



# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## Torrington, Connecticut

Fifth Sunday of Easter  
April 28, 2024

### *Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church.*

*Whoever you are and wherever you may be on your spiritual journey, we are glad you have joined us for worship. May you know the presence of the living God who welcomes you here. You are invited to participate in worship by using the **red Book of Common Prayer (BCP)** and **blue Hymnal**, as indicated in this leaflet and you are invited to sit, stand, or kneel as you are able.*

***A note on children:** Jesus welcomed the little children, and so do we! We can abide with a little “joyful noise” at Trinity. If you need to step out for any reason, the Upper Parish Hall (found through a doorway in the front left of the sanctuary, behind the organ console) has restrooms with a changing table, as well as an area with couches and a children’s area. Please make yourselves comfortable and know that you are welcome.*

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

The Rev. Carrie Combs

## The Word of God

*All stand*

**Opening Hymn 379** *God is love: let heaven adore him*

Tune: *Abbot's Leigh*

### **Opening Acclamation**

**Presider:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People:** The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
 peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-  
 might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we  
 praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,  
 on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
 take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;  
 5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-  
 ceive our prayer. 6. For  
 you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
 7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the  
 Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of  
 God the Fa-ther. A - men.

### The Collect of the Day

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

*There is space for silent prayer, after which The Priest concludes with the collect.*

People: **Amen.**

*The people are seated*

## First Reading: Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:24-30 *Prayed in unison*

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: \*

"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, \*

and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; \*

he rules over the nations.

- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him; \*  
they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.

**Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*All stand*

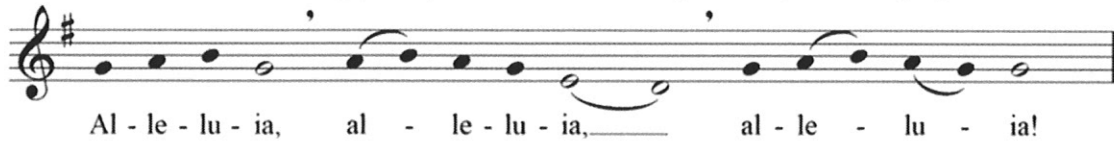
**Hymn 448** *O love, how deep, how broad, how high*

*Tune: Deus tuorum militum*



## Alleluia Verse

*Sung first by the Cantor then repeated by the Congregation*



## The Holy Gospel

John 15:1-8

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

*After the Gospel:*

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

## Sermon

Naomi Cardello

*A period of silence for meditation and reflection follows the Sermon.*

**Affirmation of Faith** *In place of the Nicene Creed, Trinity has received permission from our bishop to use the Renewal of Baptismal Vows as an alternative statement of faith through Eastertide.*

*All stand*

Presider: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: **I do.**

Presider: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Presider: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Presider: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?  
 People: **I will, with God's help.**  
 Presider: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?  
 People: **I will, with God's help.**  
 Presider: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?  
 People: **I will, with God's help.**  
 Presider: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?  
 People: **I will, with God's help.**  
 Presider: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?  
 People: **I will, with God's help.**  
 Presider: Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect and restore the beauty and integrity of all creation?  
 People: **I will, with God's help.**

### The Prayers of the People

*adapted from Intercessions for the Christian People*

People's response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Your own prayers are welcomed at this time, silently or aloud.  
*Space is left for individual prayers.*

Presider We pray for the many milestones in our lives and those who celebrate with us, for celebrations of all kinds. Do we have any birthdays or anniversaries to celebrate this week?

#### A Prayer for Birthdays

**O God, our times are in your hands: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant N. as *she* begins another year. Grant that *she* may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen *her* trust in your goodness all the days of *her* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### A Prayer for Anniversaries

**O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church. Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Presider adds a concluding Collect.*

People: **Amen.**

#### The Peace

Presider: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*You are invited to share a sign of Christ's peace with those around you.*

# The Holy Communion

At the Offertory as the Table is set, we gratefully offer back to God a portion of what God has given us, symbolically, through the bread and wine, anthem sung by the choir, and the money and gifts we give. You are invited to give as you feel called, either by placing your offering in the plate as it is passed around or by going to our website, [www.trinity-torrington.org/donate](http://www.trinity-torrington.org/donate)

## Offertory Anthem:

O blessed spring

Words: Susan Palo Cherwien; Music: Robert Buckley Farlee

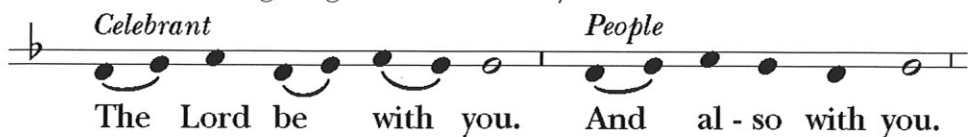
1. O blessed spring, where Word and sign embrace us into Christ the Vine: here Christ enjoins each one to be a branch of this life-giving Tree.
2. Through summer heat of youthful years, uncertain faith, rebellious tears, sustained by Christ's infusing rain, the boughs will shout for joy again.
3. When autumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their heavy harvest hold, then through us, warm, the Christ will move with gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.
4. As winter comes, as winters must, we breathe our last, return to dust; still held in Christ, our souls take wing and trust the promise of the spring.
5. Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree, be praised for this blest mystery: that Word and water thus revive and join us to your Tree of Life.

All stand

## Presentation Hymn: Hymn 380, verse 3

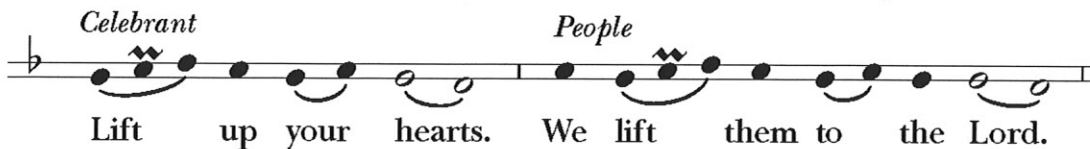
\*3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise  
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

*Celebrant* *People*



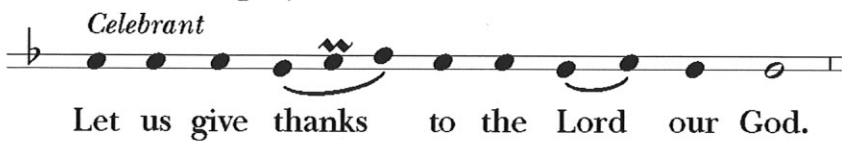
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant* *People*



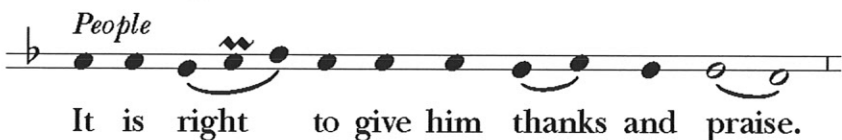
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*



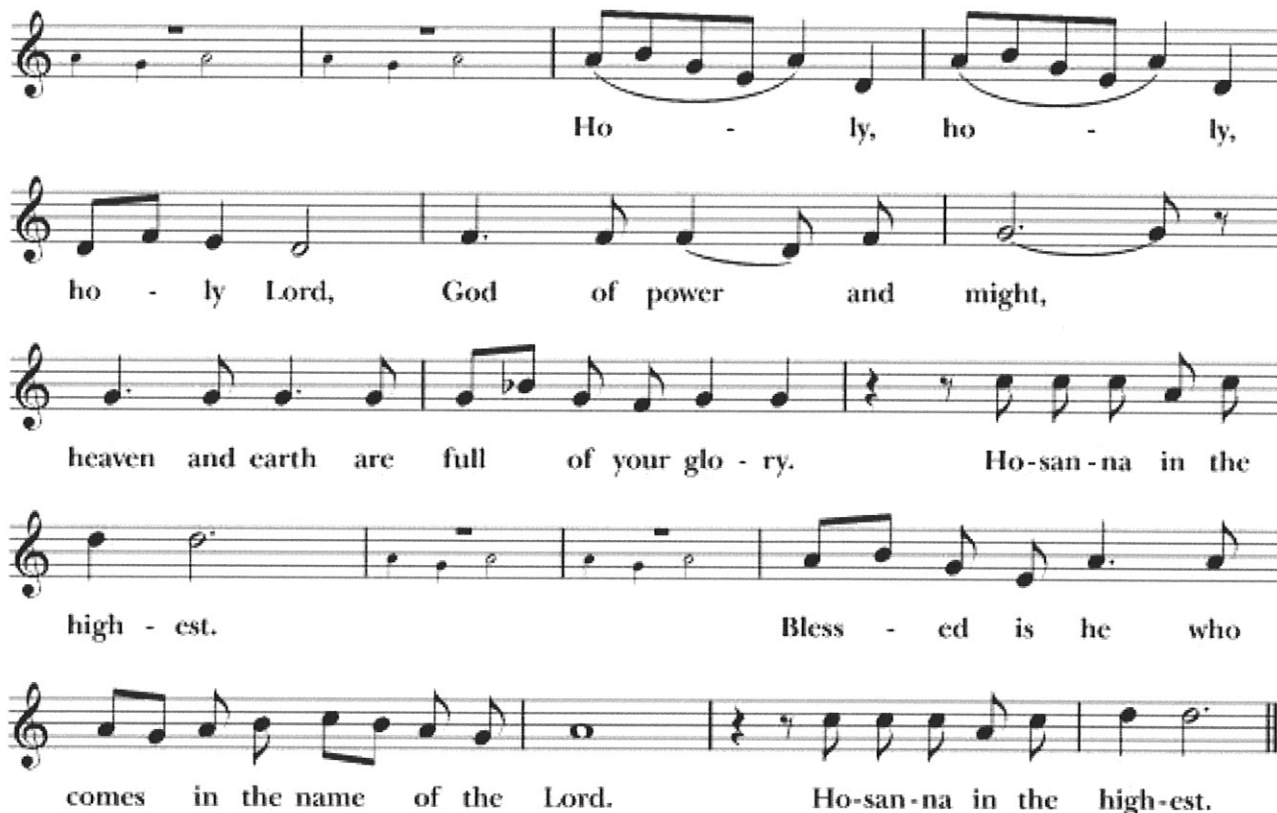
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*The Presider continues*

Presider: It is truly right... and glorify your Name, as we sing:

Sanctus and Benedictus, S-128

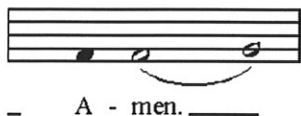
Setting: Wm. Mathias



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,  
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the  
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.



Presider: We acclaim you... we praise you and we bless you.  
 People: We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.  
 Presider: Lord, we pray... for ever and ever.  
 People:



### The Lord's Prayer

Presider: And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:  
 People: Our Father, who are 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 bread is broken and silence is kept. Then, all sing:*

### Fraction Anthem: S-155

Setting: Wm. Mathias

### Communion of the People

*A Note on Communion at Trinity:*

*All are welcome at the Table of the Lord, either for communion or a priestly blessing.*

*An usher will guide you up the center aisle if you choose to come forward.*

*For those who desire communion, you may receive the bread (or gluten free wafer) at the front of the altar.*

We have two chalices: one on the *right for sipping*, and one on the *left for intinction* (dipping).

As always, receiving communion in one kind (bread or wine) is considered valid.

If you prefer to receive a blessing, come to the altar with your arms crossed over your chest, and the priest will be honored to bless you. If you need communion brought to your pew, please speak to an usher.

## Music During Communion

Timothy Wallace

## The Postcommunion Prayer *All stand*

BCP 366

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## Vestry Greeting and Announcements *All seated*

Blessing *All stand.*

Hymn 392 *Come, we that love the Lord*

Tune: *Vineyard Haven*

## Dismissal

*The Presider dismisses the People.*

**People:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

## Choral Benediction: The Irish Blessing

Joyce Eilers

*May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back.*

*May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rains fall soft upon your fields.*

*And until we meet again, and until we meet again.*

*May the God that loves us all hold you in the palm of His hand. Amen. Amen.*

### Assisting in Today's Liturgy

Presider	The Rev. Carrie Combs
Preacher	Naomi Cardello
Acolyte	Caroline Sienkiewicz
Lector	Jessica Magda
Intercessor	Alicia Kirsch
Eucharistic Ministers	Jill Morrison, Becky Carroll
Ushers	Charlie Schapp, Ed Wilmot
Vestry Greeter	Alicia Kirsch
Counters	Charlie Schapp, Ed Wilmot
Altar Guild	Sue Carroll, Becky Carroll, Judy Pfeffer, Eunice Jones



*Do you like to Garden,  
however,  
have no yard or a place in  
your yard to plant a garden???*



*The 2024 planting season is just around the corner!*

*The Torrington Community Garden (one of Trinity's outreach missions) has garden plots available at our University Drive site.*

*Grow your own veggies and flowers and get fresh air exercise in the bargain!*

*For more information call the Church Office or email Ann Bott at [56bott@gmail.com](mailto:56bott@gmail.com) or call her on her cell: 860-485-5022.*



# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## Mission Statement:

“We are an inclusive and accepting downtown community, welcoming all to join us on our journey to seek and share God’s abundant love through worship, the arts, and service in our community.”

## Sunday Worship at 9:00 AM:

Holy Eucharist 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays

Morning Prayer 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays

## Trinity Staff:

The Reverend Carrie Combs, Priest in Charge

Timothy Wallace, Music Director

Ms. Melanie Lay, Administrative Assistant, Bookkeeper

## Vestry:

Alicia Kirsch, Sr. *Warden*, Alison Jeannin, Jr. *Warden*

Robin Turpin, *Treasurer* Lydia Babbitt, *Clerk*

Gary Grant, *Building Warden*

Mark Church, Dr. Roger Coutant, Dana Farr,

Ella Frauenhofer, Lynn Skokan

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[www.trinity-torrington.org](http://www.trinity-torrington.org)