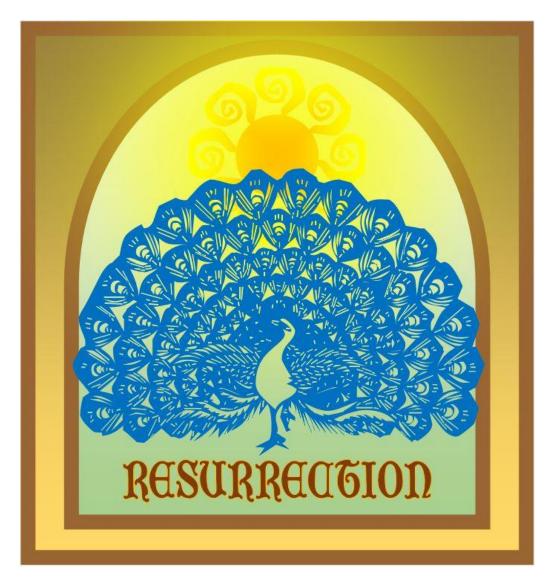
TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EASTER DAY

MARCH 31, 2024 10:00 A.M.

A PLACE OF WELCOME, HOPE & HEALING



120 Sigourney Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06105-2796 860.527.8133 www.trinityhartford.org

Good Morning!

Whether this is your first time at Trinity, your first time in a long time, or if you're here every Sunday, we are delighted that you are worshiping with us this morning.

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS If you are new to Trinity, we hope that you will introduce yourself and sign

one of the guest books at either entrance to the Church. Restrooms are located in two places. Exit through the rear doors of the Sanctuary and go to your right. The white doors on your left are the restrooms. Restrooms can also be found if you exit the door at the front right of the Sanctuary and go down the hall toward the exit to the parking lot. The restrooms are on your right once you pass the fireplace.

NAMETAGS In order to make it easier for us to get to know each other, we ask everyone

to wear a nametag. If you do not have a reusable nametag, there are stickers and markers at each entrance. If you would like to have a reusable nametag made for you, please print your name on the clipboard next to the trays of

reusable nametags.

KIDS IN CHURCH Coloring notebooks and crayons are available at each Sanctuary entrance.

Please feel free to let your kids color and otherwise be themselves during the

worship service. All are welcome as they are, including kids!

If you need to step out of the service with your infant or toddler and are in search of a quite space to spend a few moments, the parent room (at the end of the North Narthex past the door to the Memorial Garden) is open during the 10 AM service. There is no child care attendant so all children must be

accompanied at all times by their parent / guardian.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER Private intercessory prayer is available with members of our Intercessory

Prayer team in the side aisle while Communion is being distributed at the 10:00 AM service. Additionally, there are Prayer Jars at each entrance to the Sanctuary where you can share prayers requests that will be prayed over

for the next month.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP Most of the worship service is printed in this leaflet. Music that is not

printed in the leaflet can be found in *The Hymnal 1982* (the red book on the shelf under the chair in front of you) or in *Lift Every Voice and Sing II* (the red, black, and green book found on a cart at each entrance). We stand,

if able, for the hymns and stand or kneel, according to one's personal

tradition, for prayer.

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

EASTER DAY

MARCH 31, 2024 10:00 AM

Jesus Christ is Risen Today **PRELUDE** arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

> Excerpts from "Six Pieces" Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Cydney Jackson, violin

Bell Peal M. Horsley (b. 1990)

Austin Mogor, Krista Mogor, Adalia Sterling and Faith Wada

Christ is Arisen Don Freudenburg (b. 1939)

Lani Smith (1934-2015) Christ the Lord is Risen Today

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth G.F.Handel (1685-1759),

arr. Robert Hughes

Alleluias Margaret Sandresky (b. 1921)

Largo (from *Xerxes*) G.F. Handel, adpt. Jean Thilde

Richard Proulx (1937-2010) Happy Are Those

Robert Brown, Soprano Saxophone



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please stand.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

1982 Hymnal #207



Proclaimed three times.

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

All Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE 1982 Hymnal #S280 1. Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly peace al - might - y God and Fa ther, we King, wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we 3. Lord Je - sus praise you for your Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you take a - way the ofthe world: have \sin mer $\mathbf{c}\mathbf{y}$ right hand of on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the the Fa - ther: re prayer. 6. For a - lone are the Ho - ly One, ceive our you are the Most Lord, 7. you a - lone you a - lone are the High, Christ, with the Ho 1y Spi - rit, in the Je - sus \mathbf{God} \mathbf{glo} ry of the Fa - ther. \mathbf{A} men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you. People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

> Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one

God, now and for ever.

People Amen.

Please sit.

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain

the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Reader

People Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

PSALM 118:1-2,14-24 **BCP 760**



- Give thanks to the LORD, for / he is / good; * his / mercy en/dures for / ever.
- 2 Let / Israel now pro/claim, * "His / mercy en/dures for /ever."



- 14 The LORD is my / strength and my / song, * and he has be/come / my sal/vation.
- 15 There is a sound of exul/<u>tation</u> and / victory * in the / <u>tents</u> / of the / righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the / LORD has / triumphed! * the right hand of the LORD is exalted! √ the right / hand of the / LORD has / triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not / die, but / live, * and de/clare the / works of the / LORD.
- 19 Open for me the / gates of / righteousness; *
 I will enter them; √
 I will / offer / thanks to the / LORD.
- 20 "This is the / gate of the / LORD; *
 / he who is / righteous may / enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, / for you / answered me * and have be/come / my sal/vation.
- 22 The same stone which the / <u>builders</u> re/jected * has be/come the / <u>chief</u> / cornerstone.
- 23 This is the / <u>LORD'S</u> / doing, * and it is / <u>marve</u>lous / in our / eyes.
- 24 On this day the / LORD has / acted; * we will re/<u>joice</u> / and be / glad in it.

Please sit.

THE SECOND READING Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ-he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the

dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Reader

Thanks be to God. People

Please stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks 1982 Hymnal #178 to the Risen Lord Descant Al le lu - ia, al RefrainAl - le Give lu - ia, al - le lu - ia! thanks to the ia, al le lu - ia! lu Al - le ris - en Lord. ia, al - le - lu ia! Give 1-4 Final Ending Praise his Name. Name. to Praise to his Name. Name. Lord of all the earth. Je 2 Spread the o'er all the earth: good news with We fied Christ. have been cru ci ing 4 Come, let praise the liv God, Repeat Refrain He is the King of cre tion. died and has has ris Je sus en. Al - le we shall live_ for er. Now ev sing to our Sa vior.

The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

THE GOSPEL Mark 16:1-8

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please sit.

SERMON The Rt. Rev. Andrew D. Smith

Silence for reflection.

Please stand.

THE NICENE CREED BCP 358

All 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM I

BCP 383

Intercessor With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord,

saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our

souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity

of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority,

let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For this city of Hartford, for every city and community, and for those who live in them,

let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth,

let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it,

let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering,

let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For_your own intentions, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and

captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed,

especially Steve Smith, in whose memory the Aumbry candle is lit, and all those in whose

memory the Easter flowers and music are given, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation,

let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach,

let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

People Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor In the communion saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life,

to Christ our God.

People To thee, O Lord our God.

Silence.

The Presider adds a concluding collect.

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Please sit.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY MUSIC With a Voice of Singing Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

Please stand or adopt another posture of prayer.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B BCP 367

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 God thanks and praise.

Presider

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every- where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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



Presider

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

Presider

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People Amen.

Presider We now pray in the language of our hearts, as our Savior Christ has taught us,

All

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.

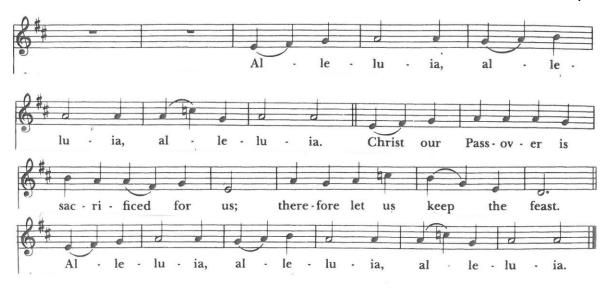
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM

1982 Hymnal #S155



Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to stand or kneel at the altar rail. If you would like to have a blessing instead of receiving Communion, please cross your arms over your chest. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available on request. Please remember that if you wish not to receive wine, receiving Bread only imparts the full benefit of the Sacrament.

Please sit.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Now the Green Blade Riseth arr. Alastair Cassels-Brown (b. 1977) Medieval French Carol

Sing with All the Saints in Glory

Michael Hassell (b. 1952)

Please stand.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER BCP 366

Presider Let us pray.

All Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the

most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to

the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Presider May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us God's children through the

resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of God's blessing.

People Amen.

Presider May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life,

make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever.

People Amen.

Presider May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the

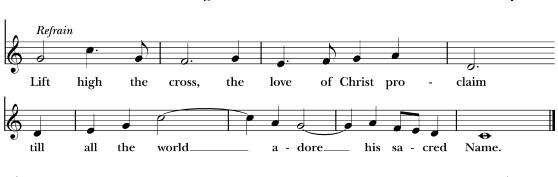
Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance.

People Amen.

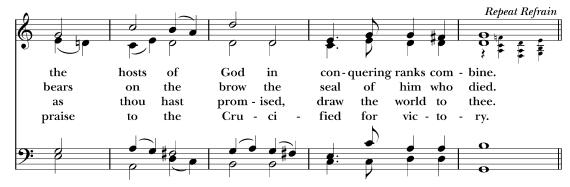
Presider And the blessing of God Almighty, the One Holy and Undivided Trinity, be upon you and

remain with you for ever.

People Amen.







THE DISMISSAL

Presider Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Litanies Jehan Alain (1911-1940)

An Easter Egg Hunt for the children will take place outdoors after the service.

LET US PRAY

In our Parish Cycle of Prayer we pray for Althea Francis, Nigel Francis; Martha Freimuth; and Gloria Gaige.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for All Saints', Meriden; St. Andrew's, Meriden; Christ Church, Middle Haddam and the Collaborative ministries and all Ministry Networks.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for The Church in the Province of the West Indies.

We pray for

Percy Williamson Cheryl

Lennox

The Lugo and Torres Families

Daryl Todd Pam Williams

The Wentgertzman Family

The Swiatek Family Bp. Michael Curry

Saydie Eggleston Viola Cleo Bradshaw

Jane Wilson (sister-in-law of

Kathie Wilson) Faye, Elizabeth and

Hannah Aliene & their children

Elizabeth Pierce Fred Margeson Isabella Gevarra

Cassandra Watson

Sonia Watson Krystal Reid and Adrian MacLeach The Wallace Family

Nancy Miller Phillip Andrews (brother of

Dianne Bowens-Waller) Margaret Daniel

Tony Charron Vreeland (son of Peter Vreeland)

Winifred Costa Jacqui Lucier John E. Robinson Grace Crooks

Philip Green (son of Peter &

Anne Green) Nora Baldwin

Stephanie Holland (niece of

Kitty Peterson)

J.B. Parke

Jennifer Stephens Laurie Lavoie Paulette McCurdy Rhonda McKenzie Carmen Belgrave Kate Smith

Katie Reynolds
Louise Krippenstapel
Carlene Lewis

Judy Miller
Valentina Moore
Lindsey Tengatenga
Richard Green (brother of

Peter Green)

Donald Bowens (son of Dianne Bowens-Waller)

Peter Vreeland

The words of the service are taken from *The Book of Common Prayer*.

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Cover Art: We are grateful to The Rev. George Chien (UMC, MCC) for creating the artwork on the cover.

The Aumbry Candle is lit the week of March 31 to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Steve Smith, by his wife Martha Freimuth.

+ ASSISTING AT WORSHIP +

The Rev. Horace Johnson – Presider The Rt. Rev. Andrew D. Smith – Preacher

> Proclamation of the Resurrection Zoe Adell

> > Readers

George Chien Freya Watt

Intercessor Jon Widing

Minister of Communion

Marcus Clark Cathy Rowe

Acolytes
Ion Garcia

Elizabeth Rousseau

Altar Guild

Mary Register, Louisa Cummings, Kitty Peterson

Director of Music Michelle Horsley

Virtual Vergers Casey Rousseau Jake Troiano

Altar FlowersGeorge Chien and Percy Williamson

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More details will be given during the Announcements.

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION SAVE THE DATE!! APRIL 14, 2024



BIRDSONG

Come join Trinity's Music Director, Michelle Horsley, in a conversation about birdsong! This talk is in anticipation of our large-scale Birdsong event on Sunday evening, April 21st, which is a one-of-a-kind musical homage to birds, including recordings of various species paired with human-composed repertoire for choir and organ.

Birdsong is humbly offered in recognition of Earth Day - lovingly conceived by Trinity's music director who is also a lifelong birder and funded partially by the Jolidon Fund at the Greater Hartford Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. At this pre-concert Adult Forum conversation about Birdsong, Michelle will discuss some of the ways composers have been inspired by birdsong over nearly 1000 years of choral/organ music and how they have even translated birdcalls to musical notation.

We will chat about the particular musical qualities of various bird species and examine fascinating ways that our avian companions develop melodies. This conversation will also include a biblical component, with a short overview of the significance of various bird species referenced in the Bible.



THE 2024 EASTER MUSIC AND FLOWERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

H. Mae Brown
Marigene Butler
The Cone / Foley Families
William Shaw Crandall
Kathleen and Arnold Gleave
Elizabeth Johnson
Fay Clarke Johnson,
by the Johnson Family
Helen Kitzman
Hyacinth Miller
Hal, Pat, David and Kevin Nelson
Andrew Onderdonk
Alfredina Parks

Hector Phelps
Ian Robinson
David Robinson
William A. and Lillian C. Sandford
Margaret Schul
Steve Smith
Pollyann Thomas
Bernard W. Trafford, Jr.
Sarah J. Trafford
Susan Wilkinson
Bruce L. and Kathleen K. Wilson
Raymond B. Wilson

AND IN CELEBRATION OF:

The Office Volunteers of Trinity Church

Holy Week and Easter Offerings for AFEDJ

The Vestry has designated that loose plate and special envelope offerings from Holy Week and Easter will be sent to the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. The Diocese of Jerusalem spans across Israel and the Palestinian Territories, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon and, through its schools, hospitals, and other institutions, meets a wide variety of needs, regardless of religious or ethnic identity. AFEDJ is an organization that raises funds to support these institutions and the ministries they provide.

In this time of war in Gaza, it is especially important that we support the ministry of the Ahli Hospital and all the other organizations that AFEDJ assists. Life in the entire Palestinian Territories has been uprooted. By helping the ministry and mission of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem we are an active part of living into and working for the peace that is so desperately needed.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers." Psalm 122:7-8

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry: Easter 2024 Message

Hello to my beloved family in Christ. I want to take this opportunity, first of all, on behalf of my wife, Sharon, and our family, to thank you. To thank you for your prayers, to thank you for your well wishes, your expressions of support and kindness. We are equally thankful for the blessing of remarkable medical care and pastoral support. As you may know, I've been working a bit from home—at a reduced level, to be sure, but I'm gradually increasing that.

Just two weeks ago, my medical team approved me to drive locally and to resume short domestic flights. I can't tell you how much your prayers have sustained me and my family through this medical journey. Prayer matters. We don't always know how. We don't always know or understand the outcome.

But prayer matters, and it makes a difference. Over the last several months, I have not known how this would all work out. But I've been very aware, and in some particular moments, consciously aware of being upheld in prayer by you. Without consciously deciding to do it, I actually found myself praying some words from Psalm 31, which says, "Into your hands, I commend my spirit."

Before surgeries and treatments, through some long nights, difficult days, "Into your hands, I commend my spirit." These words are part of a prayer that is Psalm 31 in the Hebrew scriptures. The late night service of Compline uses that psalm as a prayer before going to sleep at night.

Luke's Gospel records Jesus praying these very words, that psalm, on the cross, when he had a sense of what lay before him, but could not know the outcome. He didn't know with any certainty if and how God would act. He didn't know, as the old preachers used to say, Good Friday's always happened, but Sunday's always coming. He didn't know with any certainty that resurrection would become real and not a mere metaphor.

But as he died into the unknown, he did one thing: He threw himself completely into the hands of God. "Father, into thy hands, I commend my spirit."

And in that moment, after saying that, Luke's Gospel says, he breathed his last. And though he died, death did not have the last word, though he did die. He died into the hands of God and slipped out of the grip of death.

And as we now know, on the third day he rose again, and he lives. As William Cowper said in a poem that later became a hymn, "God moves in mysterious ways, his wonders to perform, he plants his footstep in the sea and rides upon the storm."

So God love you. God bless you. May the God who rides upon our storms and raised Jesus of Nazareth from the dead hold us all, the entire human family and all of God's grand and glorious creation in those almighty hands of love. Have a blessed Holy Week and Easter.

Trinity's Book Group will next meet on Friday, April 5th, 7:00-9:00 pm, to discuss *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, by Shelby Van Pelt. It's an exploration of friendship, reckoning, and hope that traces a widow's unlikely connection with a giant Pacific octopus. This book is available in libraries and bookstores. All are welcome to attend, for one meeting or many. Linda and Mark MacGougan will host this meeting at their home; please let them know if you plan to attend (macgougans@gmail.com; 860-878-0334)

Women Together: a group that gathers weekly to explore our Christian faith and practice through book discussion, prayer and fellowship. We meet on Tuesdays from 2:00 to 3:15 pm in the reception room at St. John's (679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, CT).

On Tuesday April 2, 2024, we will begin discussing *Waiting for Our Souls to Catch Up* by Sister Carol Perry . "Bring your highlighter and your sense of wonder to a comfortable chair and marvel at what you didn't know about Biblical history. *Waiting for Our Souls to Catch Up* is a must read for all those seeking a spiritual peace in a high-tech world. But most of all bring your appreciation of Sister Carol Perry's scholarly brilliance in refining prayer, faith, and grace. I love this book. I will always have two, my annotated one and another one to give away." - Rolland G. Smith.

We will start by reading the Forward and the first 30 pages. Don't worry if you haven't received your book yet, just come and enjoy the conversation. Please contact Linda MacGougan macgougans@gmail.com or Cathy Rowe crowedy@yahoo.com if you would like additional information.

SAVE THE DATE!

A message from Immanuel Congregational Church - A GHIAA Partner

To celebrate Immanuel Congregational Church's 200th Anniversary this year, we have invited renowned civil rights leader, Bishop William Barber II, to speak on Sunday, May 5th at 3pm. Bishop Barber is a preacher, social activist, author and sought-after public speaker who became nationally known for his leadership with the Moral Monday movement in North Carolina. He has recently begun a new phase of his work as the founding director of the Center for Public Theology & Public Policy at Yale Divinity School.

The event is free and open to all. We hope that our GHIAA partners will join us on May 5th for an afternoon of "Challenge and Hope"!



with

Renowned Civil Rights Leader The Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II



Sunday, May 5th, 3 pm

IMMANUEL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

10 Woodland Street, Hartford (corner of Woodland St. and Farmington Ave.)

A freewill offering will be collected.

The Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II is President and Senior Lecturer of Repairers of the Breach; Co-Chair o the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call For Moral Revival; and most recently, a Professor in the Practice of Public Theology and Public Policy and Founding Director of the Center for Public Theology and Public Policy at Yale Divinity School.

Parking available next door at the Town & County Club and across Woodland Street at

BRDSONG SUNDAY APRIL 21

6:45pm Mini-Lecture 7:30pm Musical Program

Free admission
Trinity Episcopal Church
120 Sigourney St Hartford

choral/organ music of Messiaen, Whitacre, Rameau, etc. featuring the wild and wonderful melodies of real birds

CHOIR SCHOOL OF HARTFORD

Funded in part by a Jolidon Grant From the Greater HartFord Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, March 31st	Easter Sunday –	One	Service	Only

9:30 A.M. Musical Prelude

10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist – Rite II (Church)
11:30 A.M. Easter Egg Hunt (Memorial Garden)
6:00 P.M. NA Group Meeting (Huntington Hall)

Thursday, April 4th

5:30 P.M. GHIAA Core Meeting

Friday, April 5th

7:30 P.M. NA Group Meeting (Huntington Hall)

Saturday, April 6th

9:30 A.M. Companions of the Holy Cross Meeting (Library)

Sunday, April 7th The Second Sunday of Easter

8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist – Rite II (Church)
10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist – Rite II (Church)
6:00 P.M. NA Group Meeting (Huntington Hall)

Vestry of Trinity Church

Leslyn Clark, Warden * Jacqueline Lucier, Warden * Kitty Peterson, Clerk
Casey Rousseau, Treasurer * Jake Troiano, Assistant Treasurer
Heather Kramer * Marsha McCurdy Adell
Suzanne Blancaflor * Valerie Pogue * Jennifer Stephens
Casandra Joseph * Timothy Watt



Make a Pledge







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