

Trinity United Church

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Minister: Rev. Diane Knowles
Director of Music: Kyung-A Lee
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Trinity United Church

The Heart in the Heart of Huntsville
Sunday, September 25th, 2022 - 10 am
“Back to Church Sunday”

“But what does it profit a person if they gain the whole world but lose their own soul?”

Matthew 16: 26

“Loving Hearts. Open Minds. Helping Hands.”

*... **Bold** is read by everyone...*

We Gather as God’s People

Musical Prelude: Kyung-A Lee

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

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

We gather every week as followers of Jesus to grow our hearts and to aspire to be better humans in order to build a better world for ALL God’s people. We strive to be a Spirit-filled and Spirit-led community extending our love and blessings to all we meet.

Spirit of Life and Love, we pray for anyone who is visiting with us this morning. May they feel comfortable and welcome. Whatever place they are in their life, we trust our time together will lift them up and lighten their hearts.

Welcome!

One: Hungry for meaning?

All: **Welcome Home!**

One: Thirsty for purpose?

All: **Welcome Home!**

One: Yearning for comfort?

All: **Welcome home!**

One: Eager for serving?

All: **Welcome Home!**

Welcome in friendship, faith and God's transforming love!

Introit: "Find a Home Here" (just the refrain)

**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)

This Week's Announcements

Joys and Concerns

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Moment of Meditation

Call to Celebrate God's Presence and Prayer of Approach

One: Welcome back! Summer is over and fall officially arrived this week. We gather this morning to re-start our spiritual engines and to re-ignite our faith traditions.

All: **We are home again, and we are enfolded by love and our faith community.**

One: We come to sing, to pray, to share, to tell our stories and to be inspired.

All: **We come to learn how to become all the person God created us to be, our best selves, thriving and flourishing. We come to hear God speaking to us, empowering us to be an instrument of love and peace in the world.**

One: Some of us come broken and weary, others come jubilant and whole. We all come **together** united as God's people.

All: **We come to celebrate God's presence together!**

Opening Hymn: "One Body in Christ"

Chorus

One body of 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 ev'ryone.**

Chorus

To give voice to the voiceless,

the unheard in the wilderness,

an outstretched hand of love to ev'ryone!

Chorus

a story of love.

Opening Prayer

Welcoming God, we are grateful for our faith community and our time to come back to church and to one another. Inspire our minds and guide our actions. Forgive us for the hurts we may have caused and for the kindnesses we have left undone. Infuse us with your peace and grace to both give and receive forgiveness. Forgive and restore us and empower us to truly and fully live out who Jesus calls us to be. Amen.

Summer Video Presentation

Water Communion Ceremony

One: You are invited now to come forward and to pour your water into this community bowl. It may be water from your summer adventures or the hose in your backyard. This water you are sharing is a way of acknowledging our life's web of interconnection. It also acknowledges the blessings we give and receive from one another. As our water is mixed with others we are coming together as one body of water flowing harmoniously into a new fall season and into new opportunities that await us all.

All: God of all creation, bless this water, bless the bringers of this water. May it be a sign of our coming together, a sign of healing and forgiveness, a sign of new life and fresh starts for this faith community. The time for looking back is past. The time for looking ahead and moving confidently into the future is now. With God's help, may this be so.

Time with our Light beamers

Morning Anthem: "The Holy City"

(Soloists: Sharon Webster – Soprano; Tracy Kilgour – Alto; Parres Allen – Tenor; Alastair Dunlop – Bass)

We Listen for God's Word

Reader: Sue Hicks

Prayer of Illumination

One: Our God still speaks to us today through other people and through biblical stories inviting us into wholeness, renewal and new life. May God's word speak to our hearts today.

New Testament Reading: Colossians 3: 8-11

(Set your mind on Christ and allow your thoughts to be renewed.)

Second New Testament Reading: Philippians 4: 4-9

(Fill your mind with positive thoughts. Don't focus on what is negative and life diminishing.)

Minister's Message: Today we are continuing with our new fall series called: *"It's Reno Time - time for a Spiritual Makeover!"*

Hope you can join us as we grow our hearts and strive to become the best version of ourselves and live into our fullest potential. In turn, making this world a better place for all God's people.

Today's message: *"Change your thoughts - change your life"*

Brief musical reflection

Offering Invitation

Our offering is both support for our own church ministries and a symbol of our response to God's generosity and blessings in our own lives. If you are enjoying these services beaming into the comfort of your home, please remember us in your prayers and donations so we can continue with this vital outreach ministry. Remember we are blessed to *be* a blessing!
Our morning tithes are offerings will now be received.

(As Covid continues to recede we are reintroducing the Sunday ritual of passing around the collection plate. If you give by PAR or e-Transfer simply pass the plate to your neighbour with an offering of a morning smile.)

Offering Hymn (tune of Edelweiss)

**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

**Spirit of Life, place your hand upon these gifts so they may bring renewal and healing to those people and places that need it most. May these monetary gifts and the gifts of our time and our talent that don't end up in the plate, be signs of your compassion 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,
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: "Would You Bless Our Homes and Families"
(VU 556)

Commissioning

In the Spirit of love we have gathered now in the Spirit of love let us depart

Irish Benediction

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: “We Are One” (VU 402 - *last verse only*)

**We are one as we hear, as we hear, heart and hand
unite,
In the word we receive there’s a sense that God is light.
We are one as we leave, as we love we are loved,
And we seek justice in God’s ways
as we move together from this place.**

Musical Postlude: Kyung-A Lee



Something to think about this coming week...

*What lies behind us and what lies before us
are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.*

Ralph Waldo Emerson



Tree of Hope

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57033>

(Use this link to refer back to this image.)

Announcements and other 'Stuff'!

Today we will be hosting a “**What’s Happening?**” event in Trinity Hall and providing a hot-dog lunch.

Browse the tables set-up by Trinity’s Teams, showing what we have to offer people here at Trinity this fall. Sign-up sheets for upcoming events will be available too. You may see a group that your own spiritual gifts will be suited for.

Don't ask what the church can do for you instead ask what can YOU do for the church?

What’s Cooking?



Starting Saturday, October 1st for four Saturday mornings from 10:00 am to noon in Trinity’s kitchen.

Come and see some delicious basic cooking and baking demonstrations by our own in-house chefs and take home the recipe and tips. \$5 per person per

Saturday. Give Gord Mitchell (705-571-4096) a call for more details. The line-up for October is:

- 1st Sally McClelland – Pecan Pie / Doug Hicks – Key Lime Pie
- 8th Keira Brisebois and Grampa – it’s a surprise!
- 15th Sonny Allinson – Stew
- 22nd Nancy Waxl – Bread making

The **Outreach Team** will meet at 1:00 pm on Monday, September 26th in the Milligan Room.

“**Raise A Hallelujah!**” This evening at 7:00 pm an Ecumenical Hymn Service, with *Trinity’s choir participating*, will be held at St. Mary’s Church. Admission is a non-perishable food item that will be donated to The Table. Please see Maurice McGill for tickets.



Trinity’s Holy Strollers

The Trinity Holy Strollers are back and are looking forward to some Fall Hikes.

Thursday, September 29th – Marion Nichols will lead an adventurous group into the heart of Algonquin Park. We’ll circle Peck Lake, an approximately two hour trail of MEDIUM difficulty, then visit the Art Museum, on our way back to town by 5:00 pm. Meet 12 noon at the NW corner of the Walmart parking lot, to Carpool (with Masks). Bring good walking/hiking shoes, hat, wear layers, rain gear(?), snack, water -- and a sense of adventure! The Fall colours should be at their peak! RSVP to Marion by Tuesday September 27th at 705-788-2993. We’ll need Park passes.

Wednesday October 5th – Jane and Gord Booker will lead a hike at Arrowhead Provincial Park leaving at 1:00 pm.

We will meet and end at the new Visitors Centre. Please let us know if you plan to attend, if you have a park pass and if you have additional room in your vehicle. A list of drivers with available spots will be generated and sent out by Gord Booker so those wishing to join us who do Not have a park pass, can contact someone on the list with seating room. Once we all gather at the Visitors Centre, we will make a decision on how to conduct the hike, based on your physical abilities. Make sure you wear appropriate footwear, bring along some walking poles if desired, and pack some water and snacks. There will be a fellowship time at the conclusion of the hike.

“Of all the paths you take in Life ... Make sure a few of them are Dirt”!!

Welcome one and All. Hope to see you this Fall.

Any questions, contact Jane or Gord at 705-787-1708.

