

Trinity Church
Special Brunch Gathering
January 7, 2024

WELCOME AND LITURGY OF GATHERING

Leader: Reading of [Psalm 148](#). This is the word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Trinity is fostering a haven of belonging where wanderers and wonderers gather to discover and embody the love of Jesus in the world.

COMMUNAL SINGING

Sing a New Song (Beautiful)

Praise the one who made the sunrise at the break of day
Praise the maker of the autumn's colorful display
Praise the great creator who churns the deepest seas
Praise the beauty of the earth that brings me to my knees

Sing a new song
Beautiful

For the beauty of the earth, the water, and the skies
I praise the beauty maker for opening my eyes
I offer up my hands and heart to humbly recreate
An offering of beauty, a sacrifice of praise

Sing a new song
Beautiful

Step By Step

Oh God, You are my God
And I will ever praise You
Oh God, You are my God
And, I will ever praise You

I will seek You in the morning
And I will learn to
Walk in Your ways
And step by step You'll lead me
And I will follow You all of my days

Oh God, You are my God
And I will ever praise You
Oh God, You are my God
And, I will ever praise You

I will seek You in the morning
And I will learn to
Walk in Your ways
And step by step You'll lead me
And I will follow You all of my days

And I will follow You all of my days
And I will follow You all of my days
And step by step You'll lead me
And I will follow You all of my days

For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth
For the glory of the skies
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies.
Lord of all, to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night
Hill and vale and tree and flower
Sun and moon and stars of light.
Lord of all, to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the church, that evermore
Lifteth holy hands above
Offering up on every shore
Her pure sacrifice of love.
Lord of all, to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For Thyself, best gift divine
To the world so freely given
For that great, great love of Thine
Peace on earth and joy in heaven.
Lord of all, to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

COMMUNITY CONFESSION

Leader: Seeking to follow Jesus, we often wander down the wrong roads. Impatient with God's schedule, we rush off to do things our way. Let us confess our foolishness, that we might receive God's hope for our lives.

ALL: Your words are given to us, Author of Life, so we might be reformed, but we are intent on changing others. Your words are offered to us so we might be transformed, but we are focused on conforming to our culture. Your words are spoken to lead us into new life, but we hold our old ways tight to our chests. Forgive us, God of Wonder. Do not remember our sins, but continue to touch us with your steadfast mercy. Show us how to be persistent in living out our faith, even as you were so tenacious in offering us your grace and life in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Silence is kept

Leader: Jesus reminds us that we are to be resolute in our lives of faithfulness and service. The good news is that God is steadfast in filling us with love and grace.

ALL: We are forgiven people. May we live as siblings in Christ, God's children in word and deed, in hope and joy. Thanks be to God. Amen

SERMON NOTES

Finding Identity in Wisdom: Intro and Stories of Togetherness

Matthew

We are taking some time to celebrate who we are today and want to hear about *any stories that you hold from who we are at Trinity that indicate or illustrate Wisdom showing up in our body - when we show up together.*

[*For discussion prompts visit the series page here.](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING OF WORSHIP

The [Offering Basket](#)

Prayer requests may be posted in the Zoom chat (Zoom participants) or written and placed in the offering basket.

Sermon Series. The sermon series and resources for our new year series are posted online at www.indytrinity.org/sermon-series. In conjunction with the sermon series, Trinity Seasonal Small Groups in the winter of 2024 will form around *Sacred Self-Care: Daily Practices for Nurturing Our Whole Selves* by Dr. Chanequa Walker-Barnes. If you need assistance in acquiring a copy, please contact your group's host. Please contact the group host for more details and to generally RSVP.

Fishers - Monday lunch hour (12-1pm) Zoom, starting January 22

Queer Affinity - Thursdays 7-8:30pm, starting January 25

Midtown/Downtown - Wednesdays 6:30pm, starting January 24

Broad Ripple - Thursday 6-7:30pm with pitch-in dinner, starting January 25

First Nations Version of the New Testament. Copies are now available for each household. Please pick up your copy at the Gathering and sign off that you've received one.

2023 Missional Giving Update. We took the year to explore new mission partner possibilities in determining where to give the undesignated "missional giving" in our 2023 budget. Due to need and some upcoming opportunities for The Avenue Foundation (TAF), we have decided to allocate those funds there for this fiscal year and continue to explore ways Trinity can grow in partnership with TAF into the future. Questions about this missional giving designation may be directed to melissa@indytrinity.org or any of the parish point people. As with any mission partners, we encourage direct giving as well - donate [here](#).

Clean up on January 14th. We've got some things piling up in the office and storage areas at COhatch that could use some attention. Anyone who can provide a helping hand after the Gathering to sort through stuff to get rid of (take to sell on the marketplace, drop at Goodwill or the dumpster, etc) and also organize what remains would be appreciated.

LORD'S TABLE LITURGY

Leader: In threshold places, where endings meet beginnings,
we listen backwards as we move forward.

What can we learn from the years past –
from how evil played its cards,
or from relationships gained and lost?

ALL: We look back and lament the evil of the insurrection at our nation's capitol three years ago this week. We grieve the ways in which white supremacy and Christian nationalism have harmed us all. We lament the fractures in relationships throughout the land.

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord, who is our refuge and stronghold. For the health and well-being of our nation and world, that all who are fearful and anxious may be at peace and free from worry: Lord, hear us,

ALL: Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader: What brought you deep delight, when everything was swirling?
To whom were you able to turn to and who challenged you to grow?

Individually and collectively,
none of us are the same.

For some of these changes we weep and for others we rejoice
but from each we carry something forward
– a feeling, a lesson, a memory, a challenge, a call to solidarity...

**ALL: Collectively, we acknowledge a closing and an opening;
A fresh start that offers only as much meaning as we need from it.
Inviting us not to wage war on ourselves,
but just to pause,
pay attention to our longings and our pain,
and what we might learn from them about how we wish to live.**

Leader: For those who live with deep longings and with constant pain: Lord, hear us,

ALL: Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader: A new year does not need to mean “a new you.”

You do not need to make demands of yourself
grounded in messages that are only meant
to make you feel inadequate or unlovable.

Your worth is ineffable,
that is a constant that carries from year to year.

**ALL: We move gently with ourselves into 2024,
speaking instead words of possibility,
committing to that which calls us,
letting ourselves be lured by the Sacred
in the direction of our most powerful becoming.**

Leader: For our homes and families, our school communities and young people, and all who need to hear new words of
possibility in this new year: Lord, hear us,

ALL: Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader: Make only resolutions that will lead to more flourishing of life, yours and others.

Reject individualistic notions of success (or “failure”)
and channel your growing
in the directions

**ALL: of what we can create
of what we can divest from
of what we can abolish
of what we must claim
of what we must fight
of what we can become.**

Leader: For a blessing on our local community, that our neighborhoods may be places of trust and friendship, where all are
known and cared for in the process of becoming: Lord, hear us,

ALL: Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader: God of new beginnings, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, as we Gather with you
and feast this day.

**ALL: We tell the story that God invites each of us into: Christ came to dwell among us; Christ lived to show us the way;
Christ died to set us free from sin; Christ was raised to break the power of death and will come again to bring us the
wholeness for which we long.**

Leader: Where two or more of us are gathered, O Lord, there you have promised to be.

ALL: And here we are.

Leader: And so, here are you. Take joy, O King, in our feast. Nothing good and right and true will be lost forever. All good things
will be restored. Feast and be reminded!

ALL: Take joy, O King!

Leader: Now beloved, prepare your hearts and give yourself wholly to this celebration of joy, to the glad company of saints, to
the comforting fellowship of the Spirit, and to the abiding presence of Christ who is seated among us both as our host and as
our honored guest. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, take seat, take feast, take delight!

ALL: Amen!

BRUNCH + CONVERSATION

Brunch Conversation:

THE BENEDICTION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

(Some liturgies adapted from lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com and enfleshed.com)

COMMUNAL CONNECTION

Guide and Service Dog Training. As we welcome Guide/Service Dogs at Gatherings, please familiarize yourself with resources under on these two websites <https://www.guidedogs.com/resources/blindness-and-guide-dog-etiquette> and <https://www.guidedogsofamerica.org/best-practices-when-around-a-service-dog/> and discuss main points with those in your household. If you or anyone in your household has severe allergies or any fear of dogs, etc. please contact us (contact@indytrinity.org) so we can do our best to keep Gathering spaces welcoming for all.

Covid Guidelines: We are in a season of preparing for possible gathering changes due to the resurgence of Covid. Gatherings may look a little different according to the needs of our leaders if Covid affects them or their teams. We ask that everyone remain flexible if and/or when this is the case. **If a gathering is going to be virtual, we will send an email by 8am on Sunday**, or earlier. We are also asking that those who have tested positive or develop symptoms not attend the gathering in person, but join online via Zoom. If you have been exposed, you can follow the guidelines from the CDC by using this [calculator](#) to determine what are your best precautions to take.

Land Acknowledgement. We acknowledge that the land on which we gather for worship was stolen from Native peoples, who were driven out of the area and of their native lands by genocide, force (through broken treaties and laws imposed upon their nation), and systematic dispossession. The Myaamiaki, Kaskaskia, and Kickapoo peoples* and their sovereign Nations have cared for, and are deeply a part of, this land - past, present, and future. (ref: [Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery, Trinity Church](#))

Gathering Hosting Schedule. As an act of service and care, please join staff, leaders, and others from your parish in hosting Sunday Gatherings. These are great times to connect and welcome others to converse while serving as well. Arrival at 9:45am is great, 9:30am is super helpful for assisting with audio equipment and/or indoor set up. Cleaning up on the back end should only take 10-15 minutes. The hosting checklist is in the Trinity office. Thank you!

January

7th: (Brunch) North/Carmel

14th: Fishers

21st: Midtown/Downtown

28th: Broad Ripple

February

4th: North/Carmel

11th: Fishers

18th: Midtown/Downtown

25th: Broad Ripple