Giving thanks, especially, on this Thanksgiving Sunday
to all of our Trinity Team Leaders
with special thanks to:

Faye McKnight who is stepping down as

Worship Team Leader...

and to Sue Hicks who has stepped 'up' there!

All of our teams welcome new members to help with their part in keeping Trinity 'the heart in the heart of Huntsville'!







The heart in the heart of Huntsville



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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# **Welcome to Trinity**

# The Heart in the Heart of Huntsville Sunday October 12, 2025 – 10 am Together in Thanksgiving

"Loving Hearts ... Open Minds ... Serving Hands"

"Gratitude shifts the focus from what divides us to what we share in common. It invites compassion and generosity."

#### WE GATHER AS THE WHOLE PEOPLE OF GOD

**Prelude:** Kyung-A Lee

**Introit** 

All: 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,

#### Greeting

One: Jesus said, "I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly."

All: In our lives, may this be so.

as the whole people of God.

Welcome in Friendship! Welcome in Faith! Welcome in Gratitude and Thanksgiving!

We gather in community once again to rekindle the bonds and the love of community, to nourish ourselves with music, song and story and to challenge ourselves to become more Christ-like in our attitudes and actions.

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.

#### **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

## Call to Worship

One: Our world is aglow! Mother Nature is flaunting her finest of moments dressed in her glorious autumn gown. So many wonderful sights!

#### All: Creator God, we thank you!

One: The aroma of smoke from a wood fire, pumpkin spice lattes and candles, turkey roasting in the oven. So many delicious smells!

#### All: Creator God, we thank you!

One: This weekend stories are being shared and relationships renewed.

All: We remember with joy and give thanks for our bonds of connection, faith and family.

One: Let us all unite our thankful hearts as we celebrate God's presence together.

## **Opening Thanksgiving Medley**

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" (VU 541)

"Would You Bless Our Homes and Families"
(VU 556 - verse 1)
"For the Fruit of All Creation" (VU 227 - all verses)

# **Opening Prayer**

All: Spirit of Abundance, remind us of the beauty and blessings that are bestowed upon us each and every day, not just on a holiday weekend. Remind us again that the little things are the big things in life. Open our eyes to see, our lips to encourage and our hands to share. May the abundance of this world be distributed fairly, may fear be transformed into love and may the lonely feel welcome. Amen.

Our Light Beamers Song: "The Thank You Song" (tune of Jesus Loves Me)

All: Thank you for this lovely day. (Arms held wide) Thank you for the ways to pray. (Hands together) Thank you for the friends we see. (Wave to friends) Thank you for your love for me.

Yes, God, we thank you. (Hands out, palms up)

Yes, God, we thank you.

Yes, God we thank you.

We thank you every day. (Hands over heart)

# Lighting of the Christ Candle

# Time with our Light Beamers

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

Choir Anthem: "Olde Irish Blessing"

#### WE LISTEN FOR OUR GOD'S WORD

Our Scripture Reader today is Jeannette McCullough.

## **Prayer of Illumination**

Reader: 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 17: 11-19

(In this Thanksgiving season text, Jesus heals ten men who are suffering with the ugly disease of leprosy. But only one of the men came back to say thank you to Jesus. Gratitude is both a response and a practice.)

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

All: Amen.

**The Minister's Message:** "Thanks-Living: Gratitude as an Act of Defiance."

#### **Brief Musical Reflection**

**Hymn:** "Ev'ry Day Is a Day of Thanksgiving" (MV 185)

#### **Invitation for Offering**

One: In our act of sharing and caring for one another love comes alive. As a symbol of gratitude for all the blessings that have been bestowed upon us, our morning tithes and offerings will now be received.

# Offering Hymn: "What Can I Do?" (MV 191)

All: 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 Abundance, we give thanks for the beauty and wonder of this season of change and transition. You take what is ordinary and transform it for love. Bless and transform our gifts for your work of healing in our world. Take us too, ordinary and imperfect and bless us for the same transformation. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

**Hymn:** "Prayer" (sung to the tune of "Rock of Ages Cleft for Me")

All: God of Life and God of Love, Holy Spirit, Blessed Dove, in each moment of my life, in times joyful, times of strife, listen to the words I share, as I come to you in prayer.

# **Prayers of the People**

# The Lord's Prayer

All: 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: "Sing a Happy Hallelujah" (VU 224)
Benediction

One: May the God of the changing seasons wrap you in warmth as the days grow cooler. May you find beauty in each falling leaf, and courage in each moment of letting go. And may your heart rest in the promise that with every ending, God is preparing a new beginning. Amen.

**Sung Blessing:** "Wherever You May Go" (MV 216)

All: 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.

Postlude: Kyung-A Lee

Let us take three minutes to turn and greet one another with signs of Christ's love and blessing as we move into a brand new week.

"Loving Hearts. Open Minds. Helping Hands."

Come in and grow your souls with us!

Come and be part of our growing spiritual community

where love is the main thing!

Trinity United Church- The heart in the heart of Huntsville.







Please join us in Trinity Hall following today's service where you are invited for a cup of tea or coffee and fellowship time.

Your host today is \*\* \*\* \*\*.



# Spiritual thought for your week!

"Gratitude is the lens that helps us see God's grace in ordinary moments."



#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER STUFF!

**The Outreach Team** thanks you for helping to collect food for the Corner Lighthouse food bank.

October is... Toiletries/Personal Hygiene Products!

**Directors and Team Leaders meeting** – Tuesday October 14 at 10:00 am in the Arnold Room.

**Trinity's Non-Fiction Book Club** starts this Tuesday October 14 at 2:00 pm in the Arnold Room.

**UCW** meeting – Wednesday October 15 at 1:30 pm in the Arnold Room.

The Communication & Technology Team is looking for a volunteer to help coordinate business cards on our website. Please see Lynda Arnold or MaryAnne Mitchell for more information. We hope someone will take this on to help support our team. Thank you!

Mission and Service - For everyone who may contribute to Mission & Service directly, please be sure to include: soft credit Trinity UC, Huntsville- MS 5120220 so that your contribution is added on to Trinity's total M&S contribution!! With thanks!

