

TRINITY CHURCH

SHELBURNE FALLS



Gogh, Vincent van, 1853-1890. Sower at Sunset, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57797> [retrieved July 9, 2026]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Van_Gogh_-_S%C3%A4mann_bei_untergehender_Sonne.jpeg.

Worship Bulletin
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 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 fully 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 (*):** Throughout the bulletin, an asterisk indicates times in the service where you may rise in body or spirit—whatever is best for your body.
- **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

"Adoration"

Florence Price

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

"Be Thou My Vision"

UMH 451, all verses

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

*Call to Worship

God's creation delights and astonishes.

Let the people pause and wonder!

God the Creator, has made it all.

Let all creation shout and sing! Alleluia!

*Opening Prayer

Let us pray...**God of all that is seen and unseen, you opened your mouth and uttered a word and creation sprang forth in abundance. Let us open our mouths in praise, that we may bear fruit in every season and be satisfied by your goodness, for you, O God, are the source of all growth and your grace abounds forever. Amen.**

***Opening Hymn** "God, Whose Love Is Reigning O'er Us" UMH 100, vv. 1, 3, 5

Time for All Ages

Following the Time for All Ages, children are invited to the Nursery.

The First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-13

The Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“Good Soil”

Pastor Benjiman Durfee

Musical Interlude

“Duo, 3e Ton”

Jacques Boyvin

Prayer of Confession

Let us pray...**Faithful God, your word falls on hardened ground when our worldly anxiety and attachment to wealth crowd out your place in our lives. Forgive our frail and human ways and cultivate in us a spirit of trust and faithfulness, for you are our hope for deliverance.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Siblings, when deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, God forgives our transgressions. Be at peace, for God restores and strengthens you and waters your soul in its parched and hardened places. **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

**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

"Be Not Afraid"

Bob Dufford/Jack Schrader
Sung by Nancy Parland

*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...**You call us to sow your word in all times and places,
even when the ground is hard and shallow. For faith is a gift that
comes from you, and fruitful discipleship is the work of your Spirit in
us. May the gifts we offer this day spread the good news of life
abundant in Christ. Amen.**

*Closing Hymn

"Come Down, O Love Divine"

UMH 475, all verses

*Benediction

Go forth sowing the seeds of God's new world, and give thanks,
for God will supply the growth! May you go forth in joy '
and be led back in peace this day and always. **Amen!**

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

"Prelude in D," BuxWV 139

Dietrich Buxtehude

Announcements

An Invitation from Pastor Ben

Pastor Ben is currently working on a Contextual Analysis Project for Field Education. Through this project, he hopes to capture and tell the story of who we were, who we are, and who we are becoming. To do that, he would love to invite you into the conversation. • *What are your joys, hopes, and expectations for this church? What are your concerns, worries, or challenges? What stories about Trinity resonate most deeply with you?* Whether you are brand new to Trinity, have been here your entire life, or engage with us from afar, he wants to hear from you. If you would like to explore these questions with Pastor Ben, please reach out! 508-542-7303 or pastordurfee@gmail.com



Trinity Church's Annual Community Potluck

Sunday, July 19th | 11:30 AM

Outside Under the Tent (Fellowship Hall, if it rains)
17 Severance Street, Shelburne Falls

Bring your favorite dish to share — or just bring yourself!

Burgers & Hotdogs provided.

All are also welcome to join us for Worship at 10:00 AM!

All Neighbors are Welcome!

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. **Helps 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!**

Today's Worship Ministers

Preacher/Presider: Rev. Benjiman Durfee

Organist: Keith Rollinson

Usher: Beth Martin

Acolyte: Nicole Porter

Reader 1: Karyn Dufresne

Reader 2: Lois Bascom

Videographer: Kyle Porter

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.