



***THE SUNDAY AFTER
ASCENSION DAY
THE HOLY EUCHARIST
SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2024
9:30AM***

A warm welcome to all worshipping at Trinity this morning! If this is your first time to worship with us, we are especially glad you are here and hope you will come again. Please know whatever your tradition, we want you to make yourself at home and participate in the service as you are moved. We also invite you to complete the “Hi There” Card found in the pew and place it in the offering plate so we may greet you personally.

Children are always welcome in worship here. However, we do have a staffed nursery directly below the sanctuary if that feels like a better fit for your family. The nursery is intended for children younger than kindergarten. An activity cart is located at the back for older children, as well as a Worship Guide. If you are curious about any part of our service, please feel free to ask questions! We enjoy sharing the meaning of what we are doing in our worship.

In this worship booklet, the congregation responds with the words in **bold print**. Please stand as you are able (indicated by the *). Unless otherwise indicated, we sing from the blue Hymnal.

Prelude

Welcome

****Entrance Hymn 214***

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

****Opening Acclamation***

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Collect for Purity

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.

****Hymn of Praise – S277***

****Collect of the Day***

God with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray:

Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that as we believe your only begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into heaven, so we may also in heart and mind there ascend, and with him continually dwell; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11

A reading from Acts.

¹In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 93

Spoken

- ¹The LORD is King;
he has put on splendid apparel; *
the LORD has put on his apparel
and girded himself with strength.
- ²He has made the whole world so sure *
that it cannot be moved;
- ³ever since the world began, your throne has been established; *
you are from everlasting.
- ⁴The waters have lifted up, O LORD,
the waters have lifted up their voice; *
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.
- ⁵Mightier than the sound of many waters,
mightier than the breakers of the sea, *
mightier is the LORD who dwells on high.
- ⁶Your testimonies are very sure, *
and holiness adorns your house, O LORD,
for ever and for evermore.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

A reading from Ephesians.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gradual Hymn 219**

The Lord Ascendeth Up On High

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

⁴⁴[Jesus said to his disciples,] “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

Rev. Andrea Castner Wyatt

****The Nicene Creed***

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.

****Prayers of the People***

We stand amazed, O Lord, at your presence with us in our time and beyond time. We turn our gaze to you, and ask for your guidance and protection.

Fix the eyes of the church always on you, that we may see your glory and receive your blessing as we follow you in everything we do. Guide our leaders and give them hearts for you and your people.

We pray for the church.

Turn the hearts of the rulers of the nations toward the peace which you intend for all people, toward wise stewardship of the earth's resources, for the good of all people in every time and place.

We pray for the nations of the world.

Increase our efforts to become determined and compassionate carriers of your love and comfort to a broken world. We pray for healing for those among us who are ailing, aching, or anxious: Maureen, Janet, Rick, Marie, Jennifer, Joyce, Jacky, Gail, Alveta, Bode, Gracie, Martha, Daniel, Shirley, Dan, Barbara, Lucille, Caroline, Beth, Megan, Eric.

We pray for those in need of healing.

Receive those who have died into the heavenly kingdom where there is no pain or grief, where time is no more, where they sing with your glorious saints in light.

We pray for those who have died.

Today, we pray for the parishes of Intentional Episcopal Communities in Connecticut, including the Episcopal Church at Yale, Seabury Retirement community, Haven community and All Saints. We also pray for the Anglican Church of Burundi, for Parish prayer groups; intercessory prayer chains; healing prayer groups, and parish and community bible studies.

We pray for those who support the worldwide church of Jesus Christ.

Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that we may be your faithful witnesses in every area of our lives, everywhere we go, to everyone we meet. We depend on your constant presence and power. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

***Peace**

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

*Please consider giving generously to Trinity to help support our ministries.
You can place an offering in the basket, use the QR code, or visit our website.
www.trinitynewtownct.org*



Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Music *Love Will Be Our Home Women & Children's Choir S.C. Chapman*
Women & Children's Choir

Doxology 380

***Great Thanksgiving**

Please remain standing as you are able.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

The priest prays an appropriate preface.

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 S124

The people kneel. The Celebrant continues

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,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues.

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. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem S154

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Behold what you are.

May we become what we receive.

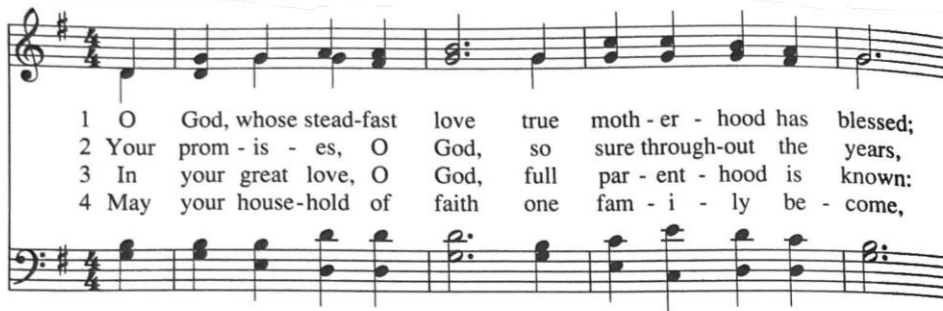
Communion

If you prefer not to receive communion and would like a blessing, please come to the altar rail with your arms crossed over your chest. If you need communion brought to your seat, please tell an usher. Please indicate at the rail if you require a gluten-free wafer. Please cup your hands to receive the bread. If you prefer, we invite you to pray in spiritual communion.

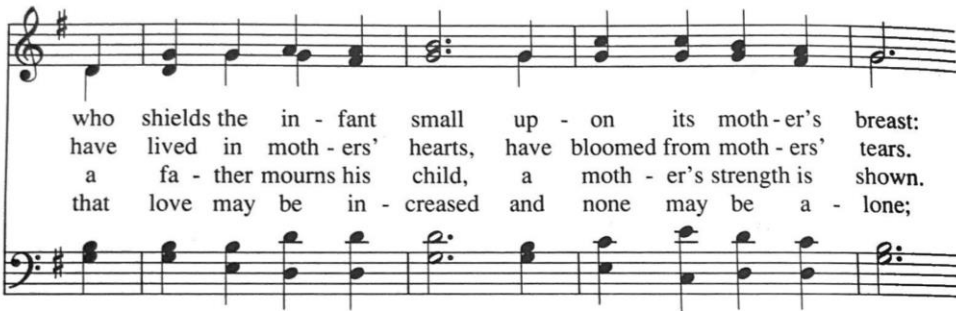
Communion Music

Communion Hymn

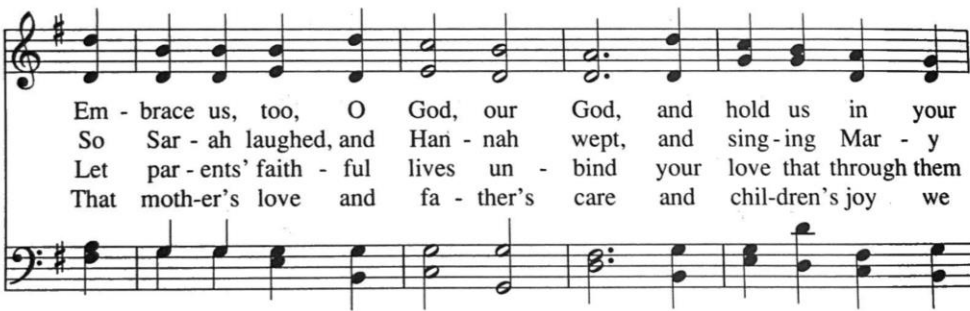
O God Whose Steadfast Love



1 O God, whose stead-fast love true moth - er - hood has blessed;
2 Your prom - is - es, O God, so sure through-out the years,
3 In your great love, O God, full par - ent - hood is known:
4 May your house-hold of faith one fam - i - ly be - come,



who shields the in - fant small up - on its moth - er's breast:
have lived in moth - ers' hearts, have bloomed from moth - ers' tears.
a fa - ther mourns his child, a moth - er's strength is shown.
that love may be in - creased and none may be a - lone;



Em - brace us, too, O God, our God, and hold us in your
So Sar - ah laughed, and Han - nah wept, and sing - ing Mar - y
Let par - ents' faith - ful lives un - bind your love that through them
That moth - er's love and fa - ther's care and chil - dren's joy we



lov - ing arms, and hold us in your lov - ing arms.
se - crets kept, and sing - ing Mar - y se - crets kept.
we might find Christ's deep - er love for hu - man - kind.
all may share, and chil - dren's joy we all may share.

Postcommunion Prayer

Please kneel as you are able.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen

****Blessing***

****Closing Hymn 215 See the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph***

****Dismissal***

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Postlude

Our service of worship is now over. Our worship through service now begins.

INVITATION TO CONFIRMATION IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Dear Beloved of Trinity Church,

Is God calling you deeper into your Christian faith? Is the Spirit nudging you to explore the possibility of Confirmation - or Reception - into the Episcopal Church?

We have just learned that Bishop Laura Ahrens will visit Trinity Episcopal Church in Newtown on Sunday, September 15th for our 9:30 AM service. Our Bishop Suffragan in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, Bishop Ahrens has a long history with Trinity Church. It will be delightful to welcome her again!



Also ... we will have Confirmations when she visits on September 15th.

We invite teens (14+) and adults to commit to and prepare for Confirmation by our Bishop. Our spiritual journeys are unique and are often full of surprising turns. So, depending on your church background, there are three ways to make a formal affiliation with the Episcopal Church: Confirmation, Reception or Re-Affirmation of Faith. (We have many parishioners who come to us from the Catholic Church, and they are 'received' into the Episcopal Church.)

Baptism is not just for babies! If you have not yet been Baptized - this, too, is a joy open to people of all ages. Baptism and Confirmation can happen in the same service.

As the Book of Common Prayer says: "In the course of their Christian development, those baptized at an early age are expected, when they are ready and have been duly prepared, to make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism and to receive the laying on of hands by the bishop."

Being ready comes at different times – and in widely varying ways - for each of us. Please reply to [Rev. Andrea](#) if you would like learn more about Confirmation. We invite you to a process of inquiry and discernment. God is searching for you.

Once we gather names, we will announce a schedule of conversations and gatherings as we prepare for this joyous day.

Eastertide Blessings,
Rev. Andrea

Today at Trinity

Presider:	The Rev. Andrea Castner Wyatt
Crucifer:	Tristan Filiato
Lectors:	Ashley Erickson, David Ericson
Intercessor:	Ellen Melville
Minister of Communion:	Laura Main, Tom Swetts
Ushers:	Joe Bojnowski, Martha Dayton
Trinity Driving:	Ron Dukenski
Tech Guild:	Marcia DeBrock, Cherie Swetts
Trinity Café:	Patrick DeBrock
Altar Guild:	Judy LaCroix, George Rockwell
Organist:	Eric Knapp
Nursery Assistant:	Abby Lye
The Little Pantry:	Laurie Trotto, Amy Dent

STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

Presiding Bishop:	The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry
Bishops of Connecticut:	The Rt. Rev. Jeff W. Mello, Bishop Diocesan The Rt. Rev. Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan
Rector:	The Rev. Andrea Castner Wyatt
Music Minister:	Jennifer Sisco
Children's Ministry Coordinator	Frances Chamberlain
Communications & Membership Director:	Kim Merrill
Bookkeeper:	Paige Fischer
Sexton:	Jack Qubick
Wardens:	Bob Gardner, Christina Lye
Clerk:	Tom Swetts
Treasurer:	Noel Bellesheim
Vestry:	Nancy Cole, Patrick Corrigan, Bennett Leake, Lisa Mages, Jessica O'Meara, Karen Wojtowicz
Delegates to the ECCT Convention	Bennett & Kara Leake

For those celebrating a birthday this week:

Ben Grummons, Hugo Galletta, Cathy Filiato

For those celebrating an anniversary this week:

John & Ellen Melville, Joe & Jane Bojnowski