presider Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

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

Offertory Anthem

“Offertory”

Words: Micah 6:6-8 ~ Music: John Ness Beck

With what shall I come before the Lord,
And bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings,
Shall I come before Him with yearling calves?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
With ten thousand rivers of oil?
Shall I give my first-born for my transgressions,
The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

He has shown you, O man,
He has shown you what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you
But to do justice and to love kindness,
And to walk humbly with your God?

The ushers bring the collection plates to the ministers.

Offertory Hymn

Wareham

Voices Found 156

The People stand.

1. A - rise and shine, the pro - phet sang;
2. God's ris - ing sun will light the way,
3. You will not need the sun by day;
your light has come, the mes - sage rang.
as peo - ple stream to dawn - ing's ray.
nor moon by night, to light your way;
The shroud of dark ness stripped a - way,
Your o - pen gates will nev - er close,
God's glo - ry and ev - ter - nal might;
God's glo - ry brings a bright new day.
in bus' - ling day or night's re - pose.
will be your ev - er last - ing light.

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.

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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Susan Caldwell Nelson

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, heav'n 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.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

People **Dying, you destroyed our death.**
 Rising, you restored our life.
 Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Great Amen

Susan Caldwell Nelson



The Lord's Prayer

BCP 360

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.**

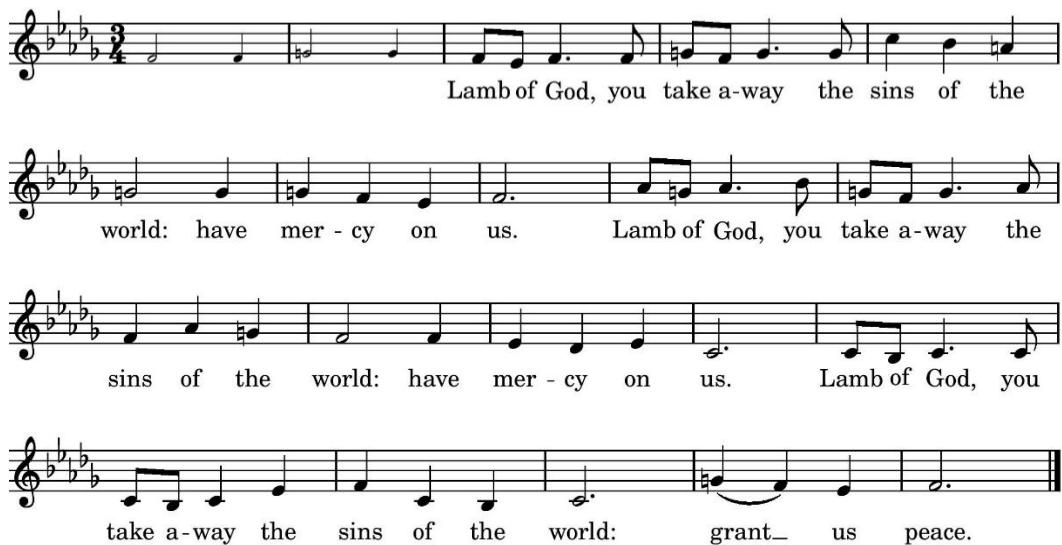
Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

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

Agnus Dei

Susan Caldwell Nelson



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: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you 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.

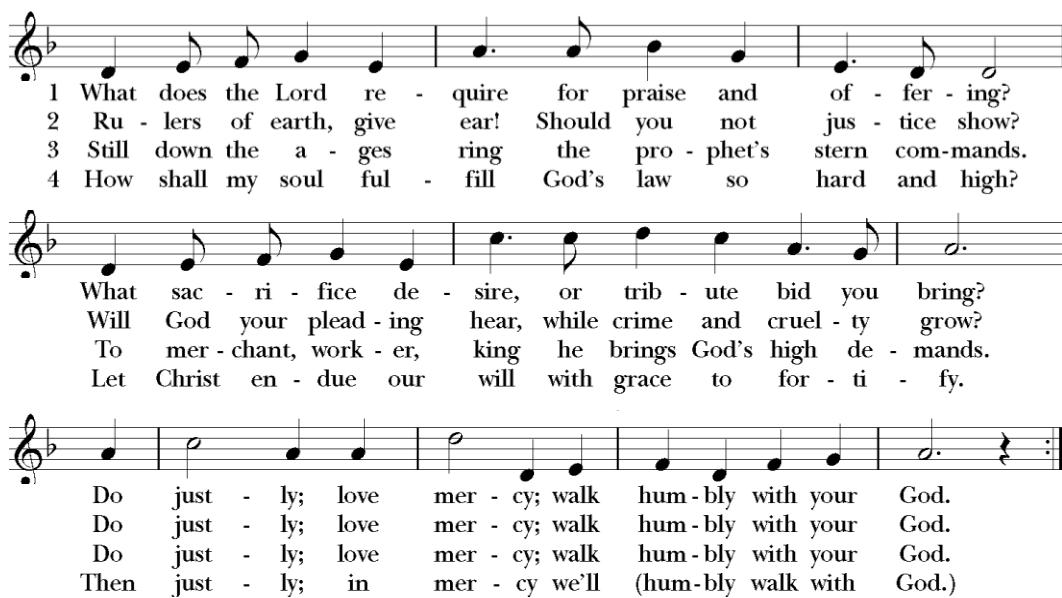
All who hunger for God, including children, are cordially invited to share the Gifts of God offered at this table. Whoever you are, wherever you are in your life's journey, you are welcome here.

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 request to the priest.

First Communion Hymn

Sharphthorne

Hymnal 605



1. What does the Lord require for praise and offering?
2. Rulers of earth, give ear! Should you not justice show?
3. Still down the ages ring the prophet's stern commands.
4. How shall my soul fulfill God's law so hard and high?
What sacred sacrifice desire, or trib-ute bid you bring?
Will God your pleading hear, while crime and cruelty grow?
To merchant, work-er, king he brings God's high demands.
Let Christ en-due our will with grace to fortify.
Do just-ly; love mer-cy; walk hum-bly with your God.
Do just-ly; love mer-cy; walk hum-bly with your God.
Do just-ly; love mer-cy; walk hum-bly with your God.
Then just-ly; in mer-cy we'll (hum-bly walk with God.)

Second Communion Hymn

St. Petersburg

Hymnal 574

1 Be - fore thy throne, O God, we kneel: give us a con - science
 2 Search out our hearts and make us true; help us to give to
 3 For sins of heed - less word and deed, for pride am - bi - tious
 4 Let the fierce fires which burn and try, our in - most spi - ritus

quick to feel, a rea - dy mind to un - der - stand the
 all their due. From love of plea - sure, lust of gold, from
 to suc - ceed, for craft - y trade and sub - tle snare to
 pu - ri - fy: con - sume the ill; purge out the shame; O

mean - ing of thy chas - tening hand; what - e'er the pain and
 sins which make the heart grow cold, wean us and train us
 catch the sim - ple un - a - ware, for lives be - reft of
 God, be with us in the flame; a new - born peo - ple

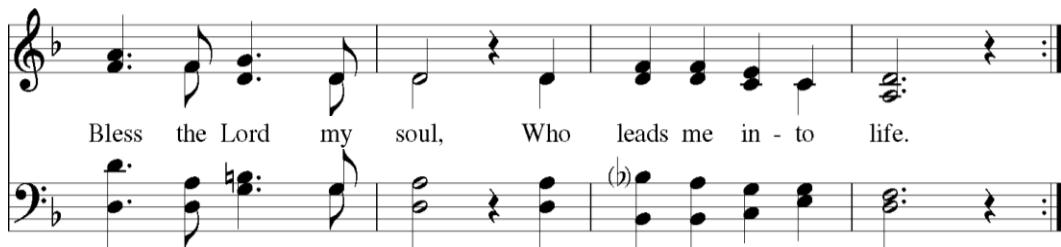
shame may be, bring us, O Fa - ther, near - er thee.
 with thy rod; teach us to know our faults, O God.
 pur - pose high, for - give, for - give, O Lord, we cry.
 may we rise, more pure, more true, more no - bly wise.

Communion Meditation

Bless the Lord my soul

Wonder, Love & Praise 825

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.



Post-communion Prayer

CW

Presider Let us pray.

The People stand.

**God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may
shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Examination of Recently Elected Warden, Vestry, Delegates and Alternates

The People sit and the Warden, Vestry, Delegates and Alternates move to the crossing; the Presider says

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one Body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Our purpose is to commission these persons in the Name of God and of this congregation to a special ministry to which they are called.

The Presider asks

Are you prepared by a commitment to Christ as Lord, by regular attendance at worship, and by the knowledge of your duties, to exercise your ministry to the honor of God, and the well-being of his Church?

Candidates I believe I am, with God's help.

Presider You have been called to a ministry in this congregation.
Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with diligence?

Candidates I will, with God's help.

Presider Will you faithfully and reverently execute the duties of your ministry to the honor of God, and the benefit of the members of this congregation?

Candidates I will, with God's help.

The Commissioning of the Junior Warden and new Members of the Vestry

Senior Warden I present these individuals to be admitted to the ministry of the Vestry in this congregation.

The People stand and the newly elected Vestry members kneel at the altar rail.

Presider The Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;
**God stores up sound wisdom for the upright; the Lord is a shield to those
who walk in integrity.**

Presider I am your servant; grant me understanding:
People **That I may know your decrees.**

The Presider anoints the Junior Warden and members of the Vestry.

Presider Let us pray.

O Eternal God, the foundation of all wisdom and the source of all courage: Enlighten with your grace the Wardens and Vestry of this congregation, and so rule their minds, and guide their counsels, that in all things they may seek your glory and promote the mission of your Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In the Name of God and of this congregation, I commission you, Kathy Murray, as Junior Warden, and you, David Burnett, James Willix, Sara Wolfe and Jana Morgan, as Members of the Vestry of Trinity Episcopal Church Cranford.

The Commissioning of Delegates and Alternates to Diocesan Convention and Northern Convocation

The Delegates and Alternates kneel at the altar rail as their name is called.

Senior Warden I present to you Marion Nechuta, Bernhard Kolbe, Cheryl Pantina, Christy Barone, Tony Pagano, and Tony Vitale as duly elected Delegates and Alternates to the Diocesan Convention to be commissioned for their ministry.

Senior Warden I present to you Christy Barone, Courtney Maier Burbela, Vicky Cooney, Tony Pagano, Doreen Taylor, Tony Vitale, Gwenn Cuozzo, and Marion Nechuta, as duly elected Delegates and Alternates to Northern Convocation to be commissioned for their ministry.

People **Call a solemn assembly, gather the people, assemble the elders, and sanctify the congregation.**

Presider Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance.

People **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

The Presider anoints the Delegates and Alternates to Diocesan Convention and Northern Convocation.

Presider Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, who by the Holy Spirit presided at the council of the Apostles to guide them in all knowledge and truth: Be present with the Delegates and Alternates. In the passions of debate give them a quiet spirit; in the complexities of the issues give them clear minds; and in the moments of decision give them courageous hearts. Guide them in all things to seek only your glory and the good of your Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In the Name of God and of this congregation,
I commission you as Delegates and Alternates.

Blessing

CW

The priest blesses the people saying

The peace of God, which passes 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 Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always.

Amen.

V. Going out as God's People

Sending Hymn

Engelberg

Hymnal 477

1 All praise to thee, for thou, O King di - vine,
2 Thou cam'st to us in low - li - ness of thought;
3 Let this mind be in us which was in thee,
4 Where - fore, by God's e - ter - nal pur - pose, thou
5 Let ev - ery tongue con - fess with one ac - cord

1 didst yield the glo - ry that of right was thine,
2 by thee the out - cast and the poor were sought;
3 who wast a ser - vant that we might be free,
4 art high ex - alt - ed o'er all crea - tures now,
5 in heaven and earth that Je - sus Christ is Lord;

1 that in our dark - ened hearts thy grace might shine.
2 and by thy death was God's sal - va - tion wrought.
3 hum - bling thy - self to death on Cal - va - ry.
4 and given the Name to which all knees shall bow.
5 and God the Fa - ther be by all a - dored.

Al - le - lu - ia!

Dismissal

BCP 366

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Toccata on *Engleberg*" – Brenda Portman

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. Every Thursday by 2 PM, an email blast is sent 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 celebrating their Baptismal Anniversaries in February:

5 – Patricia Knapp	6 – Stephanie Willix	8 – Madeline Cruikshank	11 – Luke Robinson	18 – Max Bursack
24 – Joseph Erdody	21 – Corinne Ardente	– Tara DiFabio-Garstka	– Maureen Frydlewicz	– Benjamin Lack

What you need to know today...

Sunday School Today during the 10 AM Eucharist for children in PreK-3 through Grade 4.

“Loaves of Love” Today after both services. Outreach Committee is again selling Loaves of Love. The suggested donation is \$6. All funds raised go to the AIDS Resource Foundation for Children (ARFC), which offers support for children, aged 6 years or younger, who have AIDS, ARC, or who are HIV-positive. Trinity has been supporting this effort for several years and Outreach is appreciative of the support. “Buy Bread, Support Children at Risk.”

Annual Trinity Soup Sale Today after both services. It is the 15th annual sale. \$6 for small, \$9 for large.

Outreach Committee Today at 11:30 AM in Witherington Hall.

Confirmation Class Today from 5-7 PM in Witherington Hall.

Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Candle There are no altar flowers during Lent; however, the sanctuary candle is available for personal attribution, to remember loved ones, to honor others, to celebrate lives. The deadline is 4 PM Wednesday each week; multiple attributions are allowed.

What you need to know this week...

Parish Office Hours Office Manager Marion Nechuta is available Tuesday through Thursday from 12:30 to 3:30 PM. Please call before arriving; at other times she may still be contacted via parish email.

Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer Monday to Friday at 8:30 AM and 5 PM, respectively, online.

Trinity Adult and Handbell Choir Rehearsals This Wednesday, February 4.

Compline This Thursday at 8 PM online.

Trinity Men's Group This Saturday, February 7 from 8-9 AM in Witherington Hall.

What you need to know in the future...

Trinity Women's Group Monday, February 9 from 7-8 PM online.

Knitting Circle Saturday, February 14 from 9 to 10 AM in Witherington Hall.

Sandwich Sunday Sunday, February 15; contact Marion Nechuta (marionnechuta@yahoo.com or 908-451-4498) or Helen Shteynberg for information. There are several ways to participate in this ministry (links to sign up are in the email blast):

- Sign up to supply items needed for the bags and the sandwiches
- Saturday, February 14 from 10 AM to 11 AM – assemble food bags in Sherlock Hall
- Sunday, February 15 after Fellowship Hour – transport sandwiches & food packets to St John's and help serve food

Annual Mardi Gras Celebration Sunday, February 15 after the 10 AM service, it will be replete with feasting, 50/50 raffle, baskets of the “7 deadly sins” and fun. Cooks for the event are needed, please check the email blast for details.

Ash Wednesday February 18, there will be a 7 AM and 12 noon Rite I Service, and a 7:30 PM Rite II Service with choir.

Fellowship Luncheon Thursday, February 19 from 12:30 PM to 2 PM in Witherington Hall. Call Susan Olszewski (908-757-9561) or Susan Nelson (908-397-3944) for more information.

Trinity Episcopal Senior Youth (TESY) Saturday, March 14 from 10 AM to 12 Noon. TESY is hosting a cleanup of the Sherlock Hall loft; pizza and refreshments will be provided. Volunteers of all ages are welcome. To sign up, email Katie Annarelli (kathleen.m.annarelli@outlook.com).

Election Results from the Annual Meeting

Junior Warden (one 2-year term) 2026-2027:

Kathleen M. Murray

Vestry (three 3-year terms) 2026-2028:

David L. Burnett, James Willix, Sara Wolfe

Vestry (unexpired 3-year term) 2025-2027:

Jana Morgan

Diocesan Convention Delegates (3 delegates, one-year terms):

Marion Nechuta, Bernhard Kolbe, Cheryl Pantina

Diocesan Convention Alternates (3 alternates, one-year terms):

Tony Pagano (first alternate), Tony Vitale (second alternate), Christy Barone (third alternate)

Northern Convocation Delegates (6 delegates, one-year terms):

Christy Barone, Courtney Maier Burbela, Vicky Cooney, Tony Pagano, Doreen Taylor, Tony Vitale

Northern Convocation Alternates (2 alternates, one-year terms):

Gwenn Cuozzo (first alternate), Marion Nechuta (second alternate)

2026 Lenten Course: The Eight Passions of the Soul

This Lent and Holy Week, the congregation will explore the 8 passions of the soul as they were taught by St John Cassian, who died around 435 AD. He was a disciple of St. John Chrysostom and in his writing and teaching he shared much of the spiritual wisdom of the Christian East with his Western brothers and sisters. The focus is on his treatise to Bishop Kastor, titled 'On the Eight Vices' taken from *The Institutes, Books V-XII*. Cassian's writing teaches us how to develop our self-knowledge and awareness, so that we can relate to the world without selfish illusions.

The course begins on Thursday, February 26 at 7:30 PM and continues every Thursday in Lent and includes services on the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week; 8 sessions in all. Each session (listed below) will begin in the church with evensong and conclude in Witherington Hall with a simple soup supper and an opportunity for further discussion. An excellent book to read in conjunction with taking the course is Rowan William's "Passions of the Soul."



NB: Please sign up to volunteer to read at evensong; assist with setup and takedown; offer to make soup; and indicate the intention to attend so that it can be catered appropriately. Either scan the QR code or click on the link on the weekly email blast. Here are the session dates and themes:

- Thursday, February 26: Gluttony
- Thursday, March 5: Unchastity
- Thursday, March 12: Avarice
- Thursday, March 19: Anger
- Thursday, March 26: Dejection
- Monday, March 30: Listlessness
- Tuesday, March 31: Self-esteem
- Wednesday, April 1: Pride

Mission Conference: from Father Andy

Having recently written my report for Trinity's Annual Meeting, it is apparent to me that our Parish is in a very healthy place. I think the time is ripe for us to start thinking more about our role beyond our four Church walls and to begin planning a mission trip and/or a pilgrimage. As part of that process I plan to attend this year's *Missio*; an annual mission conference organized by the Global Episcopal Mission Network (GEMN). The purpose of GEMN is to "Gather, Inspire and Equip People to Participate in God's Mission." The organization creates a space for global mission activists to exchange ideas and best practices. It offers global mission education and provides resources to those who are exploring their call to engage in mission.

The theme of this year's *Missio* Conference is, "Rooted in Christ & Dancing God's Dream." It will be held at the Church of St. Gregory of Nyssa in San Francisco, from Tuesday, April 14 through Friday, April 17, in partnership with the Diocese of California. The venue for the conference immediately caught my eye, because I have heard a lot about the Church of St. Gregory of Nyssa from my Liturgics Professor, The Rev. Bruce Jenneker, whom many of you know because he has visited and preached at Trinity. St Gregory's is an Episcopal Church which is infused with the theology of St Gregory of Nyssa, and shaped by the architecture and art of Orthodox spirituality. The Church has dozens of dancing saints depicted on the walls and thus resonates with the 'Dancing God's Dream' theme of the conference.

The general registration fee is \$325, which includes lunches and dinners. The Conference accommodation will be at the BEI Hotel at 50 8th Street in the Mission District; the nightly stay is \$129, including breakfast. The hotel is a half-hour walk from St. Gregory's or a 12-minute ride by city bus, door to door. Air tickets, from Newark to San Francisco range from \$200 to \$400. I'd love to have company at the conference, so please let me know if you're interested in joining me.

New Service Music Composed by Susan Caldwell Nelson

From the Music Director, Anthony Rafaniello: A couple of years ago, as I worked to select music for the liturgical year, I focused on finding new settings of the service music – the consistent elements of the Holy Eucharist that we sing each week. For us, these include the *Gloria* (Glory to God), *Sanctus* (Holy, Holy, Holy), Great Amen, and *Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God). These ancient texts have been essential to Christian worship for millennia, yet high-quality musical settings using the Rite II translations of the Episcopal Church are surprisingly scarce.

The triumphant William Mathias setting we use for feast days and the chant-like David Hurd "New Plainsong" setting that we use in Advent and Lent are both very effective. However, as I searched for something new for the Epiphany season, I found myself somewhat uninspired by the available options. Many were either overly complex or too simplistic. My goal was to find music that would be both musically engaging and interesting, but also accessible and appropriate for us at Trinity, Cranford.

Recognizing the extraordinary talent within our parish, I turned to Susan Caldwell Nelson with a special request. Dr. Caldwell Nelson's distinguished career includes serving as an assistant conductor for the New York City Opera. She has dedicated many years to leading music ministries as an organist and director of music at various churches. We are blessed to have such an "artist in residence" at Trinity and I was grateful that she was interested in this project.

The result of her efforts is a new musical setting of service music that wonderfully meets our needs. Susan's composition is rhythmically and harmonically intriguing, in the rich key of D-flat major with beautiful modal alterations. The *Gloria* and *Sanctus* have a dance-like quality, and the *Agnus Dei*, a beautiful mysteriousness. At the same time, it remains accessible for both the congregation and choir, ensuring full participation in our worship. These compositions are another example of the great skill, expertise, and creativity that exists in our community of faith. Thank you to Susan for sharing her extraordinary musical gifts to the glory of God.

Lectionary & Liturgy

In today's Eucharist, we continue the theme of Epiphany season: the manifestation of Jesus as the Son of God. One of the ways the Lord was shown forth as God's Son was in teaching, and today's Gospel, the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount, reveals in the Beatitudes Christ's call to holiness, and his promise of the Kingdom of God. The Old Testament reading from the prophet Micah is a call from God to holiness, as well. In its closing words, we hear the same principles of living in response to God expressed in the Beatitudes. Certainly, Jesus' hearers, steeped as they were in the words of the prophets, saw immediately that God was speaking through him in many ways consistent with the divine Word given through the prophets. Ultimately, however, it was not in his teaching that the fullest revelation was made by the Lord, but in his crucifixion. Paul, seeking to inspire the Corinthian church to unity, points out that God's wisdom was most fully revealed in the cross of Christ. What, in terms of the world's wisdom, appeared to be foolishness, is to us who believe, God's deepest wisdom. As we gather in Eucharist, we are one with God's people throughout the ages. We are one with apostles and prophets and faithful people who have met the Lord in Word and Sacrament: people who by God's grace have before us the blessedness and promise of God's coming reign.

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

- † **Cover art** – “Sermon on the Mount” by Christian Rohlfs, (1849–1938), a key figure in German Expressionism; it is a powerful 1916 expressionist woodcut, created during WWI. The German artist created this work in a distinctive, rough-hewn, and emotional style, and used bold, black ink to portray a stark, dramatic scene of Jesus addressing a crowd. It is characterized by high-contrast, emotional, and simplified forms reflecting the turbulent, spiritual, and artistic climate of the era. It is in the collection of the Detroit Institute of Arts.
- † **Prelude** – Written for organist Bradley Welch. Aaron David Miller is noted for his highly imaginative and creative style, found in his performances, improvisations and compositions. Prize winner of several prestigious competitions, including the top prize at the AGO National Improvisation Competition, and the Bach and Improvisation prizes at the Calgary International Organ Festival Competition, he is also noted for his fine performances of repertoire spanning all periods. He serves as the Director of Music and Organist at House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, Minnesota and maintains an active recital schedule. He is a forensic musicologist for Donato Music in Scarsdale, NY.
- † **Gathering Hymn** – Words: Joachim Neander (1630-1680), a Calvinist schoolmaster. –[© Church Pension Fund] “A magnificent hymn of praise to God, perhaps the finest creation of its author, and of the first rank in its class.” –[John Julian, *A Dictionary of Hymnology*] The most common translation is this one by Catherine Winkworth, published in 1863. Although hymnologist Lionel Adey praises other translations by her, he critiques her changes to the sense of Neander’s text as an example of “muscular Christianity tinged with Philistinism.” Music: melody from *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. *Chorale Book for England*, 1863.
- † **Opening Acclamation** (et al.) – Enriching Our Worship is a collection of supplemental liturgical materials representing the recovery of ancient biblical and patristic images, including the identification of Christ with Wisdom and language for God that does not use familiar masculine terms. The liturgical texts reflect the influence of the prayer experience of women, and a desire to honor that experience while remaining faithful to the liturgical prayer as received by the Church.
- † **Gloria** – Words: Anonymous, 15th cent. medieval. Since the 2nd century, Christians recite this as part of weekly worship. Music: Susan Caldwell Nelson has composed new service music which the parish is using for the full season of Epiphany.
- † **Collect of the Day** — Found in the Gregorian sacramentary among the daily prayers and supplement, as well as previous editions of the BCP. Cranmer translated the petition “grant us thy peace all the days of our life,” but this restores the original wording. –[Notes on the American Prayer Book by Marion Hatchett]
- † **Plainsong Psalter** –Editor/choral director James Litton was on the Standing Commission on Church Music, publishing the Hymnal 1982, and is a Fellow of the Royal School of Church Music (only 7 Americans have received this honor). –[© 1988 Church Pension Fund]
- † **Proclaiming Hymn** – Words: Sta. 1 and 3, John Keble (1792-1866); alt; stanzas 2 and 4 (William John Hall 1793-1861). Music: melody Johann Balthasar König (1691-1758); adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870).
- † **Affirmation of Baptismal Faith** – Erasmus proposed a ritual in 1522 for adolescents to renew their baptismal vows; his suggestion was censored, and his book placed on the Index in 1559. As a liturgical rite, the Renewal emerged from the Reformation – 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.

† **Baptismal Chant** – Words: Isaiah 12:3, 2, 4-6. Music © 1986, 1988 Paul Inwood (b. 1946), published by OCP Publications.

† **Aspergillum** – The laurel twig used to sprinkle holy water in Roman sacrificial rites was replaced in Christian rites by a liturgical implement used to sprinkle holy water. It comes in two common forms: a brush that is dipped in the water and shaken, and a silver ball on a stick. Some have sponges or internal reservoirs that dispense holy water when shaken, while others must periodically be dipped in an aspersorium (holy water bucket, known to art historians as a situla).

† **Offertory Anthem** – John Ness Beck (1930-1987), American composer of choral music, created a foundation, only a few months before his death from cancer; it recognizes achievement in choral composition and arrangement of traditional church music, enhances and furthers careers, study, education and experience of composers and arrangers, and promotes and stimulates the learning of choral composition and traditional church music. –[©1987 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.]

† **Offertory Hymn** – Words: Patricia B. Clark, para. The Third Song of Isaiah –[© Gemini Press International]. Music: melody William Knapp (1698-1768), alt., harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, after James Turle (1802-1882)

† **First Communion Hymn** – Words: Albert Bayly (1901-1984); based on Micah 6:6-8, he presents the prophet “in the light of the climax and fulfillment of the Old Testament revelation in the coming of Christ.” It asks questions and states commands as if Micah were a modern-day prophet. Bayly wrote, “hymns may deal with the most profound ideas, but unless these are expressed in the simplest and clearest possible way they can be nothing but words to many of those who sing them.” He used more contemporary language and concepts “embodying space-age imagery and warnings of nuclear destruction., marking a resurgence of the social gospel hymn.” –[Carlton Young] “The pioneer of the remarkable revival of hymn writing in Britain in the 1960s and 1970s.” –[Fred Pratt Green] ©1949 Oxford University Press. Music: Eric Routley (1917-1982) –[©1969 Hope Publishing]. “One of Routley’s best! The rugged tune fits well with the stern prophetic message.” –[Psalter Hymnal Handbook]

† **Second Communion Hymn** – Words: William Boyd Carpenter (1841-1918); in 1904 and 1913 he visited the United States and delivered the Noble lectures at Harvard. He was chaplain in ordinary to Queen Victoria, Edward VII, and George V. He resigned his see in 1911 on the grounds of ill-health and became a canon and sub-dean of Westminster. He was interested in eugenic issues and served as President of the Society for Psychical Research in 1912. Music: Dimitri S. Bortniansky (1751-1825); his *Ich bete an die Macht der Liebe* was the theme “to which all Starfleet Academy classes marched to their graduation.” –[Star Trek author James Blish]

† **Communion Meditation** – Words & Music: Taizé Community. –[© 2011 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA]

† **Sending Hymn** – Words: Francis Bland Tucker (1895-1984). He served for 22 years at Christ Episcopal in Savannah, GA. During the Civil Rights controversies, he refused to condone the practice of white churches excluding people at services for fear of “kneel-ins.” He retorted, “I would not presume to speculate as to why my own parishioners come to church, much less someone I do not know,” so church doors remained open to any who wished to enter, during his official ministry that ended in 1967, and to the present day. Music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924).

† **Postlude** – Dr. Brenda Portman (b. 1960) serves as the Resident Organist at Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church in Cincinnati, Ohio, where she is also the Executive Director of the church’s renowned Organ Concert Series. She is the Organ Instructor at Xavier University in Cincinnati and also teaches organ and piano privately.

From Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe: Death and despair do not have the last word

January 25, 2026 *Office of Public Affairs*

Dear people of God in The Episcopal Church:

Like Jesus, we live in frightening times. His earthly ministry began, as we heard in last Sunday’s Gospel reading, when John the Baptist was imprisoned by authorities who wanted to silence his preaching and prophesying.

Jesus knew what happens when earthly powers persuade human beings to fear one another, regard one another as strangers, and believe that there is not enough to go around. In Jesus’ time, the power of these divisions motivated John’s beheading and Jesus’ own death on the cross at the hands of Roman authorities.

In our time, the deadly power of those divisions is on display on the streets of Minneapolis, in other places across the United States, and in other countries around the world. As the case has too often been throughout history, the most vulnerable among us are bearing the burden, shouldering the greatest share of risk and loss, and enduring the violation of their very humanity.

But we do not grieve without hope. The Christian story is full of people who lived in frightening and brutal times, and who followed Jesus' call that we heard in church. His proclamation turns us away from the fear born of sin and death and toward the kingdom of God, toward Christ's ministry of justice, reconciliation, and love. "From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view," the Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Corinth (2 Corinthians 5:16), exhorting them to reject the divisions of their time in favor of being ambassadors for Christ.

This is God's call to The Episcopal Church now, and it is not an easy one. In the United States, we no longer live in a time when we can expect to practice our faith without risk, and we are confronting what vulnerable communities of faith have experienced for generations. Our right to worship freely as one church, committed to the dignity of every human being, has been curtailed by the fear that too many immigrant Christians face when they leave their homes. Peaceful protests, a right long enshrined in the Constitution, are now made deadly. Carrying out the simple commands of Jesus – feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, visiting prisoners, making peace – now involves risks for the church and grave danger for those we serve. As Christians, we must acknowledge that this chaos and division is not of God, and we must commit ourselves to paying whatever price our witness requires of us.

In the coming years, our church will continue to be tested in every conceivable way as we insist that death and despair do not have the last word, and as we stand with immigrants and the most vulnerable among us who reside at the heart of God. We will be required to hold fast to God's promise to make all things new, because our call to follow God's law surpasses any earthly power or principality that might seek to silence our witness.

To those of you who are in the center of the storm, please know that I am praying for you as you embody the love of Christ in your ministries and communities. To those of you who are watching with concern and fear, I ask you to pray for those who have died in protests and detention, for those who witnessed their deaths, and for everyone who bears authority and responsibility at this moment, that they may exercise wisdom, restraint, and courage. Pray too, especially in the days to come, for the witness of our church in these times and for a hedge of protection around all the beloved children of God who live in fear this day.



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