

*“Death is not extinguishing the light –
it’s blowing out the candle
because the dawn has come.”
~Native Spirituality~*

*Remembering my Mom and Dad,
Patricia and Richard Rorke,
whose light we will forever carry in our hearts.
Marc, Diane, Joshua and Rebecca*

Minister: The Rev. Diane Knowles
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Judy White
Director of Music: Kyung-A Lee
Church Administrator: Suzy Simson
Custodian: Judy Hall

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B24-19



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

~ The Heart in the Heart of Huntsville ~

‘Back To Church’ Sunday

September 14th, 2025

10 am

“The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.”

We Gather as the Whole People of God

Prelude: Kyung- A Lee

Introit:

**Come into this space, a place of grace.
Where all are welcome, there's a song in the air.
All are invited to share in God's care
and it's high time to worship our God.
For we are God's people, we open the door.
The seeking and finding, united as one.
We all come together, our spirits to pour,
as the whole people of God.**

Greeting

One: Let our songs, our words and our actions reflect God's healing and all-inclusive love.

All: Love makes room for us all!

Good morning and welcome home!

Welcome in Friendship! Welcome in Faith!

Welcome in God's all-inclusive and relentless love!

Whoever you are and wherever you may be on your spiritual journey, come on in, united in Spirit- as we celebrate God's presence together.

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Announcements

Joys/Concerns/ God Moments?

Wherever we go- God is present also. We are in God and God is in us. God is here. In you. In me. In between.

Rev. Dawn

A Moment of Mediation (you can do this at home during the week too.)

Call to Worship

One: Welcome back! As we begin this new season in the life of our church, may we open our hearts to the movement of God among us.

All: Renewing our faith, deepening our love and strengthening our bonds of community.

One: Companion God, we are here so we can grow into your heart and you into ours. When we are lost seek us out and set us straight again.

All: Renew in us a spirit of belonging and of purpose. Empower us to be a home for those who feel lost and disconnected in their lives.

One: May our faith community be a home not of judgement but of acceptance, grace and love. Come, let us celebrate God's presence together.

Opening Hymn: “Come in, Come in and Sit Down” VU 395

Opening Prayer

Welcoming God, in the ringing of the school bells and the harvesting of our gardens you gather us in. We know at times we feel lost, disconnected and unsure of our way. We confess we wander from your loving path. Yet, you search for us with relentless love. You lift us up when we stumble. —

May this gathering be a place where the lost are welcomed, the broken restored and the weary find rest. Amen.

Our Light Beamers' Song: "Jesus Loves Me" VU 365
(*Light Beamers please come forward with the singing of the last verse.*)

Lighting of the Christ Candle by our Light Beamers

One: This candle welcomes us back into our church family. May its flame remind us church is more than a building- it's the people- it's you and me- we all make up our church family here at Trinity. And Jesus loves us all.

Time with our Light Beamers- Welcome Back!

It's time to hear the stories of Jesus and how his stories teach us a better way to live. We strive to teach our Light Beamers to follow in the footsteps of Jesus- following his movement and mission- of hope, forgiveness and love. During our time with our Light Beamers our goal is to teach them how to be their best selves so they can in return go into the world to help other people. With God's help, may this be so. Rev. Diane

Congregational Blessing

Light Beamers: May the peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you

Choir Anthem: *We'll Be There!* – Don Besig/Nancy Price

We Listen for God's Word

Scripture Reader today is Sue Hicks.

Prayer of Illumination:

God of Grace, may your word of truth abide deep within our souls. May we not only listen to God's Word but also live it

out in our daily lives. True blessing comes when we apply God's Word to our lives.

New Testament Reading: Luke 15: 1-10 (*This parable reminds us that we all, in one way or another, get lost sometimes. It also shows God's relentless love to seek us out and to bring us back home.*)

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

The Minister's Message: "Lost and Found"

Brief Musical Reflection

Hymn: "Come to my Heart" VU 661

Invitation for Offering

One: Generous One, you are the One who searches for the lost, who sweeps the house until every coin is found and who rejoices when a wandering heart comes home. God works through us, through our love and our generosity.
Our morning tithes and offerings will now be received to help the lost and forgotten.

Offering Hymn: "What can I Do?" MV 191

**What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy (I'll sing with joy)
I'll say a prayer; I'll bring my love.
I'll do my share.**

Offering Prayer

All: God of the lost and found, as we bring our offerings today, we ask that you use them to be your hands in the world: to welcome the stranger, to care for those who feel lost, and to restore hope

where it has been forgotten. In the name of Jesus,
the One who finds and restores us, Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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 the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn: "One Body in Christ"

One Body in Christ
Called to share the Good News with the world.
Each of us gifted, made in God's image,
We have a story to tell, a story of love.

We have been baptized in Christ,
The love of our God poured into our hearts.
Called to share the mission of Christ,
The Spirit of God alive in our hearts;

To be a light of welcome
in the darkness of exclusion,
An outstretched hand of love to everyone!

We are one Body in Christ,
Called to share the Good News with the world.
Each of us gifted, made in God's image,
We have a story to tell, a story of love.
A story of love.

To give voice to the voiceless,
The unheard in the wilderness,
An outstretched hand of love to everyone.

We are one Body in Christ,
Called to share the Good News with the world.
Each of us gifted, made in God's image,
We have a story to tell,

We are one Body in Christ,
Called to share the Good News with the world.
Each of us gifted, made in God's image,
We have a story to tell, a story of love.
A story of love.

Benediction

Go with joy, for God has found us and calls us
beloved.
Go with hope, for God seeks all who are lost.
Go with love, to share the welcome of Christ with
everyone you meet.
And may God's joy, Christ's peace, and the Spirit's
guidance be with you always. Amen.

Sung Blessing: "Wherever You May Go" MV 216

Wherever you may go I will follow and your
people shall be my people too.
Wherever you may go, I will follow
for I would be faithful, loyal and true.
From the beginning to the end,
I will always be your friend.
We will travel side by side
and God's love will be our guide.

Postlude: "Carmen Rhapsody" Kim Barlow on clarinet,
Karen Richards on flute, Kyung-A Lee piano
(Please remain seated until postlude is finished.)

Enjoy a '3 minute' **Meet and Greet**
 before our **Hot Dog Lunch today**
 hosted with thanks (!) by the Hospitality Team!
 You are all invited!

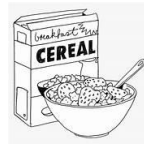
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Spiritual thought for your week
*"Prayer grows us into the fullness of ourselves both
 spiritually and psychologically."*
 Sister Joan Chittister

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER STUFF!

The Outreach Team thanks you for helping to
 collect food for the Corner Lighthouse food bank.
September is...CEREAL!



Worship Team meets Thursday, September 18 at 3:15 in Rev
 D's office.

Welcome Fall Campfire and Smore's!

Trinity's Inspirit Team is inviting you to come and sit around a
 firepit and roast some marshmallows, tell a story or two and
 maybe even break into song! This is a wonderful way to
 reconnect and catch up with one another after our summer
 holidays!

Place? Rev. Diane's home.

Time? 6: 30- 8:00 pm.

Date? Friday, September 26th.



Be sure to dress warmly and if you have an extra chair- that
 would be helpful too. Please register with Suzy at the office
 and carpooling may also be possible.

Autumn Blessings! Rev. D

**Be sure to check out the 'Volunteer with us' on the following
 2 pages! We are hoping you will find something there that
 interests you and you would like to do! Be sure to let the
 office know if you have questions... or to leave your name to
 volunteer!**

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**What are some distractions in your own life that are keeping
 you from living with purpose and intention?**

Come and explore this question as Trinity's Non-Fiction Book
 Club dives in Bob Goff's book called Undistracted. We all get
 off track in our busy lives sometimes. This book will give us a
 few ideas about how to start living a less distracted and more
 joy filled life right now. Goff is down to earth and
 conversational in his writing style making his book accessible
 to everyone. **Join us for our first of four weekly sessions on
 Tuesday, October 14th until Tuesday, November 11th.** We
 look forward to seeing you on October 14th in the Arnold
 Room from 2 pm until 3: 30 pm. Here is an outline of how the
 sessions will unfold:

- Session 1 (Chapters 1-5) - Naming Our Distractions and Finding Focus.
- Session 2 (Chapters 6-10) - Living with Intention and Purpose.
- Session 3 (Chapters 11-15) - Relationships and Being Present.
- Our fourth and final session (Chapters 16-19) - Freedom Joy and living Undistracted!

Suzy will be taking registration at the church office.

*"Bold faith is meant to work in the real world, but it requires
 that you and I first become real in our faith."*

Bob Goff

Welcome Back! Volunteer With Us!

We love our volunteers!

Sunday morning volunteering is a great opportunity to get involved and be part of creating and building community together.

Check out the options below:

Morning Greeters

How wonderful it is to be greeted on Sunday morning with a smiling face! As a Greeter, you have the important ministry of welcoming people to Trinity United Church on Sunday mornings. You bring the welcome and we will set up the orientation sessions to fill in the blanks. Sign me up!

Contact Suzy at the office.

Scripture Readers

An easy way to get involved on Sunday is to join our roster of Scripture Readers. You will be contacted during the week for the upcoming Sunday and asked if you are available to read a specific passage in the service. You can also sign up in advance for specific dates.

We'll send a digital copy of the passage to you to practice during the week. This ministry is open to all ages!

Contact Suzy at the office to sign up.

Coffee Helpers

This ministry of Hospitality is vital to the life and faith of our Trinity community. Sharing a cup of tea and a kind word after the service is a wonderful way to make new friends and reconnect with old ones. We need two volunteers a week to keep the tea and coffee flowing! Can you help?

Contact Barb Dalziel or Suzy at the office.

Communion Servers

We celebrate Holy Communion throughout the seasons of the church year.

Servers hold trays of bread and juice as people partake of the "Bread of life" and the "Cup of blessing." This can be a moving spiritual experience for servers who are offering these gifts. If this is something you may like to do, you can speak with Rev. Diane or contact Suzy at the office.

Light Beamer Volunteers

Our Light Beamer program strives to teach our young people to shine their precious God-given light into the world. As a volunteer, your job is to provide a welcoming and safe space for children to learn more about the spiritual teachings of Jesus. Lessons will be provided by one of our Light Beamer leaders. If you like the idea of growing young hearts- give Jeannette McCullough a call or contact Suzy at the office.

Audio and Visual Assistants

Lights, Camera, Action!

Want to help out our Technology Team on Sunday mornings? Since COVID our online ministry has now become an essential part of our outreach into our community and beyond. The church has left the building! Come and learn how to become part of this important ministry in our church community. Training provided. Contact Alastair Dunlop, MaryAnne Mitchell or Suzy.

Thank you

for considering being a volunteer this year at Trinity United Church. Together, we're better! Come join our growing ministry team here at Trinity United Church!

Autumn blessings,

Rev. Diane