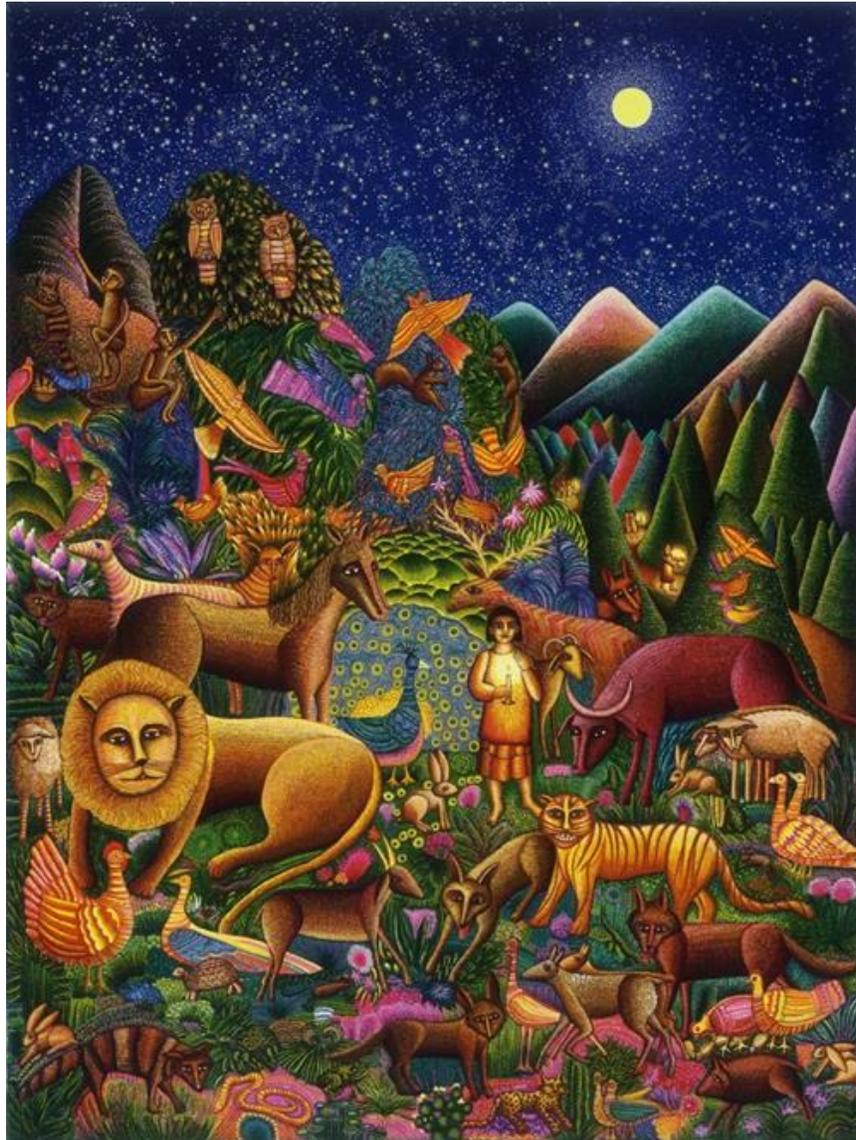


Trinity Church

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.



Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

November 16, 2025

Order of Worship

We welcome all of you to our worship service this Sunday!
If you are visiting, please sign our guest book or fill out a welcome card
in the pew so we can better welcome you!

* = Please rise in body or Spirit.

We kindly ask for your cooperation in keeping our space fragrance-free.

-Please welcome guest musician for today, Anne Howland-

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING HYMN

“THIS IS A DAY OF NEW BEGINNINGS” (UMH 383, vv. 1 & 2)

CALL TO WORSHIP

I am about to create new heavens and a new earth.

Thus says our God, the Holy One.

Be glad and rejoice in this new creation.

Celebrate all that is coming to you.

For your weeping shall be met with rejoicing.

And your suffering will be overtaken by new life.

You shall build homes and live in them;

plant gardens and eat from them.

Heaven and earth will be filled with my peace.

Everything will become a new creation.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray...**Loving and Merciful God, we give you thanks. You bring us strength, when we feel weak; courage, when we cannot stand. You fill our hearts with your glory and bless our being with your grace. You protect our lives. In your care, not one hair on our heads shall perish, nor the smallest flutter of peace perish in our souls. Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN

“FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS” (UMH 428, vv. 1, 2 & 4)

GROUP STEWARDSHIP MOMENT – “Go Out With Joy”

Where do you see God’s joy breaking into our church or community right now?

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 65:17-25

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 21:5-19

SERMON – “Living the New Creation”

Pastor Benjiman Durfee

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray... **O God, we are more like the vision in Luke than the vision of Isaiah. We see wars, hatred, and violence everywhere, yet despair of ever stopping them. We see oppression and injustice and persecution, but fail to raise our voices in prophetic protest. We have become a pessimistic people. Help us believe—really believe—in Isaiah’s vision of the peaceable kin-dom, in your promise of a new heaven and new earth. Let your cry be our cry: “They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain.” Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God is our strength and our salvation. God’s anger is turned away, and in its place, we find comfort, steadfast love, and forgiveness. With this hope, we can draw water from the wells of salvation with joy and thanksgiving.

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

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray together the Lord’s Prayer, using whichever words or language are closest to our hearts (some versions may be found at UMH 894).

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

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... Restoring God, Maker of new heavens and a new earth, where sorrow is lifted, and joy takes root. As we bring our gifts this day, may they be seeds of your promised future—an offering of hope, justice, and mercy in a weary world. Use what we give and who we are to proclaim a kin-dom where none are forgotten, where the wolf and lamb lie down in peace, and where the sound of weeping is no more. Let this act of giving remind us that your dream is still unfolding—and that we are called to help build it. In Christ's name, who is our joy. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN **"COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME"** (UMH 694, vv. 1, 3, & 4)

*BENEDICTION

Go forth into a world that needs new visions. Bring the message of hope and love, of justice and peace, to all you meet. Live the dream. Make it reality. Celebrate endings and new beginnings, challenges and promises. Live the new creation. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE **"GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN"** (UMH 673, v. 1)

POSTLUDE

Today's Worship Ministers

Presider & Preacher: Pastor Benjiman Durfee

Guest Musician: Anne Howland

Acolyte: Nicole Porter

Reader 1: Julie Bailey

Reader 2: Tom Williams

Usher: Sherry Clark

Videographer: Brook Batteau