

# Trinity Episcopal Church

Staunton, Virginia

*Founded in 1746*



THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

8:00 AM

WHEREVER YOU ARE IN YOUR FAITH JOURNEY,  
YOU ARE WELCOME AT TRINITY CHURCH!

### **PRAYERS AND CANDLE LIGHTING**

Lighting candles is as potent a symbol of offering one's prayer to God as candlelight reminds us of God's abiding presence. During Holy Communion, all may light a votive in our Baptismal Chapel, to the left of the altar. You may write prayer requests on a provided card and leave them in the prayer bowl on that chapel's altar. Throughout the week parishioners, especially the Daughters of the King, will join you in that prayer. Anytime our church is unlocked (generally Monday-Thursday 10 am-2 pm and Sunday morning), votives and prayer cards await in the chapel.

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER P. 323

## GENEROSITY MOMENT

Bibb Frazier

*The People stand.*

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

## THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

## THE GLORIA

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.  
**And with thy spirit.**  
Let us pray.

**O** GOD, who declarest thy almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Mercifully grant unto us such a measure of thy grace, that we, running to obtain thy promises, may be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

*The People are seated for the Lessons.*

## THE WORD OF GOD

## THE FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

**T**he word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**THE PSALM** *Spoken by all*

Psalm 25:1-8

**T**O you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

3 Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
and teach me your paths.

4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.

5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.

6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.

**I**F then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death--  
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The People stand.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

**W**HEN Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

*The people are seated.*

THE SERMON

The Rev. Cara Ellen Modisett

*The people stand.*

THE NICENE CREED

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## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The Leader and People pray responsively.*

At the turning of the seasons, we pray to you, O Lord.

We pray for your church, that it may be grounded in love and guided by mercy. We pray for our Archbishop Sarah, our Presiding Bishop Sean, our bishop Karin, for all deacons, priests, and bishops, for Trinity Church, for the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion.

Let Christ's life inspire us everywhere  
**to be a presence of peace and healing.**

We pray for this country, and every nation on earth, for the work of political leaders everywhere, that they might govern not for power and profit, but for the good of all. We pray for the afraid and the oppressed, for all places where there is conflict and injustice. We pray for peace in our country and around the world, especially in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Russia, Iran, Sudan, Haiti and Congo.

Breathe your healing spirit across all borders,  
**that people be reconciled to one another in peace.**

We pray for our neighbors, for those we know and those we do not, for those who do not have safe shelter, enough food or health care; for those in prisons and institutions, those who are lonely and isolated, those who are struggling.

Help us see Christ in those around us,  
**and help build a community where all have enough.**

We pray for your earth, the mountains and seas you have called into being, this garden where we walk and see you in every living thing.

Guide us to better care for this, our shared island home,  
**knowing that creation is a gift from you.**

We pray for those who suffer in mind, body or spirit, especially **Ash Adams, Richard Adams, Paul Allen, Carie Buckley, Bob & Linda, Victoria Charbonneau, David, Debbie, Sugie Battin, Carol & Martin Brown, Ted Cathey, Dave, Chris Dolan, Elena, Becky Hartsock, Hedley, Kenny Humphries, Mary Sue Kivlighan, Dan Klem, Kristin, Mary, Cathy Marzec, Randy McElroy, Catherine Morrison, Jeff Mueller, Mira Mueller, Kayla Mullins, Nathan, Noah, Richard Obenschain, Pam, Mike Quayle, Rick Seyforde, Betty Redden, Russ Roberts, Elizabeth Shuey, Joanie Siegel, Pam Snyder, Stephanie, Forest Thompson, Timothy, Coy Tinnel, Susan Towe, John Wheary and the Community of Westwood Elementary.** We pray for those serving in the armed forces, including **Lt. Col. James Quillen, Lt. Pia Mackie, Master Sergeant James Wood, Airman Declan Dowe, Sergeant Jacob Alexander Maltos and Members of the 116th Mobile Brigade Combat Team.**

Give them strength and grace, rest and inspiration,  
**and show us where we can be present for one another.**

We pray for those who celebrate birthdays this week, and give thanks for their lives, their hearts and the gifts they bring to the world, including **Harry Baldwin, Shannon Riley, Gabrielle DuVal, Donnella McGreer-Minez, Grace Rice, Jimmy Yeu, John Becker, Talha Akhtar, and Elizabeth Lane.**  
Be with them in the new year to come,  
**and let them know the constancy of your grace.**

We pray for those who have died and for those who love and mourn for them, including **Lindsey Baccino, Kema Barclay, James Bednarczyk, Nancy Funk Crowther, Dale Hughes, Jackie Johnson, Bert Small, Charlie Trueheart, Robin Wood, Desmond C. and Catharine R. Wray, Rhodes E. Wray, William A. Wray, and Desmond C. Wray, Jr. and Frances S. Wray.**  
May they be at rest with you and the saints,  
**and give comfort to those who remember them.**

**COLLECT FOR STEWARDSHIP** *Said in unison*

**C**REATOR God, you made the earth and everything in it and all good things come from you. Open our eyes to see our earthly resources as instruments for serving you and our neighbor. Open our hearts that we may live with the generosity of your son, Jesus Christ, whose sacrifice on the cross reconciled us to you for eternity, all for the glory of your name.

**CONFESSION OF SIN**

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**THE PEACE**

*The People greet one another in the name of the Lord and then are seated.*

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**OFFERTORY**

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty.  
**For everything in heaven and on earth is yours.**  
Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom,  
**and you are exalted as head over all.**

*The people remained seated while the people's monetary gifts are received. During the offertory, we respond to all that God has given us by offering our gifts to sustain God's work in the world. If you wish to make your offering electronically, please scan the QR code.*



## THE PRESENTATION

All things come of Thee, O Lord.  
**And of Thine own have we given Thee.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II

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## THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP p. 336

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

## MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*You are welcome at the Lord's table! Baptized Christians are invited to receive the Eucharist. Ushers will guide you to the altar rail, where you can either stand or kneel. Both bread (including gluten free, just ask) and wine are offered. When it comes to the wine, you can choose to "sip, dip, or skip." If you choose to "dip," please hold the wafer up so that the chalice bearer knows your intention. If you are not receiving, please come forward for a blessing (indicated by crossing your arms over your chest).*

*If you are unable to come forward, please let the usher know and we will happily come to you. If you have not been baptized and find yourself drawn to life in Christ, please let our clergy know. We love questions and baptisms!*

## SENDING FORTH OF THE EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

We send you out to share Communion this day.

**May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ's presence.**

May those who receive it from you be strengthened and encouraged in that community  
we have together in our Lord Jesus Christ.

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER *Said by all, standing*

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## THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*After the dismissal, the people respond—*

**Thanks be to God.**

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of

**DESMOND C. & CATHARINE R. WRAY**

**RHODES E. WRAY**

**WILLIAM A. WRAY**

**DESMOND C. WRAY, JR. & FRANCES S. WRAY**

Our continued prayers are offered for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially Austin, Cowles Andrus III, Ava, Boger Family, Padi Burtner, Christopher Byrd Charlotte, Gloria Cline, Charlotte Dickson, Natalie Dodge, Emily, Ken Farley, Barbara Firehock, Lois Fisher, Sean Flanders, Barbara Golden, John Goodloe, William Haupt, Ernest Holley, Kean Ivey, Alice Karny, Katalina, Kate, Kevin, Ellie Knape, Leslie Long, Marcus, Matthew, Maxine McKinney, Cheryl Owens, Patricia, Anita Pence, Cynthia Polhill, Katherine Shavers, Kim Shelton, and Christopher Whittington.

## SERVING IN TODAY'S LITURGY

Preacher and Celebrant: The Rev. Cara Ellen Modisett

Lector: Sally Mueller

Eucharistic Minister: Will Smoot

Altar Guild: Lee Beam

Usher: Roland Carlton, Jr.

## CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rt. Rev. Karin MacPhail, *Bishop*

The Rev. William AJ Heine, *Rector*

The Rev. Cara Ellen Modisett, *Associate Rector*

Virginia Bolena, *Organist and Director of Music*

Katie Faulkner, *Community Life Coordinator*

Ana Duncan, *Parish Administrator*

Autumn Nolen, *Communications Coordinator*

Jeff Selkirk, *Maintenance Manager*

Soren Hadfield, *Sunday Attendant*



## VESTRY

Paul Bugas, *Senior Warden* • Mary Faulkner, *Junior Warden* • Molly Brown, *Treasurer*

Lee Beam, *Assistant Treasurer* • Phillippa Holley, *Clerk*

Paul Bugas • Mary Faulkner • Fred Odell • Jean-Paul Shibut  
Lindlee Baker • Rick Chittum • James Dungan • Kristin Reichert  
Kathy Frazier • Zeb Riley • Donald Romanik • Karen Tate

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**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Post Office Box 208 • 214 West Beverley Street

Staunton, Virginia

[www.trinitystaunton.org](http://www.trinitystaunton.org) • (540) 886-9132