



# Welcome

to Trinity Church

The Fifth Sunday  
of Easter

May 3, 2026

*Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."  
(John 14:6)*

This Sunday's gospel reading contains a statement that is both treasured and dreaded. The setting of the teaching in question is Jesus' farewell address, at his last supper with his disciples. He is saying goodbye because he knows what awaits him. He knows he will die. As Jesus says farewell to his disciples, he also comforts them. He tells them that he is going to prepare a place for them. They will be together again. Thomas says, but how will we know the way to this place? Jesus responds, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." In other words, you will find the way by following me. It is an invitation, and an intriguing one.

But his next sentence can be difficult to hear: "No one comes to the Father except through me." Many Christians and non-Christians hear these words as exclusive--that Jesus is saying he is the only way to God. Many Christians then take his words and say, "Only Christians will be saved. Only Christians will go to Heaven. Christianity is the only valid religion. Other religions are flawed and lead to sin and death." This is not the position of the Episcopal Church.

Episcopalians enthusiastically join in interfaith dialogue and activities. We affirm that the world's great religions all contain wisdom and promote compassion. We believe that God can be encountered on many paths. We do not believe that all religions are ultimately the same, but we believe that what unites us is stronger than what divides us.

The Gospel of John, in which Jesus proclaims that he is the way, is a mystical text. I am convinced that many Christians misunderstand John's message when they read it literally. So, I believe that when Jesus says that no one comes to the Father except through him, he is saying that to experience God, we need to approach the Divine as he does--to follow the way of love. When Jesus says, "Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me," I do not think he is speaking only about the individual relationship of Jesus of Nazareth and God the Father. I believe he is talking universally, that we are all in God, and that God is in all of us. Jesus shows us the way to experience God in this way--love. Love, for example, between a parent and child. Scripture tells us that we are all children of God, that we have all been adopted into God's household as "joint heirs with Christ" (Romans 8:17). So, when Jesus says, "I am the way," I hear him saying, "Love is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through love."

Peace,  
Chase

Providing **healing**, proclaiming **hope** & practicing **God's unconditional love.**

## 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](http://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](mailto:office@trinitynj.com) • Web: [trinitynj.com](http://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](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityAP)



[Instagram.com/TrinityChurchAP](https://www.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](mailto:Derek@TrinityNJ.com).

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

### **PARISH LEADERSHIP** (*Vestry*):

Bill Presutti (warden) Wendy Jaghab (warden)  
Brice Byham, David Clark, Gregory Curatolo, Donna Griffin,  
Megan Jones, Mary Perez, James Pillar, Andy Place, and  
Maria Tassiello. You may contact the vestry at:  
[vestrywardens@trinitynj.com](mailto:vestrywardens@trinitynj.com)

## Parish Staff

### Clergy Staff:

The Rev. Chase Danford, Rector  
[FrChase@trinitynj.com](mailto:FrChase@trinitynj.com)

The Rev. Tom Conway, Assisting Priest  
[Tom@trinitynj.com](mailto:Tom@trinitynj.com)

The Rev. Geoffrey Curtiss, Assisting Priest  
[geoffcurtiss@gmail.com](mailto:geoffcurtiss@gmail.com)

The Rev. Lucille Donahue, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor  
[Revolu@trinitynj.com](mailto:Revolu@trinitynj.com)

The Rev. Tom Pivinski, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor  
[TomP@trinitynj.com](mailto:TomP@trinitynj.com)

### Lay Staff:

Ayanna Adams, Director of Children, Youth, & Family  
Ministries  
[Ayanna@Trinitynj.com](mailto:Ayanna@Trinitynj.com)

Casandra Arroyo, Office Assistant  
[Casandra@Trinitynj.com](mailto:Casandra@Trinitynj.com)

Jennifer Berger Brown, Development Manager for  
Donor Relations  
[Jennifer@Trinitynj.com](mailto:Jennifer@Trinitynj.com)

Kris Hlatky, Casework Manager  
[Kris@Trinitynj.com](mailto:Kris@Trinitynj.com)

Deborah Simpkin King, Director of Music and Arts  
[Deborah@trinitynj.com](mailto:Deborah@trinitynj.com)

Derek Bloom, Director of Community Engagement &  
Organizing  
[Derek@trinitynj.com](mailto:Derek@trinitynj.com)

Kenny Miller, Property Assistant

Siobhan Noland, Development Manager for Grants  
[Siobhan@Trinitynj.com](mailto:Siobhan@Trinitynj.com)

Jill Osis, Director of Operations  
[Jill@trinitynj.com](mailto:Jill@trinitynj.com)

Courtney Pearson, Operations Manager  
[Courtney@trinitynj.com](mailto:Courtney@trinitynj.com)

Tim Sexsmith, Property Supervisor  
[Tim@trinitynj.com](mailto:Tim@trinitynj.com)

## Parish Prayers

Please keep the following people in your prayers this week:

Jackie Campanelli	Denise & Bill Pearson	Suzanne O'Hearn
Manal Miller	Michael Isaccson	Seneca Williams
Stephanie	Jaime	Trish R
Margaret Jones	Tara Brach	Barbara Muzychka
Miles	Barbara Quella	Tom Dempsey
Denzel Donaldson	Anthony Carpinelli	Diane
Gregory Curatolo	Yvonne Paradiso	Debbie

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](mailto: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](mailto:PrayerTeam@TrinityNJ.com).

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

5/4	5/5	5/6	5/7	5/8
Terence McCorry	Joanie McCoy & Loni Hulse	Mark McDonald	Kim & Arthur McGinnis	Lorrie McGough

## News & Notes

### May Ministry Coffee Hour Hosted by the Pride Committee! Today after Services

May's Ministry Coffee Hour will be hosted by the Pride Committee! Join us after services today and find out more about our upcoming participation in the Pride Parade & Festival. Come learn more, see how you can help support them, and have some delicious treats too!

### Adult Education: Affordable Housing~ Today at 9am

This Sunday the 9:00 am discussion will be about "Affordable Housing". This issue is front and center for everyone who understands New Jersey's ongoing housing crisis. Locally members of Trinity are working this issue on several fronts. Last week at our monthly EPF meeting the group wanted to continue exploring what we at Trinity are doing to address this issue. WE PRAY about it and WE are LEARNING about it so WE can ACT on it.

### EPF Speaking Event: Tuesday, May 5th at 6:30pm at Trinity

Come Join the Trinity's Episcopal Peace Fellowship on May 5th at 6:30PM for a human rights speaking event: *The War with Iran: 20 Years in the Making*, with special guest Dr. Negar Razavi is currently an Associate Research Scholar at the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies at Princeton University, where she is working on her first book manuscript on the role of policy experts in shaping U.S. security policies toward the Middle East generally and Iran specifically. In addition, Razavi is a Senior Researcher at Security in Context. Broadly, Razavi's work sits at the intersections of critical security studies, anthropology, gender studies, human rights, and global Middle East studies.

### Weekly Bible Sharing ~ Wednesdays at 5pm

Remember Pastor Rob Bell? Bible Sharing will be showing videos from his Nooma series over the next weeks! Newcomers most welcome. Our discussions are lively. Come and listen or take part, you are sure to feel your faith stimulated! Questions? Call Joanie 908-216-5529

### **Lights, Camera, Action ~ Trinity's Got Talent 2026!**

**Saturday, May 16 at 6pm**

Please join us on Saturday, May 16 at 6pm for an evening of song, laughter, dancing and fellowship!! Members of our community will be sharing their God given talents. Want to participate? Just contact Alan Woodruff (516) 297-3480 or David Clark (732)535-1775 for details.

### **"NJGMC Essentials: The Music That Makes Us"**

**New Jersey Gay Men's Chorus Concert ~ Friday, May 15 at 8pm**

The New Jersey Gay Men's Chorus is proud to announce its 35th Anniversary Spring Concert Series, "NJGMC Essentials: The Music That Makes Us." These milestone performances serve as a musical mosaic, weaving together the chorus's most quintessential works. The program features a dynamic blend of traditional choral classics, high-energy pop favorites, and beloved Broadway showpieces that have defined the NJGMC's three-and-a-half-decade legacy of artistry and advocacy. Ticket Information: General admission tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for seniors and students. Tickets are available for purchase online at [njgmc.org](http://njgmc.org), by phone at (732) 579-8449, or through any NJGMC member. Tickets will also be available for purchase at the door for all performances.

### **Bible Study with Fr. Geoff on Zoom ~ Mondays at 5pm**

The Hebrew Bible was written for the first time in the late 7th Century BCE. The Kingdom of Israel had fallen to the Assyrians. The Kingdom of Judah was a vassal state to the Assyrian Empire. Where do the stories of the Patriarchs, the Exodus, the Wilderness, the Conquest, and the Davidic Monarchy come from and why? What is the cultural memory that the authors are trying to create? There is neither archaeological evidence or nor any historic record of an Exodus event. Most biblical scholars now agree it did not happen. But what is the Exodus really about. Neither can anything be found about David or Solomon except in the memory of a 6th century author writing about supposed 15th, 12th or 10th century events. So what can we know behind this cultural imagination. Join with us Mondays @ 5:00 pm and learn about the recent discoveries that are transforming the Biblical narrative and making it come alive to its real context. To participate, please email [lindacurtiss@gmail.com](mailto:lindacurtiss@gmail.com). Our sessions are recorded and can be forwarded to keep you up to date.

### **Children and Youth at Trinity ~ Join Us!**

**Sunday School** - Join us each week as we explore God's presence in ourselves, our community, and our world! We will gather in the Sunday School room each week at 9:45am for fun and spiritual exploration and then rejoin our families after The Peace. For questions, contact Ayanna Adams at [Ayanna@trinitynj.com](mailto:Ayanna@trinitynj.com).

**Nursery** - Our Nursery is open every Sunday from 9:45am until the end of the service. The nursery will accept children aged 6 months through 4 years. The nursery is located at the end of the hallway in the office wing.

### **A New, Easier Giving System is Almost Here!**

Exciting news, Trinity is switching payment platforms to make online giving a smoother, easier process! We are excited to put the finishing touches on our new system and begin rolling it out in the next few weeks. Accounts will be easier to manage and monitor and we are adding text-to-give to our ways to contribute to the work being done here at Trinity. We know the difficulties that many of us have had with our current giving system and we appreciate everyone's patience as we switch over to the new system for a better experience for all!

### **Assistive Listening Devices Available for Use**

Our sound system includes an Assistive Listening Device Unit. We have listening packs and headphones available for use during services, or bring your own headphones. Please see an usher or Verger if you'd like to use a device during services.