

Trinity Church

Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts



As an open and affirming congregation 
the Mission and Purpose of Trinity Church is to

Gather as God's people.

Grow in faith, love and service.

Go into the world as disciples and apostles.

TRINITY CHURCH

January 12, 2025

Baptism of the Lord

10:00 AM

We welcome all of you to our worship service this Sunday!

Enter in stillness...Know that the Lord is God.

Listen in reverence...it is God who has made us.

Sing with delight...it is God who hears.

Speak with conviction...there is no other God.

Depart in peace...it is God's gift for you.

Serve with joy...it is your gift to God!

Please welcome our guest musician for today, Anne Howland.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING HYMN #347

"SPIRIT SONG"

CALL TO WORSHIP

All creation proclaims the greatness and love of God.

God's love permeates even the deepest shadows.

The light of God shines on us with new hope.

We are called to be people of compassion and justice.

Open our hearts, O Lord, to see your light and live in your hope.

Prepare us for service to all your people and to this world. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.. **Lord of Hope and Light, in the shadowy places you offered light to people who lived in fear. Today that light comes to us as we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. Open our hearts this day and remind us that you have marked us as people of hope and light. Prepare us to serve you by serving your world. Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN #252

"WHEN JESUS CAME TO JORDON"

TIME FOR ALL AGES

FIRST READING

ACTS 8:14-17

*GOSPEL READING

LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

Our loving God, 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray...**Creator of the universe, we gather amazed at your power and glory. We are eager to worship you and offer our praise, but we are often reluctant to answer when we hear you calling our name. We sing our songs of tribute in the sanctuary, but shy away from the river, lest we be baptized with the fire of the Holy Spirit. Forgive us when we forget your promise to be with us always, O God. Renew us with the power of your ever-present love, and strengthen us to proclaim your justice throughout the world. Amen.**

Silence for personal confession.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the words of our creator, spoken through the prophet Isaiah:
“I have called you by name. You are mine. Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.”

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Remaining in our pews, let us turn to our neighbors and offer each other a sign of God’s peace

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We are indeed recipients of God’s grace and generosity. God loves us and affirms us. But, in receiving, we are also called to give, to share, and to live lives of gratitude. Our offerings of time, talent, and money will gratefully be received. You are invited now to share your gifts to further the church’s work and the Spirit’s mission.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit one. Amen**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Let us pray...Loving God, who guides us with your everlasting presence, we offer these gifts with grateful hearts. As Jesus stood with us in the waters of baptism, may these offerings stand as a testament to your love and grace. Use them to bring hope, healing, and transformation to our world. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #529

"HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION" (vv 1, 2 & 3)

*BENEDICTION AND DISMISSAL

May the Triune God, whose presence surrounds you always and everywhere, bless you with the deep assurance that you are never alone. In the waters, in the fires, in the far corners of the world, God is with us. Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE – HYMN #673

"GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN" (v 1)

POSTLUDE

Trinity Church Fragrance-Free Policy - Adopted by Leadership Team on 12/10/24

At Trinity Church, we strive to create an inclusive and comfortable environment for all. We kindly ask for your cooperation in keeping our cherished space fragrance-free. We ask that you please refrain from using strongly scented products when visiting this space. We understand that scents can evoke pleasant memories and add a personal touch to one's presence. However, it's important to remember that many individuals may have sensitivities or allergies to certain fragrances. By embracing a fragrance-free policy together, we can ensure that everyone feels welcome and can fully participate in the multitude of activities and programs we host in this space.