

Today's bulletin cover is sponsored by
Nancy Waxl and family in memory of
Hermann, husband, father and grandfather.

"Close to our hearts, he will always stay"

"Your task? To build a better world" God said.
I answered "How? This world is such a large vast place,
so complicated now there's nothing I can do!"
But God in all his wisdom said: "Just build a better You"

"DENK AN MICH"

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The heart in the heart of Huntsville

WELCOME

We're glad
you're here!



*Loving hearts.
Open minds.
Serving hands.*

Welcome to Trinity

Sunday August 18th, 2024

10 am

“Loving Hearts ... Open Minds ... Serving Hands.”

“As followers of Jesus we are called to community and called to serve one another with the bread of life.”

WE GATHER AS GOD’S PEOPLE

Prelude: *Lynda Arnold*

Introit: *“Find a Home Here”*

**Find a home here, live out faith here,
gather strength here, find family here.
Be yourself here, feel secure here,
celebrate here, be at home here. (repeat)**

Greeting

One: Jesus said: “I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly”.

All: In our lives, may this be so. Amen.

Welcome in Friendship! Welcome in Faith!
Welcome in God’s all-inclusive and abundant love!

Whoever you are and wherever you are on faith’s journey, you are welcome here. We’re glad you’re with us. We trust this service will be a blessing to you and that you will be a blessing to others this coming week.

Announcements

Joys, Concerns and God Moments

A Moment of Mediation

Call to Worship

One: Come, rest your spirits in this sacred space.

All: It’s good to be here. We come hungering for a word of hope and encouragement. We come to be grounded in God’s love.

One: Let the demands of your week melt away in Spirit’s presence.

All: Our souls are panting for God’s refreshing and enlivening love.

One: God is here among us. Let us celebrate God’s presence together.

Opening Hymn: *“As the Deer Pants for the Water”*
(VU Psalm 42, page 766)

Lighting of the Christ Candle

One: We light this candle as a symbol of Jesus’ presence with us. We are called to shine the light of Jesus into the world to help make this world a gentler and brighter place for our whole human family.

Opening Prayer

Guide of weary pilgrims, assure us of your presence while we search aimlessly in the often foggy land of uncertainty. Be the source of our courage and the fountain of our faith when we teeter toward despair. You, oh God, offer us the living bread that never goes stale. Feed us with this bread. Shine truth onto our life’s path and bless us with direction and wisdom. We rest our pain in your love. Amen.

Second Hymn: *“We Are Pilgrims” (VU 595)*

Summer Music: *“Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place”*
(Lynn Montgomery)

WE LISTEN FOR OUR GOD’S WORD

Our Scripture Reader today is Esther Murphy.

Prayer of Illumination

Reader: God of Grace may your word abide deep within our souls. When we are renewed with your word, there is a new courage in us to serve and to be a light bearer in our world. Amen.

New Testament Reading: *John 6: 1-14*

(Jesus feeds the multitudes with the tiniest of lunches. What is the miracle here?)

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to our hearts.

All: Amen.

The Minister’s Morning Message: *“All our little bits”*

Musical Reflection

OUR OFFERING

Invitation for Offering

One: Generous and Compassionate One, may the hungry be well fed. And may the well-fed hunger for abundance and justice for our entire human family. May we help to bring heaven right here on earth.

Our morning tithes and offerings will now be received.

Offering Hymn

**God of love, hear our prayer,
bless this offering we bring you.
May our lives do your will, guide and guard us forever.
Give us the courage to stand for truth,
help us care for others.
God of love, hear our prayer,
bless this offering we bring you.**

Offering Prayer

Holy and loving God, you have blessed us with abundance. We choose to share our blessings as part of our caring for your world. As Jesus gathered up the baskets of leftover food gather our efforts so we too can help feed the hunger and despair in our hurting world. Amen.

Hymn: *“Lord Listen to Your Children Praying” (VU 400)*

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father
who art in heaven.
Hallowed be thy name
Thy kingdom come 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
and deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: *“Oh When We All Begin to Care”*
(tune of *“When the Saints come Marching in”*)

Oh, when we all begin to care,
Oh, when we all begin to care,
Oh, it will be so warm and friendly
When we all begin to care.

Chorus

We need God’s love; we need God’s care.
Oh, how we need God’s love and care
to help us build a better world
and to live in harmony.

Oh, when we all begin to share,
Oh, when we all begin to share,
Oh, it will bring such understanding,
When we all begin to share.

Chorus

We need God’s love; we need God’s care.
Oh, how we need God’s love and care
to help us build a better world
and to live in harmony.

The Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face
And the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold us all in the palm of God’s hand.
Amen.

Sung Blessing: *“Pass it on”*

**It only takes a spark to get a fire going and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing:
That’s how it is with God’s love, once you’ve experienced it; you spread God’s love to everyone you want to pass it on.**

Musical Postlude: *Lynda Arnold*



Join us in Trinity Hall following today’s service for a glass of lemonade and fellowship time.

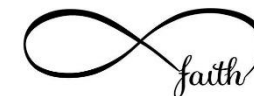
Your hosts today: Lynne Doyle & Jim Schiedel and Nina Semper-Ross and Len Ross.



Quote for the Week ahead

“Do your little bit of good where you are, it’s the little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”

- Archbishop Desmond Tutu



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER STUFF!

The Outreach Team is asking you to help the local food banks. On the last Sunday of each month, we will be collecting food for the Salvation Army and the Table Soup Bank.

➤ **August is Soup!**



Trinity Kindness Rock Garden.

Just a reminder to bring your rocks on Sunday.

We now have 33 rocks!

Please keep the rocks around fist size.



A FundScrip update!

Our total August FundScrip order was \$19,020 – largest this year so far(!); with Trinity earning \$576.85 cashback for this fund raiser from 41 supporters.

Very special thanks to Fran Mitchell for starting it back in 2016 and to Gord Mitchell for ordering our cards every month since!!

Next order date deadline is Sunday, September 1st!!



Upcoming Fall Book Study starting in September

Have you ever noticed that some people are living vital years past the time most people would call them “productive” ones?

What do they have that you may like to have also?

In Sister Joan Chittister’s book called: **“The Gift of Years - Growing Older Gracefully”**, Chittister writes about life beyond its physical dimension to its spiritual development. In our time together we will discover the mental and spiritual attitudes we bring to the challenges we face as we transition from one decade to another. We must be, in the words of writer Parker Palmer, willing to let go of the life we have planned in order to have the life that is waiting for us.

Would you like to dive more deeply into exploring how each stage of life brings with it its own purpose?

Please join me and our Inspirit Team as we unpack this book starting **Tuesday September 10th from 2-3 pm in the Arnold Room** at Trinity United Church.

This book study will continue weekly until Tuesday October 8th. Please let me or Suzy know if you would like to be part of this book group. It may be a good idea to get a jump on your reading while there are still some summer days to do so. This inspirational and illuminating book encourages us to surmount our fears of getting older and find our meaning and joy in aging well. You can buy this book on Amazon or maybe pick it up at your local bookstore or library. Again, the book is called: **“The Gift of Years - Growing Older Gracefully.”**

Hope you can join us on this spiritual journey of embracing our senior years and all the challenges and gifts they bring to us.

Blessings, Rev. D

