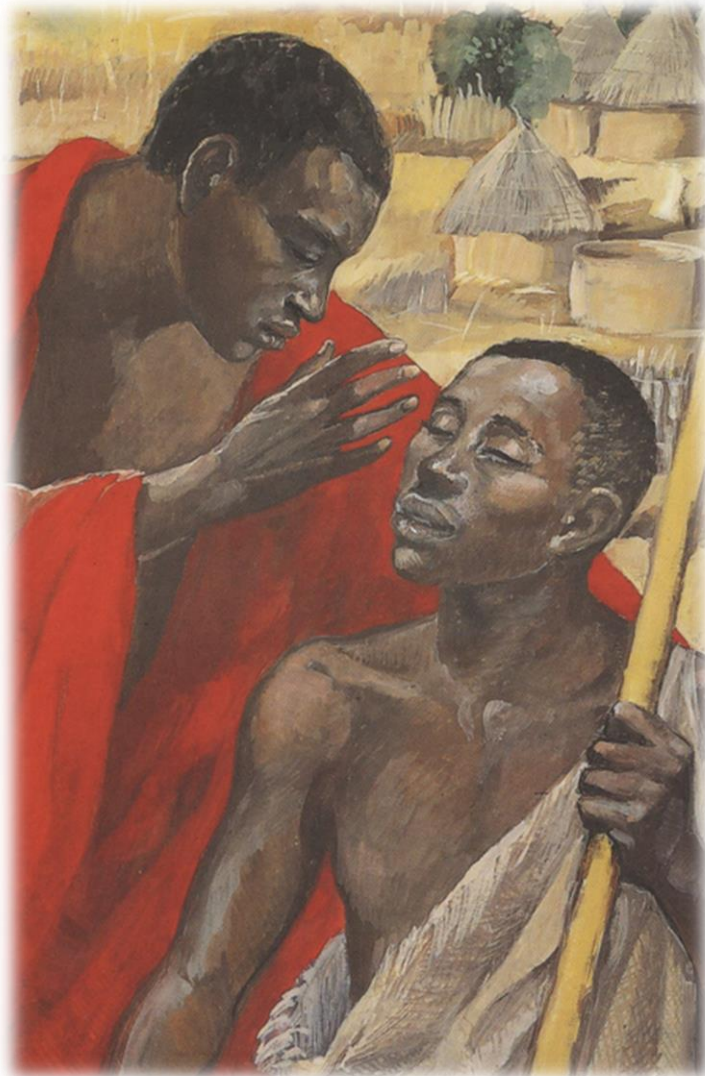


# Trinity Church

Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts



JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings.

“In this simply beautiful painting of one of Jesus’ healings, we see a caring Jesus bend over a blind man holding his walking stick. From the story in John’s gospel, we know that the religious leaders struggle with accepting Jesus’ activity and Jesus responds saying, “If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.” The Pharisees do not look at the blind man as a person, but as a symbol and Jesus points out their error. We are reminded that we should see the humanity in all people, refusing to use them for our own ends. We must look past our own issues and see the individuals.”

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**March 15, 2026**



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.**

## Order of Worship

PRELUDE – *O Sacred Head now Wounded*, Flor Peeters

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING HYMN    ***“LORD, WHOSE LOVE THROUGH HUMBLE SERVICE”*** (UMH 581, vv. 1, 2 & 4)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come into the light of God.

**Christ’s brightness will guide our way.**

Come into the wisdom of God.

**The Spirit’s insight will reveal new truths.**

Come into the praise of God,

**Worship opens new doors in our hearts.**

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray... **Shepherd of love, guide our steps, open the eyes of our hearts, and fling wide the doors of our minds to perceive as you perceive. Open our lives to love as you love. Open our world to become the world you envision for your creation. In the light of your love, we pray. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN

***“PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND”*** (UMH 474)

TIME FOR ALL AGES

FIRST READING

EPHESIANS 5:8-14

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 9:1-41

SERMON

Pastor Benjiman Durfee

MUSICAL INTERLUDE – *Trio*, Sieme Ton, Jacques Boyvin

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray... **O Lord, you are our shepherd, And yet we want. We lie down when we could act, We stir the pot when we could offer peace, We wander tempting paths instead of following you. We seek courage and comfort in earthly things rather than in you. We hate our enemies and refuse to break bread with them, We see scarcity even when you offer us abundance. We pray for forgiveness, for your goodness and mercy, So that we might dwell in You, in your grace, forever. Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Surely goodness and faithful love follow us all the days of our lives. For these gifts are already ours through the grace and the power of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

## 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 – *Verset no. 1*, op. 39 no. 5, Alexandre Guilmant

\*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... Radiant Shepherd, you walk beside us through valleys and over mountaintops, guiding us with grace and guarding us with love. In your presence, we lack nothing that truly matters. Even in a world clouded by shadows, your light shines through—inviting us to live as children of the day. Receive these gifts, O God, as signs of our desire to walk in your ways, to live as your people, and to shine with the goodness, justice, and truth that reflect your image. Let our giving be more than ritual; let it be an act of trust, a response to your faithfulness, and a testimony of your light at work in us. In Christ's holy name, we pray, Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

***"I SING THE ALMIGHTY POWER OF GOD"*** (UMH 152)

\*BENEDICTION

**As Christ's light has led us here,  
so now Christ's light leads us into the world.  
Go with the light, go to be light.  
We will brighten the world with God's love. Amen!**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

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

POSTLUDE – *Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort (Preserve us, Lord, by your word)*,  
BuxWV 185, D. Buxtehude

**Today's Worship Ministers**

Presider & Preacher: Pastor Benjiman Durfee

Musician: Keith Rollinson

Acolyte: Nicole Porter

Reader 1: Tom Williams

Reader 2: Lois Bascom

Usher: Sue Mead

Videographer: Brook Batteau