

Trinity Church :
January 9 , 2022
First Sunday after the Epiphany

WELCOME AND LITURGY OF GATHERING

Leader: Reading of [Psalm 29](#). This is the word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Trinity is fostering a haven of belonging where wanderers and wonderers gather to discover and embody the love of Jesus in the world.

COMMUNAL WORSHIP

Father Let Your Kingdom Come

The Doxology

COMMUNITY CONFESSION & BLESSING

Leader: We find it so easy to walk down the familiar roads of foolishness, turning our backs on those God would have us love, and ignoring the map God gives us. As we speak of our choices, let us open our hearts to the One who offers us the hope and grace we seek, even if we don't realize it.

ALL: If we turned toward the Light you offer, Creator of stars, we would find the road you want us to travel. But we are more comfortable on those shadowed streets of seduction we know all too well. We can drive down the roads of rebellion with our eyes closed. We continue to play hopscotch with hate and fear on the sidewalks placed along the paths of prejudice. Have mercy on us, Shaper of universes as well as our lives.

Leader: How foolish we are to continue to take the easy paths, rather than that road of justice, that road of hope, that road of forgiveness that are less traveled in these days. May we be like those wise ones of so long ago, who found grace, salvation, and you by following that different road of faith which lead them to that Child called Jesus, who would guide them and the rest of us, from that moment on. Amen.

Silence is kept

Leader: Open your eyes! The Light has come to all of us, to each of us. The Light of justice, the Light of love, the Light of life.

ALL: This Light is not just for us, so we will carry it to everyone we meet, as we travel down the different road of faith in our lives.

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen!

Adults: The Lord be with you!

Children and Kids Ministry Leader: And also with you!

During this time we greet one another, recognizing that we are all a part of the body, as PreK-5th grade children are led to their ministry space. Younger children and youth remain, and are welcome, in the Gathering. Materials for toddlers are available and we understand that their presence means they will be heard, no need to worry about their vocal contributions.

SERMON NOTES

Following Jesus Under Colonizer Rule

Keeping Traditions: [Luke 2.21-52](#)

**For discussion prompts visit the series page here.*

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S TABLE LITURGY

Leader: In threshold places, where endings meet beginnings, we listen backwards as we move forward.

What can we learn from the year past –
from how evil played its cards,
or from relationships gained and lost?

ALL: We look back and lament the evil of the insurrection at our nation's capitol one year ago this week. We grieve the ways in which white supremacy and Christian nationalism have harmed us all. We lament the fractures in relationships throughout the land.

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord, who is our refuge and stronghold. For the health and well-being of our nation and world, that all who are fearful and anxious may be at peace and free from worry: Lord, hear us,

ALL: Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader: What brought you deep delight, when everything was swirling?

To whom were you able to turn to and who challenged you to grow?

Individually and collectively,
none of us are the same.

For some of these changes we weep and for others we rejoice

but from each we carry something forward

– a feeling, a lesson, a memory, a challenge, a call to solidarity...

ALL: Collectively, we acknowledge a closing and an opening;

A fresh start that offers only as much meaning as we need from it.

Inviting us not to wage war on ourselves,

but just to pause,

pay attention to our longings and our pain,

and what we might learn from them about how we wish to live.

Leader: For those who live with deep longings and with constant pain: Lord, hear us,

ALL: Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader: Lord, we hear you speak:

A new year does not need to mean “a new you.”

You do not need to make demands of yourself

grounded in messages that are only meant

to make you feel inadequate or unlovable.

Your worth is ineffable,

that is a constant that carries from year to year.

ALL: We move gently with ourselves into 2022,

speaking instead words of possibility,

committing to that which calls us,

letting ourselves be lured by the Sacred

in the direction of our most powerful becoming.

Leader: For our homes and families, our school communities and young people, and all who need to hear new words of possibility in this new year: Lord, hear us,

ALL: Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader: Make only resolutions that will lead to more flourishing of life, yours and others.

Reject individualistic notions of success (or “failure”)

and channel your growing

in the directions

ALL: of what we can create

of what we can divest from

of what we can abolish

of what we must claim

of what we must fight

of what we can become.

Leader: For a blessing on our local community, that our neighborhoods may be places of trust and friendship, where all are known and cared for in the process of becoming. Lord, hear us,

ALL: Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader: God of new beginnings, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, as we Gather with you and around the table this day.

ALL: We tell the story that God invites each of us into: Christ came to dwell among us; Christ lived to show us the way; Christ died to set us free from sin; Christ was raised to break the power of death and will come again to bring us the wholeness for which we long.

Leader: Where two or more of us are gathered, O Lord, there you have promised to be.

ALL: And here we are.

RESPONSE & OFFERING OF WORSHIP

The [Offering Basket](#)

Prayer requests may be posted in the Zoom chat (Zoom participants) or written and placed in offering basket.

COMMUNAL WORSHIP REFLECTION

Refugee King

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ordination and Celebration: Stay after the Gathering on Sunday the 16th for a time of celebration of Britney Yount's ordination and installation as co-pastor.

Our upcoming sermon series, *Following Jesus Under Colonizer Rule & Creator's Good Road*, that will take us through Easter is now [posted online](#). In conjunction with the sermon series, **seasonal small groups around *Subversive Witness* by Dominique Dubois Gilliard are coming!** (Stay tuned for more details.) If you're interested in joining, pick up (or download) the book and begin reading/listening.

Community Conversation. We plan to hold the next community conversation on January 23rd after the Gathering. We'll continue the discussion around the question, "what does our church family feel would be 'renewing' as we pursue sabbatical funds?" as we apply for the Lily Endowment Clergy Renewal Grant.

The Leadership Team has approved the 2022 budget. You will notice a few changes in the budget compared to last year. If you have questions about the 2022 budget and any changes, you may contact any member of the Leadership Team or go straight to the Treasurer - Jay Howard (jay@indytrinity.org). If you have questions about accounting, please contact Matthew Pierce (finance@indytrinity.org) who handles the finances. "Community Equity Funds" at a total of \$6000 for the year are now designated for what *we as a congregation* want to fund in the community that invests in equity building, reparations (as some might call it), etc. **Before these funds are dispersed, we will hold a family meeting (probably the 6th of February; stay tuned for details about that) to begin conversations about how these funds will be invested in work that is already happening in the greater community.**

Proposed Bylaw Revisions. You should have received an email outlining proposed bylaw changes for final review and adoption by the Leadership Team (on January 11th). The revisions to the Trinity Bylaws reflect the establishment of a Financial Subcommittee that will serve to advise the Leadership Team on matters related to Trinity's finances. More broadly, revisions are proposed to clarify procedures by which various Subcommittees may be established as the need arises. These changes are aimed at providing greater flexibility to form (and, as appropriate, disband) Subcommittees for various purposes without needing to formally revise the bylaws *every* time the need for a Subcommittee arises. You are encouraged to review these proposed changes before January 11th. Questions, comments, and feedback may be sent to Steve Edinger (steve@indytrinity.org) and will be taken into consideration before final revisions are adopted.

THE BENEDICTION

Leader: Now, go out into the world as God's people!

ALL: We will not be afraid to trust in God's future.

Leader: Now, go out as followers of Jesus!

ALL: We will not falter in bringing justice and hope to all.

Leader: Now, go out as those gifted by the Spirit!

ALL: We will not fear, but will journey into the days ahead.

(Some liturgies adapted from lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com and enfleshed.com)

COMMUNAL CONNECTION

Remain on the Zoom or Gathering space for general connection and prayer.

Land Acknowledgement. We acknowledge that the land on which we gather for worship was stolen from the Myaamiaki people of the sovereign Miami Nation, who were driven out of the area and of their native lands by genocide, force (through broken treaties and laws imposed upon their nation), and systematic dispossession. (ref: [Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery, Trinity Church](#))

Gathering Hosting Schedule. As an act of service and care, please join staff, leaders, and others from your parish in hosting Sunday Gatherings. These are great times to connect and welcome others to converse while serving as well. Arrival at 9:45am is great, 9:30am is super helpful for assisting with audio equipment and/or indoor set up. Cleaning up on the back end should only take 10-15 minutes. The hosting checklist is in the Trinity office. Thank you!

January

2nd (Brunch, but no audio equipment): Midtown/Downtown

9th: Broad Ripple

16th: Fishers

23rd: North/Carmel

30th: Midtown/Downtown

February

6th: Broad Ripple

13th: Fishers

20th: North/Carmel

27th: Midtown/Downtown