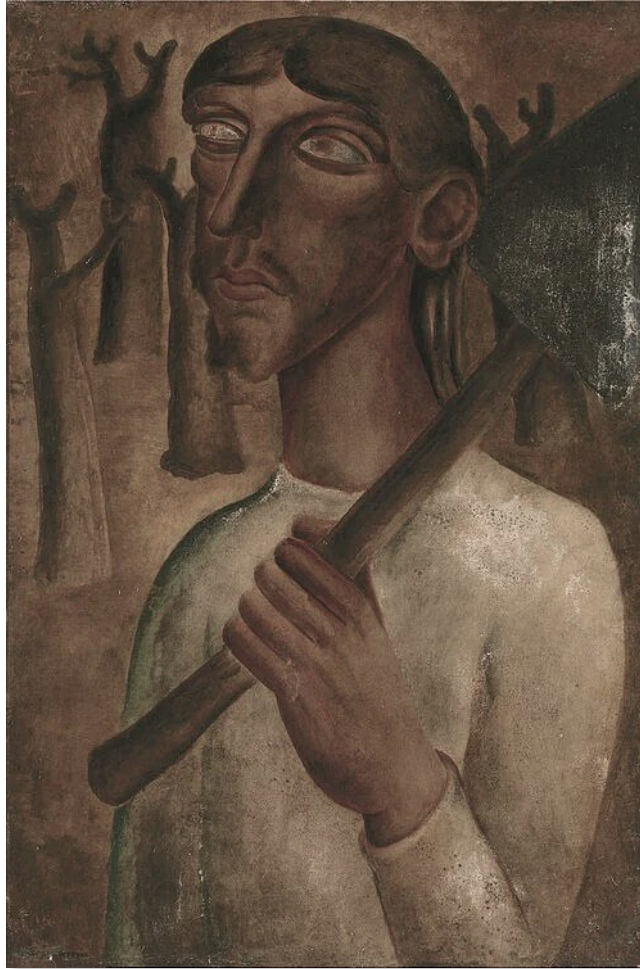


Trinity Episcopal Church

Cranford, in the Diocese of New Jersey



“Christ with a Sword” — Gustave van de Woestijne

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Rite I Holy Eucharist

June 21, 2026 at 8 AM — Proper 7

The Reverend Andrew David Kruger, Rector & Presider

Anthony Rafaniello, Director of Music

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

*The Sanctuary Candle burns in loving memory of Robert and Susan Kuldanek
and the Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of Andy Barone by Christy Barone*

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 178

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Let us pray.

O Lord, we beseech thee,
make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name,
for thou never failest to help and govern
those whom thou hast set
upon the sure foundation of thy loving-kindness;
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

Genesis 21:8-21

Reader A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring." So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba. When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept.

And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him." Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink. God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

Inclina, Domine

BCP 709

1. Bow down your ear, O LORD, and answer me, *
for I am poor and in misery.
2. Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful; *
save your servant who puts his trust in you.
3. Be merciful to me, O LORD, for you are my God; *
I call upon you all the day long.
4. Gladden the soul of your servant, *
for to you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
5. For you, O LORD, are good and forgiving, *
and great is your love toward all who call upon you.
6. Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer, *
and attend to the voice of my supplications.
7. In the time of my trouble I will call upon you, *
for you will answer me.
8. Among the gods there is none like you, O LORD, *
nor anything like your works.
9. All nations you have made will come and worship you, O LORD, *
and glorify your Name.

10. For you are great; you do wondrous things; *
and you alone are God.

16. Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
**give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.**

17. Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; *
because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Second Reading

Romans 6:1b-11

Reader A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand.

Gospel

Matthew 10:24-39

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

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

Jesus said to the twelve apostles, “A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

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*

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

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.**

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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...

Father's Day Today we acknowledge Father's Day, a secular observance that invites us to give thanks for fathers and all who have offered us fatherly love. While the Church traditionally honors fatherhood on the Feast of St. Joseph, we join our wider community in celebrating fathers, remembering with gratitude fathers we love but see no longer, and praying for God's blessing upon all fathers.

Financial Snapshot As of May 31, we have received \$73,000 versus \$98,000 pledged year to date. Thank you for the continued support; if the financial situation has changed or to adjust your pledge, please inform the financial secretary, Carol Beier.

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

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

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.

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

Compline This Thursday at 8 PM online

What you need to know in the future...

Trinity Episcopal Senior Youth (TESY) Sunday, June 28 at 12:30 PM. All confirmed youth ages 13-18 are welcome.

Summer Schedule Sunday, July 5 to Sunday, August 30, there is only one Sunday service at 9 AM.

Sight and Sound: "Joshua" Saturday, October 3 at 3 PM in Lancaster PA. Tickets are \$90; see Bonnie Gentesse (908-377-4344).

Cover Art – Christ with a Sword

Gustave Van de Woestijne (1881–1947) was a Belgian expressionist painter associated with the First Group of Latem, a community of artists who sought spiritual depth amid the simplicity of rural life along the River Lys near Ghent. Rather than striving for photographic realism, Van de Woestijne used distortion, symbolism, and heightened emotion to reveal deeper spiritual truths.

In *Christ with a Sword*, we are invited to look beyond the literal image. The sword is striking, but so too is Christ's expression. This is not a triumphant warrior. The elongated features, subdued palette, and contemplative mood draw us inward. The painting asks us to consider not a sword of violence, but a sword of discernment – a symbol of the truth that penetrates the human heart.

Seen alongside today's Gospel, the painting helps us approach Jesus' difficult words: "I have not come to bring peace, but a sword." Van de Woestijne's Christ appears neither angry nor threatening. Instead, he bears the burden of a truth that may disturb before it heals. The artist invites us to reflect on the challenging work of the Gospel: separating truth from falsehood, confronting what is broken, and opening the way to a deeper peace grounded in God's justice and love.

Thank you to members of our Music Ministry 2025-2026

The Trinity Choir Denise Alvarez, Laszlo Arvai, Abigail Behnke, John Beier, Joyce Cieslak, Cindy Concannon, Carolyn Dittmar, Brandon Frumolt, Vicki Goralski, Karen Heffernan, Thomas Kaercher, Samantha Kaplan, David McFall, Mary Beth McFall, Terry Nechuta, Scott Nelson, Eliza Rivera, Ellen Temple, John Zebrowski

The Trinity Handbell Choir Christy Barone, John Beier, Madeleine Brennan, Carolyn Dittmar, Michele Freeland, Maureen Frydlewicz, Arwen Kelly, Thomas Kaercher, Jana Morgan, Beth Rees, Fran Witherington

The Trinity Children's Choir Mia Conceicao, Olivia Conceicao, Henry DeVelde, Antonio DiFonzo, Leo DiFonzo, Arwen Kelly, Maeve Milas, Dylan Rees, Sophie Strawder, Emma Willix

Lectionary & Liturgy

The first reading continues the story of Abraham and Sarah. Before the child promised them was born, they decided to help God out by Abraham getting a son by the slave girl, Hagar. However, once Isaac was born Sarah demanded that Hagar and their son be sent away. God cared for them, however, and Ishmael became the ancestor of the Arabs, as Isaac was the ancestor of the people of Israel.

In the second reading, Paul sets forth the meaning of baptism. It is nothing less than a participation in the death and resurrection of Jesus. The terms used here in the original Greek means that we have already died with him in baptism and are in the process of being raised with him into the resurrection life. Thus, our old identity is gone and our new identity is as members of Christ's Body.

Last Sunday we heard Jesus give instructions to his twelve disciples as he prepared to send them out to proclaim the gospel. Today that passage continues with his warning to them that they will encounter opposition to the message and even may have to suffer for it. We gather as church to respond to the same call that was made to the twelve apostles and to Jeremiah and the prophets.

It is not always easy to be follower of Christ. We must expect to find that our message is not always popular nor will we always be well treated for proclaiming it. However, as the people of God we find that God's grace is always available in Word and Sacraments. We are upheld in the experience of those who have gone before us and above all by the example of Jesus dying and rising in our midst.



Website: 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

Meeting ID: 595 488 3214

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