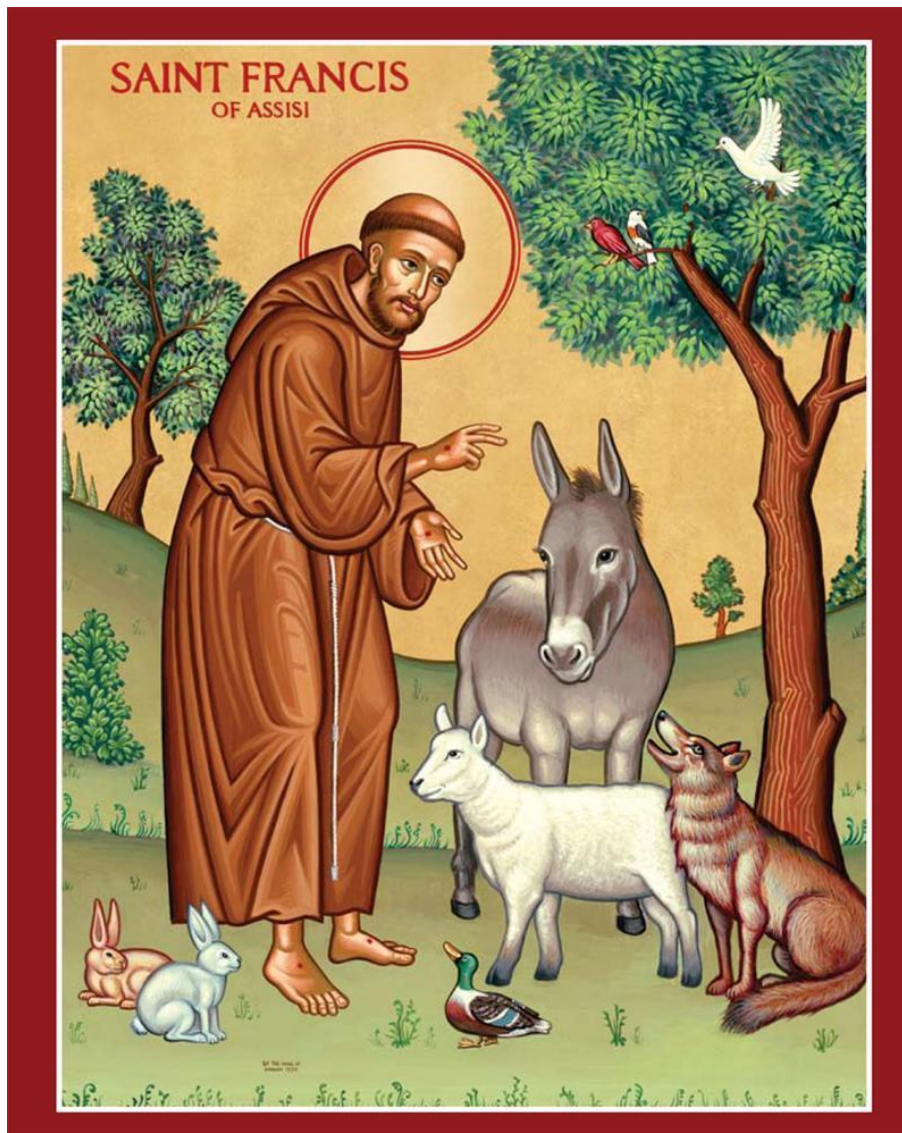




TRINITY CHURCH

SHELBURNE FALLS

17 Severance Street, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370 ♦ www.trinityshelburnefalls.org ♦ 413-625-2341



Worship Bulletin

St. Francis Day

October 4, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Welcome to Trinity Church!

Dear Friends,

Whether you are joining us for the very first time, returning after some time away, or are a lifelong member of our church family, I am so glad you are here with us today.

At Trinity, we believe that every person is a beloved child of God. No matter who you are, where you are on life or spiritual journey, or whom you love, you are full welcome here—just as you are.

To help you feel at home today, here is some information about our life and worship together:

Welcome & Connections

- **Guests & Visitors:** We would love to connect with you! Please consider filling out a welcome card found in the pews and/or signing our guest book located at the back of the church.
- **Coffee Hour:** Everyone is warmly invited to join us for coffee and conversation in the Fellowship Hall downstairs immediately following the service.

During Worship

- **Children:** Childcare is provided for infants and young children during the service by our licensed childcare professional, Lisa Porter. Children are invited, but not required, to proceed to the Nursery after the Time for All Ages.
- **The Asterisk (*) and Bolded Text:** Throughout the bulletin, an asterisk indicates times in the service where you may rise in body or spirit—whatever is best for your body. You are invited to join in on the **bolded** text throughout the service.
- **Offertory:** The Offertory is an invitation to generosity in thanksgiving for all that God has blessed us with. It is how we practice being community together and how we sustain our ministries. Especially if this is your first time visiting, please do not feel obligated to give as a reminder that the grace and love of God are free gifts.
- **Communion:** We celebrate Communion on the *first Sunday of every month*. At Trinity, we practice an open table. All are welcome to receive, without exception. We serve gluten-free bread and grape juice, and it is our tradition to consume the bread immediately, wait until everyone has been served, and then drink the juice together.

Accessibility & Comfort

- **Fragrance-Free Sanctuary:** To care for those in our community with severe allergies and medical sensitivities, we thank you for helping us keep our sanctuary fragrance-free.
- **Listening Aids:** Assisted listening devices are available at the back of the church. Please ask an usher if you need assistance.
- **Restrooms:** Restrooms are located downstairs.

At the back of this bulletin, you'll find information about what happens here during the week, special announcements, and other ways to connect.

May you feel the warmth of God's love and the peace of this community during our time together today.

Peace and blessings,
Pastor Ben

Order of Worship

Land Acknowledgement

Trinity Church recognizes that we worship on the traditional, unceded territory of the Pocumtuck Peoples, marked by a painful history of warfare, genocide, and a deliberate process of erasure and dispossession. We honor the living presence of the Nipmuc, Abenaki, and Mohican communities and in the Spirit of Christ, we commit to the on-going work of truth-telling and restoration. Our full land acknowledgment, adopted 4/26/2026, can be found on our website: trinityshelburnefalls.org

Prelude

“Communion”

op. 8, Louis Vierne

As we gather, all are invited to add prayer requests to the prayer list, found at the back of the church, which will be prayed aloud during Joys and Concerns.

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Hymn “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” UMH 57, vv. 1, 4 & 7

During the Centering Hymn, the Light is brought into the sanctuary for our time of worship.

Call to Worship

Ask the animals,
and they will teach you;
the birds of the air,
and they will tell you;
and the fish of the sea will declare to you:
In God’s hand is the life of every living thing.

*Opening Prayer

Let us pray... **Most present, loving, good Creator, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of the human world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may delight in shared life with your whole Creation in perfectness of joy; through Jesus the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Opening Hymn

“O God, Your Creatures Fill the Earth”

See insert

Blessing of the Animals

Following Blessing of the Animals, children are invited to the Nursery.

The First Reading

Job 39:1-18

***The Gospel**

Luke 12:13-21

The Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon "A Blessing For All Creation" Pastor Benjiman Durfee

Musical Interlude "Duo, 8ieme Ton" Jacques Boyvin

Prayer of Confession

Let us pray... **Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have failed to honor you by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures. We have walked heavily on your earth, overused and wasted its resources, taken for granted its beauty and abundance, and treated its inhabitants unjustly, holding future generations hostage to our greed. Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin. Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as you desire and intend, with grateful and compassionate hearts, through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Peace with yourself. Peace with Creation. Peace with one another. The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

Passing of the Peace

Remaining in our pews, let us turn to our neighbors and offer a sign of God's peace.

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

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, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Offering

Here at Trinity Church, we live in hope that love can bring renewal and healing to our world. Let us practice this world together, sharing what we have, taking care of each other, and bringing all our questions and concerns as honest offerings to God.

Offertory

*Offerings may be placed in the plate or
given securely online through our website: trinityshelburnefalls.org*



Offertory Music

"Canzone"

Vincent Pellegrini

*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... **God of all creation, you open your hand and satisfy the
hunger of every living thing. We bring these gifts today in deep
gratitude for the beauty of the earth, the sky, and all your creatures.
Bless these offerings of our hands and hearts. Use them to nurture
your world, sustain those in need, and care for your handiwork. Teach
us to walk lightly upon this earth, holding our possessions loosely and
your love fiercely. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.**

Holy Communion

Musical Setting A from UMH 17

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray... **Holy One, you feed us with bread from heaven and the
gifts of mother earth. In this communion, you have drawn us into
your embrace and you call us to friendship with one another. You
have given us the gift of reconciliation. May we who have tasted that
gift from you, offer ourselves in peace and humility to one another.
And may you always walk among us as friend. Amen.**

*Closing Hymn

"The Church's One Foundation"

UMH 545, vv. 1, 2, & 5

*Benediction

May God who established the dance of creation, who marveled at the lilies of the field, who transforms chaos to order, lead us to transform our lives and the Church to listen to the voice of all creatures that reflect God's glory in creation. Let us go forth into all Creation, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. **Thanks be to God!**

Benediction Response "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" UMH 673, v. 1

*During the Benediction Response
the Light is carried back out into the world.*

Postlude

"Fugue sur la Trompette"

François Couperin

Announcements

The 34th Annual Franklin County CROP Hunger Walk is taking place today, Sunday, October 4 at the First Congregational Church of Whately, 177 Chestnut Plain Road, Whately, MA [Google Maps](#).

This important event has been one of Trinity Churches missions for decades. The money raised helps fight food insecurities worldwide and 25% of the money stays right here in Franklin County.

Anyone can join this Fun event! There are two walking distances to choose from a 1 mile or a 5k. We will have our red Trinity Jackets available and of course a group photo will happen!

Registration begins at 1pm and the walk will start at 2pm.

To donate you may offer cash or a check made out to CWS/Crop at the event or to any walker or you may drop off the donation at the Trinity Church office.



Music for Organ

Sweelinck · Boyvin · Buxtehude · J.S. Bach
Vierne · Vaughn Williams · Hindemith · Glass

Performed on the historic 1883 Hook & Hastings Organ

Keith Rollinson
organist

Sunday, October 25, 2026
4:00pm.

Trinity Church
17 Severance Street, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

Free will donations are welcome in support of Trinity's "Building Joy" capital campaign to fund a much-needed restoration of the organ.

Building Joy

Our Building Joy Campaign is not a building maintenance project; it is a radical hospitality initiative. Every project—from restoring our historic 1883 Hook & Hastings organ to upgrading our livestream AV system and installing an emergency generator—is designed to equip our congregation with the physical tools needed to offer a life-changing welcome to our neighbors and serve as a hub of resilience. **Help us Build Joy** by donating online through our website (trinityshelburnefalls.org) or by making a pledge (pledge cards can be found at the back of the church).

**We're Building Joy because our neighbors deserve a light
that stays on when the world grows dim!**

Online Donation Page →



Today's Worship Ministers

Preacher/Presider: Pastor Benjiman Durfee

Organist: Amy Roberts-Crawford

Usher: Nancy Parland

Acolyte: Nicole Porter

Reader 1: Karyn Dufresne

Reader 2: Lois Bascom

Videographer: Walker Miles

Communion Steward: Sue Mead

Trinity Church's Ministers, Officers, & Staff

Ministers: All of us together

Leadership Team: Beth Martin, Sarah Neelon,
Wayne Perrea, & Clare Chapman

Co-Moderators: Ginny Ray & Nancy Parland

Co-Clerks: Brook Batteau & Beth Martin

Co-Treasurers: Clare Chapman & Eileen McCusker Rauch

Co-Financial Secretaries: Julie Bailey & Sue Mead

Pastor: Rev. Benjiman Durfee

Music Director: Keith Rollinson

Secretary: Brook Batteau

Nursery Attendant: Lisa Porter

Facilities Staff: Pat Valeski

Standard Weekly Calendar

Sundays	Worship Service at 10am Coffee Hour at 11am
Mondays	Playgroup at 9:30am
Wednesdays	Playgroup at 9:30am Community Clothes Closet at Cowell Gym (2 nd & 4 th Wednesdays from 11am to 3:30pm)
Thursdays	Contemplative Prayer Group at 11am AA at 7pm
Fridays	Creative Movement at 10:30am Community Meal at 5:30pm
Saturdays	Community Clothes Closet at Cowell Gym (2 nd & 4 th Saturdays from 10am to 12pm)

Trinity's Office is open: Monday – Thursday 9am-12pm

Phone: 413-625-2341 | **e-Mail:** trinitychrch@gmail.com

Pastor Ben is available by appointment: pastordurfee@gmail.com

Trinity Church is an ecumenical Open and Affirming (ONA) congregation. We are affiliated with the American Baptist Church, the Episcopal Church, the United Church of Christ, and the United Methodist Church. Our mission is to Gather as God's people, Grow in faith, love, and service, and Go into the world as disciples.