

Trinity Church
January 28, 2024

WELCOME AND LITURGY OF GATHERING

Leader: Reading of [Psalm 27:1, 4-9](#). 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

This Is my Father's World

This is my Father's world,
And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas--
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world:
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world:
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world:
Why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring!
God reigns; let earth be glad!

O, God Our Help in Ages Past

O God, our Help in ages past,
our Hope for years to come,
our Shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal Home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is Thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting Thou art God,
to endless years the same.

O God, our Help in ages past,
our Hope for years to come,
be Thou our Guard while life shall last,
and our eternal Home!

COMMUNITY CONFESSION

Leader: When we seek God's mercy, we draw close the mystery of faith: love that cannot be undone by our sin. Trusting that God is grace, let us offer to God the truth of our lives, first in silent prayer.

Silent Prayer

Leader: Holy Lord, God of Life, hear our prayer:

**ALL: Forgive us when we follow those paths that do not lead to life,
That lead instead to violence, or hate, or fear,
Paths that lead to dread and death.
Forgive us when we forget that you offer us life,
Life that is abundant and eternal,
Life that began at the creation of all things.
Forgive us, turn us to the right path,
and let your love and grace flow over us and the world.**

We pray in Jesus' name and for his sake.

Leader: Amen, amen. God of Life extends forgiveness, love, and belonging to us that we might truly live. We are forgiven!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

BLESSING AND PASSING THE PEACE

Adults: The Lord be with you!

Children and Kids Ministry Leader: And also with you!

During this time we greet one another, recognizing that we are all a part of the body, as PreK-5th grade children are led to their ministry space. Younger children and youth remain, and are welcome, in the Gathering. Materials for toddlers are available and we understand that their presence means they will be heard, no need to worry about their vocal contributions.

SERMON NOTES

Finding Identity in Wisdom: *You Have Heard it Said, But I Say: Part 1*

Matthew 5.21-25

- What piece of Wisdom stands out to you in this text?
- How does this passage speak to your/our identity?
- Storytelling: What are the stories of our particular faith community identity that come to mind - or might be remembered through sharing - when reading this text?

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

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S TABLE LITURGY

Leader: Loving God, we pause to breathe you in - to welcome you among us.

ALL: We welcome you into our homes, into our lives, into our hearts, asking that you would make your presence known to us both today and throughout the coming week.

Leader: We thank you, Lord, for another day of life, for this new year, for the promise of a miraculous, persistent, "won't-abandon-us-no-matter-what" eternal hope, despite the chaos, the disorder, the destruction we face.

ALL: Gracious God, we humbly offer prayers of support to the many suffering and hurting in our world.

Leader: For the lonely and heartbroken,

ALL: we pray for your comfort and your peace.

Leader: For the sick and the tired,

ALL: we pray for your grace and your strength.

Leader: For the persecuted and defenseless,

ALL: we pray for your stamina and your justice.

Leader: For the confused and the disoriented,

ALL: we pray for your wisdom and guidance.

Leader: Mysterious Creator, we often stand on the brink of being overwhelmed - emotionally, physically, financially, spiritually. There are moments, dear Lord, when many of us feel as if we're left with nothing. No more patience, no more energy, no more fight, no more hope and even sometimes no more love.

ALL: And God we need you to sustain us, to revive us, to hold us, to reorient us, to call us to your marvelous service in love of neighbor and in bringing about your kingdom which knows no sickness, no suffering, no delusion, no injustice, no end.

Leader: Patient God, in troubling times of division or uncertainty, we ask that you would teach us to listen.

ALL: Teach us to listen to those far from us – the whisper of the hopeless, the plea of the forgotten, the cry of the anguished.

Leader: Teach us to listen, O God, to ourselves.

ALL: Help us to be less afraid to trust the voice inside.

Leader: Teach us to listen, Holy Spirit,

ALL: for your voice — in busyness and in boredom, in certainty and doubt, in noise and in silence.

Leader: Now, as we come to your ever-expanding table, teach us, oh Lord,

ALL: to listen, to hear, to live the words that Christ himself taught us when he prayed...

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.*

Leader: Here at the table, we are reminded that you are the Bread of Life, pouring out love upon all Creation. The table of the Lord is open to all who seek the life Christ offers us.

**communion elements are gluten free, not allergen free*

RESPONSE & 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.

Let Us Break Bread Together on our Knees

Let us break bread together on our knees.
Let us break bread together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees.
Let us drink wine together on our knees.

Let us praise God together on our knees.
Let us praise God together on our knees.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clean up Today/January 28th after the Gathering . 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.

Equity Funds. Rolling submissions for 2024 Equity Funds will be accepted in phases: through May 5th and then again through November 3rd. This [form](#) is to be used to submit proposals and taken to Community Conversations scheduled for May 12th and November 10th. After those conversations, more solidified proposals (discerned through the larger group conversation) will then be taken to the Leadership Team for final disbursement requests. We ask that you use this form to prepare for presenting at a Community Conversation or if you are unable to attend those Equity Funds conversations the proposal will be taken to the group in your absence. Please refer to your emails for additional information. If you didn't receive an email and would like to be on the list, please send an email to contact@indytrinity.org.

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

Lent resources, along with [Trinity's Guide to Lent](#), can be found at the bottom of the [sermon series page](#).

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent, a season of reflection which prepares us for Easter Sunday. On Feb 14th, join us for an Ash Wednesday service at COhatch Broad Ripple at 6:30 p.m. If you aren't able to join us in person, you may also join via [Zoom](#).

Holy Week. We will make our way through Holy Week together by gathering virtually on weekday mornings to center ourselves around the days leading to Christ's crucifixion (March 25-29th). Each morning we will be participating in morning prayers, reflecting on art around this season, and listening to music that Trinity Church is sharing throughout this season. Join us weekday mornings at 7am on [Zoom](#) or catch up throughout the day on [FB](#) or [YouTube](#). Questions? email joel@indytrinity.org.

On March 29th, join us for our Good Friday service at COhatch Broad Ripple at 6:30 p.m. Good Friday marks the betrayal of Jesus and his death at the hands of the state. In this time we will walk with Jesus in his last days on the way to the cross. Join us at CoHatch the "Big Room" as we continue to make our way through Holy Week. If you aren't able to join us in person, you may also join via [Zoom](#). Contact joel@indytrinity.org with any questions.

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.

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

THE BENEDICTION

Leader: We go now, as people of God.

ALL: To take the word of love to those from whom it has been far away.

Leader: We go now, as followers of Jesus.

ALL: To be the word of justice to all from whom it has been taken away.

Leader: We go now, as companions of the Spirit.

ALL: To offer the word of peace in all the places from which it has disappeared.

Leader: Go in peace!

(Some liturgies adapted from lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com and <https://www.fapc.org/prayers-of-the-people>)

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](#))