

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them. Then Jesus told them this parable: Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?" (Luke 15:1-4)

The assasination of Charlie Kirk, a conservative political activist, on Wednesday, was a shocking event. A husband and father, he leaves behind a mourning family. Mr. Kirk's views were not ones shared by many people in this church, but that does not make his murder any less a crime. While we do not yet know the identity of the shooter or the reason behind the killing, politically motivated violence is becoming all too common--and figures of all ideological stripes are being targeted. Earlier this year, two Democratic law-makers in Minnesota were attacked in their homes, and one died. President Trump has been targeted twice. Former House speaker Nancy Pelosi's husband was attacked in their home. Pennsylvania governor Josh Shapiro's home was set on fire. Five years ago, the FBI arrested thirteen men for conspiring to kidnap Michigan governor Gretchen Whitmer, and of course, we all know of the violent riot that attacked the U.S. capitol on January 6, 2021, attempting to disrupt the peaceful transfer of power.

These violent incidents are all unacceptable, and the deaths that have resulted from many of them are tragic. All of them. No matter whether we agree or disagree, like or dislike someone, whether they have stood up for our rights or sought to have them taken away, violence is not a solution.

Sunday's gospel reminds us that Jesus welcomed all, including those who were considered sinners and who were not accepted in polite society. He responded to criticism of his embrace of all people by sharing a parable of the shepherd who leaves behind the ninety-nine sheep to go look for the one lost sheep. Each and every person, each and every creature for that matter, counts, and no one should be left behind. No one should be given up as lost. Jesus shows us that we should always be about the work of building relationships, even and especially with people with whom we do not have much in common. Who in your life is the one sheep who has gone off the path, and what might you do to try to find them? Sometimes we need to create strong boundaries with some people in our lives, but more often there is a chance for some reconciliation. And whether or not it is safe or healthy for us to try, we can always pray for them and wish them well.

Peace, Chase

Worship at Trinity

Powerful, joyful and Spirit-filled worship that is reverent, warm and inviting, with uplifting music and preaching!

Sundays:

8 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church

A gentle, said service (no music)

10 AM Holy Eucharist in the Church

Joyous, sung music

Monday-Friday:

7:30 AM Morning Prayer said in the home M - F

Resources available at www.TrinityNJ.com/Worship

7:30 AM Friday - Morning Prayer in the Chapel

Wednesdays:

6:30 PM Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

Healing Service first Wednesday of the month

Connect with Us

CONTACT US

Trinity Church, 503 Asbury Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712. Tel: 732-775-5084 • Fax: 732-775-3865

Email: office@trinitynj.com • Web: trinitynj.com

In the case of an emergency, death or serious illness, contact the church office. There is a pastoral emergency option on the phone if no one is available to answer.



Facebook.com/TrinityAP



Instagram.com/TrinityChurchAP (#TrinityChurchAP)



Venmo (@TrinityChurch)

Trinity Basics

PASTORAL SERVICES AND SACRAMENTS: Contact Jill

Osis in the parish office for all non-emergency pastoral needs: Baptisms, the rite of Reconciliation of a Penitent (personal confession & counsel), Blessing of Marriage & Unions, communion for the sick and homebound, or visits to the hospital.

PANTRY & COMMUNITY SOUP KITCHEN: The Trinity Food Pantry is open Tuesdays from 10:30AM-1PM and on Saturday, a hot, sit-down meal is served from 11:30AM-12:30PM.

Questions? Contact Derek at Derek@TrinityNJ.com.

CHOIRS: Find out about our dynamic and growing choirs, contact Dr. Deborah Simpkin King at Deborah@TrinityNJ.com for information!

PARISH LEADERSHIP (Vestry):

Bill Presutti (warden) Carol Scollay (warden) Brice Byham, Gregory Curatolo, Donna Griffin, Wendy Jaghab, Mary Perez, James Pillar, Andy Place, Maria Tassiello, and Adrienne Wert You may contact the vestry at: vestrywardens@trinitynj.com

Parish Staff

The Rev. Chase Danford, Rector

FrChase@trinitynj.com

The Rev. Tom Conway, Assisting Priest

Tom@trinitynj.com

The Rev. Geoffrey Curtiss, Assisting Priest

geoffcurtiss@gmail.com

The Rev. Lucille Donahue, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor

Revlu@trinitynj.com

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Kenny Miller, Property Assistant

Siobhan Noland, Development Manager for Grants Siobhan@Trinitynj.com

Jill Osis, Director of Operations Jill@trinitynj.com

Courtney Pearson, Operations Manager Courtney@trinitynj.com

Tim Sexsmith, Property Supervisor Tim@trinitynj.com

Parish Prayers

Please keep the following people in your prayers this week:

Faye Hudson Sylvia Barry Braithwaites Mike Mack
Jackie Campanelli Greg Manzi Tina S. Mike Krutza
Manal Miller Zoe & Taz Tom.S Michael & Nadine Stutcliffe

Stephanie Tom Johnson Family of Devin Brown Taylor Naudem Margaret Jones Chet Szymanski **Ianine Audet** Barbara Muzychka Miles Kevin Burkitt Samantha Robinson Eric Denzel Donaldson Carol Joy Jacobson Michael Issacson Denise & Bill Pearson Bill Koegel Dr. William H. Taylor **Gregory Curatolo** Craig Breiner

If you would like to be added to the prayer list or would like to add someone else (*please get their permission first*), please email prayer@trinitynj.com or call Wendy Jaghab at 732-616-8568 by the Tuesday before you would like the name to appear in the bulletin. Names will remain on the prayer list for 4 weeks, and can be readded upon request.

Prayer Team Ministry. During communion, those who would like someone to pray with them are invited to come to one of the prayer stations located in the back of the church. A member of the Trinity Prayer Team will say a prayer with you for yourself or someone else. You are welcome to sit or stand during the prayer. What is said at the prayer station is held in confidence by the person who prays with you. They cannot talk with you or anyone else about your requested prayer without your permission. The only exception is a person intending to harm themselves or someone else.

Questions about this ministry? Contact Joanie McCoy, leader of the Prayer Team at 908-216-5529 or 732-780-3111 or PrayerTeam@TrinityNJ.com.

Trinity Cycle of Prayer During Morning Prayer this week, we will be praying for the following Trinity Parishioners and Friends:

9/15 9/16 David, Jill, 9/17 9/18 9/19 Brianna, Nick, Holly O'Horo Brandon, Brittany, & Heather & Annette George Panesso Amelia, Elliot, & Edward Papapietro

News & Notes

Fall Adult Education Classes ~ Sunday at 9 am

This week's session: "Introduction to the Bible" meets in the auditorium/parish hall at 9 am. Adult education classes are offered at 9 am most Sundays during the program year. Classes for Newcomers and Inquirers will be offered in September: Sept 14: "Introduction to the Bible"; Sept 21: "What is an Episcopalian?"; September 28: "Getting to Know Trinity." In October, we will look at issues of faith and society, including environmental sustainability, human rights, and social justice. In November, we will discuss the Book of Psalms.

Trinity Church Tours Continue with: Why Does Trinity Look This Way? Today after the 8 & 10am Serives

All church services?? Did you know that for the first 1000 years everyone stood at all church services? Why does Trinity have pews? Have you been to a basilica? Trinity is one. This has been a most popular shape for churches since the 3rd Century CE. Kim Byham will give a tour of our church building's origins after both services on September 14th.

Ministry Fair - Next Sunday, September 21at 11:15am

There's always something happening at Trinity and we want you to be a part of the action! Are you looking for a way to make a deeper connection with your Trinity Community? Use one of your skills and talents or find a new one! On Sunday, September 21, representatives of Trinity's ministries will be available at coffee hour to share how to get involved at Trinity, whether assisting with worship & parish life or serving our wider community. Come check it out!

Wednesday Bible Sharing ~ Restarts This Wednesday at 5pm!

Ever want to know more about the early church? Here is your opportunity! Beginning on September 17th, we will be studying the Book of Acts! All are welcome to join our friendly group at 5pm! Any questions? Call Joanie 908-216-5529

News & Notes

New Member Sunday ~ September 28

New members who have joined the parish in the last year, or who have not been publicly recognized before, are invited to be recognized at both services on Sunday, September 28. Please let Fr. Chase know if you are interested. If you are ready to become a member and haven't already, let us know and we'll make sure you get a membership form. If you're not sure what it means to be a member, talk to Chase and join the Newcomers' classes this month. Joining the church as a member does not require being confirmed or received, although you can choose to do those later.

Social Justice Coffee Hour: The Episcopal Peace Fellowship ~ September 28 at 11:30am

On September 28th after the 10AM service come hear Fr. Geoff talk about the Episcopal Peace Fellowship. The fellowship is currently working on Palestine solidarity, death penalty abolition, and Gun Violence Prevention. EPF chapters are regionally-based and work on local peace initiatives within their parish and communities as well as on national and international issues. Chapters sponsor and co-sponsor prayer and public witness such as peace vigils, liturgies, service projects and demonstrations. Peace Partner parishes are based out of a specific parish. Come learn more and see how you can be part of this peace initiative!

PorchFest is Coming ~ Hospitality Volunteers Needed! Saturday, September 27, 12-5pm

On Saturday afternoon, September 27, Trinity will be a venue for Asbury Park's much-loved PorchFest. During this fun event, over two dozen addresses will host music acts on their front porches or lawns. All performances are free, and listeners are encouraged to explore our community's neighborhoods on foot or bike as they move from venue to venue. Schedule to be released soon! We would like to showcase our church's beautiful architecture and welcoming atmosphere, so volunteers are requested to provide a hospitable presence. If you would like to help, and be here for some wonderful music, let us know at office@trinitynj.com.

Guest Preacher on October 12: Human Rights Advocate Noah Bullock

Human rights are under siege with the rise of authoritarian governments around the world. Our own administration has walked away from basic international agreements on the protection of human rights and recognition of human equality and dignity. Noah Bulloch, executive director of Cristosal and a leading human rights figure in Latin America, will be with us at Trinity on Sunday October 12th. Ruth Lopez, a leading human rights attorney and a member of Cristosal's staff, remains imprisoned under President Bukele's authoritarian "State of Exception." As a result Cristosal has been forced into exile and is currently working out of Guatemala. Please keep Ruth and all human rights workers in your prayers.

A Conversation with Cristosal ~ Sunday, October 12 at 3pm

Come learn about the great work of Cristosol in El Salvador, October 12th at 3PM. We will get to hear directly from Noah Bullock, the Executive Director. He will talk about their colleague Ruth Lopez, who was disappeared during the night and was thrown in jail for her work for justice. We will also get to hear an update concerning the entire organization of Cristosol having to flee El Savador and move their operation to Guatemala for safety. During this afternoon we will also learn how we can be in solidarity with our neighbor down south.

Monday Bible Study with Fr. Geoff on Zoom ~ Restarts October 6th!

Beginning on October 6th, we will be looking at the Moral Teachings of Jesus from the Gospels of Mark, Matthew, Luke and John. The basis of our study will be from the book by David P. Gushee. We will also be using the Jewish Annotated New Testament.by Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler. It is critical in our own time for us to understand the moral teachings of the Hebrew tradition as expounded upon by Jesus. In a time when religious narratives no longer provide cultural consensus and spirituality is distorted by many, it is important to root ourselves in the basic tenets of our faith. To receive more information contact lindacurtiss@gmail.com