

Trinity Episcopal Church

Cranford, in the Diocese of New Jersey



"Bent Woman" – Miloš Todorović

*A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist for Healing
with Laying on of Hands and Anointing*

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Rite I ~ Proper 16 ~ August 24, 2025 at 9 AM



The Reverend Andrew David Kruger ~ Rector & Preacher

Anthony J. Rafaniello ~ Director of Music

Casey Woodruff ~ Senior Warden & Thomas Kaercher ~ Junior Warden

*The Sanctuary Candle and the Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Barbara, Alfred and Debbie Fricke by Arlene Fricke*

Welcome

The bells are rung and the People stand.

I. Gathering of God's People

Acclamation

Enriching Our Worship 50

Presider ✕ Blessed be the God of our salvation.
People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

Prayer of Intent

Enriching Our Worship 2 28

Presider Let us pray.
People **God our healer, whose mercy is like a refining fire:
by the loving-kindness of Jesus,
heal us and those for whom we pray;
that being renewed by you,
we may witness your wholeness to our broken world;
through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Spirit. Amen.**

Confession of Need

EOW 2 37

Presider Let us confess our need of God's forgiveness and healing grace.

The People kneel, silence is kept, then Presider and People pray together.

**Compassionate God,
we confess our failings and our weaknesses,
and our need for your strengthening touch.
We confess that some illnesses stem from our own fault,
while others are beyond our control.
We turn to you, Source of life,
and ask in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ
for the gifts of true healing and wholeness of life in you.
Amen.**

Presider May the God of love visit you in your times of trial and weakness,
and raise you to newness of life, through Jesus Christ,
in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Let us pray.

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful God, that thy Church, being gathered together in unity by thy Holy Spirit, may manifest thy power among all peoples, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The People sit.

II. Proclaiming and Receiving the Word of God

First Reading

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Reader A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD." Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 71:1-6

In te, Domine, speravi

BCP 683

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; *
let me never be ashamed.
- 2 In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free; *
incline your ear to me and save me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe; *
you are my crag and my stronghold.
- 4 Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked, *
from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.
- 5 For you are my hope, O Lord GOD, *
my confidence since I was young.
- 6 I have been sustained by you ever since I was born;
from my mother's womb you have been my strength; *
my praise shall be always of you.

Second Reading

Hebrews 12:18-29

Reader A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven."

This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken – that is, created things – so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand.

Holy Gospel

Luke 13:10-17

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

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

Now Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day."

But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

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

III. Responding to the Proclaimed Word

Homily

Andrew Kruger

Litany of Healing

EOW 2 33

The Intercessory Book of Names is presented to the Presider.

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

The People kneel as they are able, then the Presider reads the names from the book.

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Son, you came that we might have life,

and might have it more abundantly;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Holy Spirit,

you make our bodies the temple of your presence;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick,

injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Grant to all who seek your guidance,

and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent,

a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Mend broken relationships,

and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering,

granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death,

and uphold by the grace and consolation of your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin,
in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;

Hear us, O Lord of life.

You are the Lord who does wonders:

You have declared your power among the peoples.

With you, O Lord, is the well of life:

And in your light we see light.

Hear us, O Lord of life:

Heal us, and make us whole.

The Presider concludes the Litany.

Almighty God, giver of life and health: Send your blessing on all who are sick, and upon those who minister to them, that all weakness may be vanquished by the triumph of the risen Christ; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Laying on of Hands and Anointing

EOW 2 38

The People sit and the Presider says

The ministry of Jesus invites us to new life in God and with each other. In the laying on of hands and anointing we proclaim the Good News that God desires us to be healthy and one in the body of Christ. You are invited to receive the grace of anointing and the laying-on-of-hands for any sickness of spirit, mind, or body, and seek healing for yourself, or for someone you care about, or for a situation that needs healing and reconciliation.

The ushers guide the people to receive anointing and laying on of hands. After all have received anointing, the Presider says

Presider Let us pray.

The people stand

The Almighty Lord, who is a strong tower to all who put their trust in him, be now and evermore your defense, and make you believe and trust that the only name under heaven given for health and salvation is the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Peace

BCP 332

The People stand.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

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

Announcements

Andrew Kruger

IV. Celebrating at the Lord's Table

Offertory Sentence

Hebrews 13:15, 16

Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. But to do good and to distribute, forget not; for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

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



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

The ushers bring the collection plates to the Holy Table, and the People stand.

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; because in Jesus Christ our Lord thou hast received us as thy sons and daughters, made us citizens of thy kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus

BCP 341

**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,
are yours, forever 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. You may choose to receive only the host at this time. Wine is offered by way of a sip from the common cup. Gluten-free wafers are available by request to the priest.

Post Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

The People stand, and all pray together

People **God of all mercy, in this Eucharist you have set aside our sins,
given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet, and strengthened us by your healing power:
Grant that we, who are made whole in Christ, may bring Christ's healing to our broken
world, in the name of the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

BCP 339

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

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

For Friends, Visitors and Newcomers

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

What you need to know today...

Healing Eucharist Occasionally, when the appointed texts are appropriate, we offer the opportunity to receive anointing with oil and laying on of hands. Today is such an occasion; all are invited to come forward, after the litany of healing, and receive anointing for healing.

Calvin Woodruff will be awarded the Cranford Clergy Council Scholarship during today's service. Ms Cindy Hannen (the Chair of the Cranford Interfaith Human Relations Committee) will be presenting the award.

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

Financial Snapshot As of July 31, we have received approximately \$126,000 of pledges has been received against approximately \$133,000 pledged year to date. Thank you for the continued support, if the financial situation has changed, to adjust your pledge, please inform the financial secretary, Carol Beier.

Vestry Meeting Today at 10:30 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.

What you need to know this week...

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

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

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

What you need to know for the future...

The Feast of God the Creator Next Sunday, August 31 at 9 AM. See below for more information.

Trinity Men's Group Saturday, September 6 from 9 AM to 10 AM in Witherington Hall.

Summer Worship One Sunday Service at 9 AM through August 31.

Round Up Sunday is on September 7 with one service at 10 AM.

Sacramental Healing

In offering a healing service we act in the grace of God for the health and salvation of all people. The liturgy is based on Jesus' constant witness of concern and care for the sick. It is also shaped by the Epistle of James' direction to the sick to call for the elders of the Church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of Jesus Christ (JAMES 5:14). We may draw two conclusions from our knowledge of early Christian ministry with the sick, as illustrated in Holy Scriptures: first, Christians were to call on the senior members of their own community for prayer for healing; second, the ministry those leaders offered was an extension of the Church's basic act of worship: the proclamation of the Word and the offering of bread and wine each Sunday. Sacramental healing is defined by the Prayer Book as "the rite of anointing the sick with oil, or the laying on of hands, by which God's grace is given for the healing of spirit, mind, and body" (BCP p. 861). All Christians stand between the fullness of the baptismal gift of grace and the final consummation of that grace, and thus all of us are in need of healing. Traditionally, the oil used to anoint the sick is pure olive oil, blessed by a priest or bishop. Unlike the chrism used for baptismal anointing, no fragrance is added to oil for the sick (some fragrances can be allergens or aggravate an illness). Some Christians, including some of the Church's great theologians and saints (such as John of the Cross, Julian of Norwich, and John Donne), have found illness to be a catalyst and stimulus for prayer. But many sick people find their prayer hampered by illness. Thus the support of others in prayer, and the offering of public prayer services, are critically important. An intercessory book will be available for you to write the names of those for whom you would like to request prayers for healing. Each person listed will be prayed for by name during the service.

Lectionary & Liturgy

The Collect of the Day was new to the 1928 Book of Common Prayer. The preamble derives from a Gregorian collect whose petition is that the church may not be disturbed by the assault of the enemy. The petition of the Prayer Book collect is that the church, united through the gift of the Spirit, may make God's power manifest throughout the world. – [*Notes on the American Prayer Book* by Marion Hatchett]

We continue reading through the prophets. Jeremiah, whose writings we will hear for several weeks, lived about one hundred years after Isaiah. He was a prophet in Judah as it neared and reached the time of its destruction. Today we hear Jeremiah's call from God to bring a hard message to the people. The writer of the letter to the Hebrews reminds us that we are no longer merely part of this world that is passing away. We are part of the divine life and of the ongoing sweep of God's story of salvation. Though we live in this world, we are part of that unseen kingdom that is eternal. In today's reading from the gospel of Luke, Jesus heals a woman who had been crippled for eighteen years. A rigid religious leader complains that Jesus, in healing her on the Sabbath, is breaking the Commandments. Jesus replied that if the Commandments allow one to untie livestock on the Sabbath so that they can get water, we certainly could unbind human beings who are tied to illness on the Sabbath. Jesus is showing that the law of God is for human and humane purposes and not simply a rigid rule used to beat down others. We gather in the Eucharist as a community of faith, which transcends time and space: an eternal family whose life and joy is the result of placing God before all things. The Eucharist is a foretaste of the heavenly feast but it is not the feast itself. We are called to persevere in the faith that will lead us to feast at God's table in the kingdom that is coming.

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

Cover Art

“Bent Woman” by Miloš Todorović (b. 1971); he is the laureate of some of the greatest professional awards in France in the field of painting, such as the prize for painting awarded by the French Academy of Sciences and Arts from the Pierre Cardin Fund. Born in Serbia, he masterfully navigates painting, intaglio etching, woodcarving, iconography, restoration, and graphic design, drawing upon his deep academic training and broad artistic experience. His work, intimately rooted in the psychological aspect of the human experience, evokes profound stillness and honesty, inviting viewers to reflect on the soul and the quiet complexities of being human. So far, he has shown his artworks in numerous solo and group exhibitions, and his paintings have been exhibited along with artworks by Andy Warhol, Keith Haring, Roy Lichtenstein, Jasper Johns, Jean Michel Basquiat, Erro, Combas, Damien Hirst, Mel Ramos, Jannis Kounellis, Douglas Gordon etc. –[2018 © Miloš Todorović]

Spiritual Reflection – Dreaming about the Future

On the recent vestry retreat your parish leadership spent some time reflecting on the past, and dreaming about the kind of future God is calling us into. We acknowledged how the 150th Anniversary, COVID crisis, and Sabbatical served to focus our vision and direct our energies. As we look to the future, we have several ideas about priorities around which to coalesce. In addition to the priorities we choose, our developing context may demand our attention, just as the pandemic did several years ago.

Earlier in July this year, Governor Phil Murphy signed three bills to bolster early childhood education in New Jersey. The legislation seeks to expand free preschool in New Jersey, as well as full-day kindergarten to the few remaining districts that don’t yet offer it. Given the slow rollout of full-day kindergarten, the 2030 deadline for free daycare strikes me as somewhat ... aspirational. Nevertheless, free full day kindergarten in Cranford will obviously have massive consequences for TEDS.

TEDS is our most significant ministry and the Kiamie building is a wonderful resource for us and our community. The TEDS Board and Vestry has begun asking questions like: Can TEDS pivot to before and after care? Should we consider renting the building to facilitate other ministry? Might God be calling us to use the Kiamie building for an entirely new ministry? 2030 is a long way off and we have a good amount of time to plan, and dream, and pray. As we do that, let’s continue to give thanks for Nancy Ditzel and the work she does so faithfully at TEDS.

– Father Andy

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Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me