The Church of the Holy Trinity

Loving Justice In The Heart Of The City since 1847

≈ 10 Trinity Square Toronto Ontario M5G1B1
☎ (416) 598-4521 - www.holytrinity.to
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Darkness & Light

Striving to live fully in all the pieces and places we are





We are delighted to have you with us this morning.

Holy Trinity is an accessible, active, vibrant, justice-seeking, queer-positive community in the heart of downtown Toronto.

Assisting hearing devices are available. Please ask a Greeter or the Caretaker.

A special welcome, Newcomers!

Please make yourself at home in this church.

The Church of the Holy Trinity is a community of people who express Christian faith through lives of integrity, justice and compassion. We foster lay leadership, include the doubter and marginalized, and challenge oppression wherever it may be found. *Mission Statement, 2010*

Today's Worship Team

Coordinator: Celebrant: Musicians: Keith Nunn Sherman Hesselgrave Fallen Angles, with special guest Steve McNie

A large-print version of this bulletin is available. Ask a greeter if you would like one.

The Gathering of the Community

- Welcome and Territorial Acknowledgement
- Musical Meditation

Silence and candle lighting

• Opening Hymn:

Our Darkness - Taize

Death's Dark Stream - Grievous Angels

See last page

Silence and candle lighting

• Gathering prayer

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

- a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
- a time to break down, and a time to build up;
- a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
- a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

Let us honour what we have and where we are.

Let us walk, in darkness and in light, with strength and hope in each other. Amen.

Silence and candle lighting

• Absolution and the Assurance of Pardon

One Too often we have been careless with the gifts entrusted to us. We have used up or spoiled what belongs to future generations and to other creatures of the earth.

We have shown too little compassion for those around us.

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray. *A short silence is kept*

- One God in your mercy:
- All Hear our prayer.
- One We are a forgiven people: God's spirit is free amongst us.
- All Thanks be to God.

• The Exchange of Peace

It is our custom to move about to exchange the peace.

- One Peace be with you all.
- All And also with you.

• The Announcements and Prayer after Announcements

Members of the community share news. Then the community prays:

All Grant, O God, that in these activities and events we may do your will with strength, wisdom and compassion, for the good of your reign of justice and peace. Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

• The Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:12-23

ReaderMay God be with you.AllAnd also with you.ReaderThe Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Matthew.AllGlory to Christ our Saviour.

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles - the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea - for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Silence and candle lighting

• Responsive Hymn:

By Night - Taize

Silence and candle lighting

Second Reading

Blessed Are You - Jan Richardson

Blessed are you

- who bear the light in unbearable times, who testify to its endurance amid the unendurable, who bear witness to its persistence when everything seems in shadow and grief.
- Blessed are you in whom the light lives, in whom the brightness blazes your heart a chapel, an altar where in the deepest night can be seen the fire that shines forth in you

in unaccountable faith, in stubborn hope, in love that illumines every broken thing it finds.

© Jan Richardson from Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons. Janrichardson.co

Silence and candle lighting

• Responsive Hymn

Dance in the darkness, slow be the pace. Surrender to the rhythm of redeeming grace. x2

1. Although you go forth weeping, carrying your seeds to be sown, you shall come back rejoicing, carrying your sheaves full grown.

Silence and candle lighting

Third Reading

(Theologian and mystic, Thomas Merton once said,) "There is in all visible things... a hidden wholeness."

In the visible world of nature, a great truth is concealed in plain sight. Diminishment and beauty, darkness and light, death and Dance in the Darkness – Carey Landrey

2. A woman in childbirth labours,because her time has come,but when she holds her child in her arms,her peace returns again.

 Jesus, Lord of weakness, we wait in joyful hope.
See our weakness, see our strength, Jesus see our light.

excerpt from an essay by Parker Palmer

life are not opposites: they are held together in the paradox of the "hidden wholeness." In a paradox, opposites do not negate each; they cohabit and co-create in mysterious unity at the heart of reality. Deeper still, they need each other for health, just as our well-being depends on breathing in and breathing out.

Because we live in a culture that prefers the ease of either/or to the complexities of both/and, we have a hard time holding opposites together. We want light without darkness, the glories of spring and summer without the demands of autumn and winter, the pleasures of life without the pangs of death. We make Faustian bargains hoping to get what we want, but they never truly enliven us and cannot possibly sustain us in hard times. When we so fear the dark that we demand light around the clock, there can be only one result: artificial light that is glaring and graceless and, beyond its borders, a darkness that grows ever more terrifying as we try to hold it off. Split off from each other, neither darkness nor light is fit for human habitation. The moment we say "yes" to both of them and join their paradoxical dance, the two conspire to make us healthy and whole.

Silence and candle lighting

Brief reflection

Keith Nunn

The Liturgy of the Bread and Cup

Financial offerings may be placed in the basket on the table in the

middle of the congregation. Most members of Holy Trinity give electronically. You may also use our secure donation page at Canada Helps by scanning the code at right or visiting https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/HolyTrinityTO/



Community members bring the gifts of bread and wine to the altar during the Offertory Hymn and form a circle around the altar. Please carry your personal belongings with you.

The Offertory Hymn
Ain't You Got a
1. Call: Ain't you got a right Response: Ain't you got a right x3
All: To the tree of Life

Ain't You Got a Right? - *Traditional* n't you got a right x3

2. So rocky was the road. *Ain't you...*So dangerous is the journey. *R*3. I know you had a hard time *R*I know you're tired. *R*

• The Prayers of the People Silence and candle lighting 4. Our life will be sweeter. *R*Our life will be kinder. *R*5. You can tell all my brothers *R*You can tell all my sisters *R*

The Great Thanksgiving

- Eucharistic Prayer No. 2
- Lord's Prayer
- Communion music

Ring the bells that still can ring. Forget your perfect offering. There is a crack, a crack, in everything. That's how the light gets in.

• The Sending Hymn

Lean in Toward the Light - Carrie Newcomer

Winter is the oldest season But quietly beneath the snow Seeds are stretching out and reaching Faithful as the morning glow

Carry nothing but what you must *R: Lean in toward the Light* Let it go, shake off the dust *R* Today is now, tomorrow beckons *R* Keep practicing resurrection *R*

The shadows of this world will say There's no hope why try anyway? But every kindness large or slight Shifts the balance toward the light

Waters wind and open wide *R* Don't just walk when you can fly *R* When justice seems in short supply *R* Let beauty be your truest guide **R**

The shadows of this world will say There's no hope why try anyway? But every kindness large or slight Shifts the balance toward the light

Instrumental

The shadows of this world will say There's no hope why try anyway? But every kindness large or slight Shifts the balance toward the light

The prayer I pray at eventide **R** All left undone be put aside **R** When forgiveness is hard to find **R** Help me at least to be kind **R**

Green Booklet, p. 10

Jim Cotter version, p ?

Anthem - Leonard Cohen





Holy Trinity Parish Contacts

Vestry Executive Committee

Committee Chairs

Refugee

Vivian Harrower, Churchwarden '20 (HR) vivianh@sympatico.ca

Sherman Hesselgrave, Incumbent shesselgrave@ HolyTrinity.TO

Keith Nunn, Churchwarden '20 kapn@kapn.net

Jean Robinson, Churchwarden '20 (Property) jbrobinson@sympatico.ca

Rena Post, Lay Delegate to Synod renapost187@hotmail.com

Human Resources Interim Co-Chairs: Vivian Harrower and Zachary Grant

Property James Johnson james.d.w.johnson@gmail.com Katherine Assad katherineassad@hotmail.com **Worship**

Rena Post renapost187@hotmail.com

Staff main number (416) 598-4521

Incumbent x226 Sherman Hesselgrave shesselgrave@HolyTrinity.TO

Parish Administrator Margot Linken x222 mlinken@ HolyTrinity.TO

Ministry with Youth Clara Pasieka clarapasieka@hotmail.com Community Director x231 Zachary Grant zgrant@HolyTrinity.TO

Open Hours Coordinator Elizabeth Cummings x225 ecummings@holytrinity.to

San Esteban (647) 938-1684 Maurice Francois, Ministro Encargado IglesiaStEsteban@hotmail.com

Caretakers' Mobile (416) 527-4081 Doug Morris x237 caretaking@HolyTrinity.TO

Ryan Poole x237 caretaking@HolyTrinity.TO

Associated Clergy

Michael Creal, Joanna Manning, Bill Whitla, Jim Houston