

TRINITY CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF ASBURY PARK, NJ

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
with Blessing of the Animals

October 5, 2025

Holy Eucharist at ten o'clock

At Trinity, we strive to use expansive language in our liturgy to reflect our beliefs that God transcends and includes all genders and that all gender expressions reflect the beauty of God's creation. Sometimes, however, our liturgy, scripture readings, and music use gendered language for God and humanity as part of the common spiritual heritage of Anglicanism and the Christian Church. In congregational responses and hymns, we invite you to use whatever pronouns and titles help you to see the divine in both God and humanity. As the scripture lessons are read, we invite you to consider that the writings contained in the Bible are contextual--reflecting particular times, places, and cultures--but that they can be understood in universal and expansive ways. God is love!

Hymn numbers refer to either the Hymnal 1982 or Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS), copies of which are in the pew racks.

Prelude *Prelude in D minor*

Johann Sebastian Bach

Introit "Uyae Mose"

traditional Zimbabwe call to worship

Come, all you people, come and worship Yahweh!
Come now and worship the Lord.

Hymn "For the beauty of the earth"

*All who can please stand
Adorate devote*



1. For the beau - ty of the earth sing, oh sing to - day. Of the skies and
2. For the won - der of each hour sing, oh sing to - day. Of the day and
3. For the joy of hu - man love sing, oh sing to - day. Broth - er sis - ter,
4. For Thy - self, best gift di - vine sing, oh sing to - day. To the world so

6



of our birth sing, oh sing al - way. Na - ture, hu - man and di - vine
of the night sing, oh sing al - way. Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
par - ent child, sing, oh sing al - way. Friends on earth, and friends a - bove,
free - ly giv'n sing, oh sing al - way. For that great - est love of Thine,

11



all a - round us lies. Lord of all to Thee we raise grate - ful hymns of praise.
Sun and moon, and stars. Lord, of all to Thee we raise grate - ful hymns of praise.
For all gen - tle thoughts, Lord, of all to Thee we raise grate - ful hymns of praise.
Peace on earth and heav'n; Lord, of all to Thee we raise grate - ful hymns of praise.

Opening Acclamation

All who can please stand

Celebrant Blessed be the One who creates all things.

People **The Holy One's love is new every morning.**

Song of Creation

Said in unison

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, * **sing praise and give honor for ever.**

In the high vault of heaven, glorify the Lord, * **sing praise and give honor for ever.**

Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, * **O heavens and all waters above the heavens.**

Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, * **sing praise and give honor for ever.**

Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, * **all winds and fire and heat.**

Winter and summer, glorify the Lord, * **sing praise and give honor for ever.**

Gloria

Powell

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most

High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

Said in unison

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, **you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Lamentations (1:1-6)

How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the provinces has become a vassal. She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they have become her enemies. Judah has gone into exile with suffering and hard servitude; she lives now among the nations, and finds no resting place; her pursuers have all overtaken her in the midst of her distress. The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter. Her foes have become the masters, her enemies prosper, because the Lord has made her suffer for the multitude of her transgressions; her children have gone away, captives before the foe. From daughter Zion has departed all her majesty. Her princes have become like stags that find no pasture; they fled without strength before the pursuer.

At the end of the lesson, the reader says, The Word of the Lord
All Reply, Thanks be to God.

Psalm 137

Sung in Latin by the choir

Giovanni P. da Palestrina

1 By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept, when we remembered you, O Zion.
2 As for our harps, we hung them up on the trees in the midst of that land.
3 For those who led us away captive asked us for a song, and our oppressors called for mirth: "Sing us one of the songs of Zion."
4 How shall we sing the Lord's song upon an alien soil.
5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its skill.

6 Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.
7 Remember the day of Jerusalem, O Lord, against the people of Edom, who said, "Down with it! down with it! even to the ground!"
8 O Daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction, happy the one who pays you back for what you have done to us!

The Lesson:

A Reading from *This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation, and the Stories that Make Us* by Cole Arthur Riley

Cole Arthur Riley is the creator of Black Liturgies, a space where Black words of dignity, lament, rage, and rest, are curated and integrated with a liberating spirituality. An excellent collection of prayers, poems, and meditations was published under this title in 2024. She serves as the content and spiritual formation manager for Chesterton House: A Center for Christian Studies at Cornell University.

Have you ever stood in the presence of a tree and listened to the wind pass through its leaves? The roots and body stand defiant and unmoved. But listen. The branches stretch out their tongues and whisper shhhhh. Trees make symphonies without their trunks ever moving, almost as if the stillness of their centers amplifies their sound. The tree may appear still, but if you look closer, you'll see that each leaf flails with breath. The tree may seem alone, but plow deep and you'll unearth its secret gnarled roots—the grotesque and the beautiful—creeping in the soil, reaching toward the ancestors. Thomas Merton said, "No writing on the solitary, meditative dimensions of life can say anything that has not already been said better by the wind in the pine trees." I hold this close.

The Reader says, Here ends the reading.

Hymn 405 "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Verses 1-2 are sung before the Gospel and verses 3-4 are sung after the Gospel.

*All who can, please stand
Royal Oak*

The Holy Gospel Luke (17:5-10)

All who can please stand

At the Announcement, all say **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

The Reader says, The Gospel of the Lord.

All Reply, Praise to you, Lord Christ

Verses 3-4 of the hymn will now be sung.

Sermon

The Rev. Chase Danford

Profession of Faith (Church of South India)

All who can please stand

**We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.**

**We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one,
the malnourished one, the climate refugee,
who loves and cares for this world
and who suffers with it.**

**And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God
and who moves among and with us today.**

We believe in everlasting life in God.

**And we believe in the hope that one day
God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.**

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

Let us offer our prayers to God who gives life and breath to all creatures, saying, "God of glory, hear us."

I ask your prayers for the mission of the church throughout the world, for sharing the promise of abundant life and working toward it for all.

God of glory, hear us.

I ask your prayers for the leaders of the nations, and for all who make or influence decisions for the health of our planet and the well-being of its peoples.

God of glory, hear us.

I ask your prayers for peace with justice around the world, especially for an end to violent competition for limited resources.

God of glory, hear us.

I ask your prayers for those who suffer illness, want, or exile because of environmental degradation.

God of glory, hear us.

I ask your prayers for those who in their daily work are stewards and protectors of God's creation in ways large and small; for gardeners, farmers, and ranchers; for rangers and park managers; for fishers and foresters; for climate scientists, ecologists, and activists, and for all who work to restore and heal our wounded Earth.

God of glory, hear us.

I ask your prayers for the dead, especially for those holy women and men who taught us to marvel in all God's works.

God of glory, hear us.

I ask for your prayers, which you may lift up now, either silently or aloud.

Silence, during which the people may offer their concerns.

We offer our hopes, concerns, and fears.

God of glory, hear us.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

We give you thanks, most gracious God, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers; for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers. We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity. Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation, to the honor and glory of your Name, now and for ever. Amen. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All who can, please kneel

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you and your creation with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The celebrant pronounces absolution.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Blessing of the Animals

Coming up the center aisle with your animal friend, go to one of the clergy. They will say a blessing over each animal. Make your way back to your pew down the outside aisles.

If you and your animal friend need a break, please feel free to go outside and then rejoin us!

The Peace

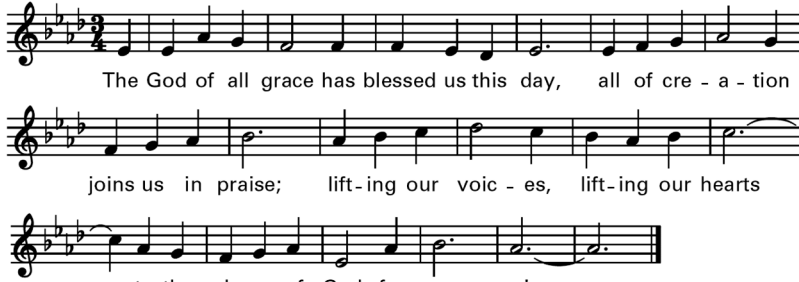
Greet one another in the name of Christ.

Celebrant Peace with yourself.
 Peace with Creation.
 Peace with one another.
 The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

Please be seated

Congregational Celebrations and Thanksgivings



The God of all grace has blessed us this day, all of cre - a - tion
joins us in praise; lift - ing our voic - es, lift - ing our hearts
to the glo - ry of God for - ev - er!

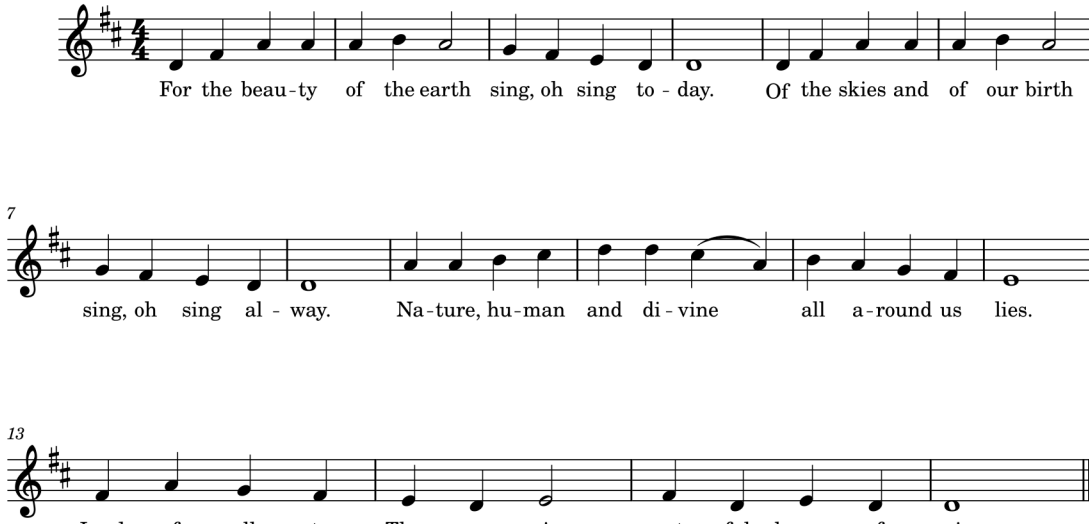
The Offering

Offertory Music *Canticle of Brother Sun* from *Missa Gaia*

Paul Winter

The congregation is invited (by a singer's gesture) to sing the Canticle of Brother Sun with the choir at the end.

Words on next page



For the beau - ty of the earth sing, oh sing to - day. Of the skies and of our birth
sing, oh sing al - way. Na - ture, hu - man and di - vine all a - round us lies.
Lord of all to Thee we raise grate - ful hymns of praise.

All praise be yours through Brother Sun,
All praise be yours through Sister Moon.
By Mother Earth my Lord be praised,
By Brother Mountain, Sister Sea.
Through Brother Wind and Brother Air,
Through Sister Water, Brother Fire;
The stars above give thanks to thee;
All praise to those who live in peace.

All praise be yours through Brother Wolf,
All praise be yours through Sister Whale.
By Nature's song my Lord be praised,
By Brother Eagle, Sister Loon.
Through Brother Tiger, Sister Seal,
Through Sister Flower, Brother Tree;
Let creatures all give thanks to thee;
All praise to those who live in peace.

Ask of the beasts and they shall teach you the beauty of the earth.
Ask of the trees and they shall teach you the beauty of the earth.
Ask of the winds and they shall teach you the beauty of the earth.
Ask of the flow'rs and they shall teach you the beauty of the earth.

Hymn, sung with the congregation:

For the beauty of the Earth, sing oh sing today.
Of the sky and of our birth, sing oh sing alway.
Nature, human and divine, all around us lies.
Lord of all, to thee we raise grateful hymns of praise.

Brother Sun.

The Great Thanksgiving

All who can please stand

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to our loving God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right at all times and in all places to give thanks and praise to you, Creator of all. We praise you here in our city by the sea, in our green tree-lined streets, in parks and lakes, on the sandy beach, and in the wave-filled ocean. We praise you at a time when the body of earth is celebrated and yet broken again and again.

We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation. Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration. They depended on the land, were displaced from the land and displaced others from their lands. They knew you in tents and cities, on mountains and by wells, in families and in dreams, and through wilderness prophets who spoke of cedars and listened to ravens.

Together with angels and ancestors, with deer and foxes, with seagulls and mallards, with whales and dolphins, we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honor song:

Sanctus

Powell

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____

We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers and seeds, labor and wages, yeast and bread.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, food of the poor, the work of field and hearth, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you, do this to remember me.

Again after supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood, which is shed for you. When you do this, do it in memory of me.

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection and awaiting his coming kingdom, we offer you this bread and this cup.

Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts so that we might know Jesus in them and so that we might be gathered together with everyone who shares this sacred meal of justice and community.

Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that we may strive for justice and peace, respect the dignity of every human being, and safeguard the integrity of creation.

Bring us with all your saints to your commonwealth which is both now and yet to come.

All honor and glory are yours, Creator, Christ, and Spirit, now and forever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
Our Father (or Mother/Parent), **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.**

At the Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Creator God, you fed us from the beginning.
People **Happy are all, called to the Supper of Creation.**

The Invitation

At the Communion



The sacrament of Holy Communion is a profound and central part of our worship. In it we receive God's promise to set aside all that separates us; we strengthen our union with Christ and one another; and we experience a foretaste of the time when all creation will share the feast God has prepared for us. All who seek a deeper relationship with God in Jesus Christ are invited to join us at the Lord's Table.

Follow the usher's direction to communion. Receive the bread in open palm. Wine is available in the silver chalice, and non-alcoholic grape juice in the wooden cup. You may receive the wine by taking a sip or touching your wafer to the wine. For the grape juice, please only touch the wafer to the juice. If you would like a blessing in lieu of communion, indicate so by crossing your arms over your chest. Gluten free wafers are available, please ask the clergy for one if desired. Please let the usher know if you need the Celebrant to come to your pew to administer communion.



During communion, those who would like someone to pray with them for themselves or someone else are invited to come to one of our prayer stations for individual prayer. Prayer stations are located at the back of the church (near the entrance doors) where a member of the Trinity Prayer Team will be sitting in a chair, ready to say a prayer with you. See insert for more information.

Anthem *Prayer of St. Francis*

Allen Pote

Leslie Swanson and James Splond, soloists

Refrain: Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
Where there is injury, thy pardon, Lord.
Where there is doubt, let there be faith. *Refrain*

Where there's despair let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, let there be light.
Where there is sadness, let there be joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. *Refrain*

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
For it is in giving that we receive, and it is in pardoning that we are pardoned.
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *Refrain*

Amen.

[Blessing of the Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant Bless you for your ministry and bless those to whom you bring these holy gifts, that they may be united with this community in the holy sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

People **Though we are many, we are all one body because we share in the one bread.]**

Post Communion Prayer

All who can please stand

Holy One, you feed us with bread from heaven and the gifts of mother earth. In this communion, you have drawn us into your embrace and you call us to friendship with one another. You have given us the gift of reconciliation. May we who have tasted that gift from you, offer ourselves in peace, humility, and friendship to one another. Amen.

Closing Commitment and Benediction

The gathered are invited to commit themselves into service for Creation. The Presider begins

As we conclude our service, I invite you to join me in dedicating ourselves to care of the Earth.

Celebrant We join with the Earth and with each other

People **To bring new life to the land**

To restore the waters

To refresh the air.

Celebrant We join with the Earth and with each other

People **To renew the forests**

To care for the plants

To protect the creatures.

Celebrant We join with the Earth and with each other

People **To celebrate the seas**

To rejoice in the sunlight

To sing the song of the stars.

Celebrant We join with the Earth and with each other

People **To recreate the human community**

To promote justice and peace

To remember our children.

Celebrant We join with the Earth and with each other

All **We join together as many and diverse expressions of one loving mystery:
for the healing of the Earth and the renewal of all life. Amen.**

Celebrant Go out into all the world as prophets of a new way of living and preach the good news to all. And the blessing of the Creator God, the Risen Son, and the Promised Holy Spirit bless you that you might be a blessing to others today and always.
Amen.

Hymn 400 "All Creatures of Our God and King" vv 1-4

Lasst uns erfreuen

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth into all Creation, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Postlude *Lasst uns erfreuen*

Geistliche Kirchengesäng

Special thanks to this week's guest drummer, Caroline L. Sargent

Trinity Church Vision Statement

“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God...For if we love one another, God abides in us, and God’s love will be perfected in us.” (1 John 4:7, 12)

Love is at the very core of Trinity Church. Through our faith and ministry, we seek to share Jesus Christ’s unconditional, revolutionary love for all of God’s creation and people. We demonstrate love in action by respecting the dignity of all, practicing radical hospitality, standing in solidarity with the marginalized, advocating for peace and justice, dismantling structural racism and every system of oppression, embracing inclusivity, maintaining our sacred space as a spiritual and physical sanctuary, and pursuing ecological sustainability. Strengthened by joyful worship, prayer, lifelong spiritual formation, stewardship of resources, pastoral care, and fellowship, we commit to follow Jesus in the Way of Love.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

503 Asbury Ave., Asbury Park, NJ 07712 ~ Tel: 732-775-5084
email: office@trinitynj.com ~ web site: www.trinitynj.com