



TRINITY CHURCH

SHELBURNE FALLS

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



From: <https://bible.art/p/KADBk2f6rC5P05RVtZCl/an-illustration-representing-exodus-3-3>

Worship Bulletin

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 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

"Prelude in Five Parts"

Jacques Lemmens

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 "God, Whose Love Is Reigning o're Us" UMH 100, vv. 1, 3 & 5

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

Call to Worship

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2026.

Sometimes God calls us through burning bushes, telling us to go free a whole people despite our insecurities and fears.

God, help us accept your call on our lives.

Sometimes God calls us, and we don't understand the full meaning of the call, the ways our families, friends, and communities may resist the good news and us as messengers of it.

God, help us accept your call on our lives.

Sometimes God calls us to a path that is harder than we think we can handle, asking us to trust that God will provide what we need.

God, help us accept your call on our lives.

Beloved, God's call takes many forms. Sometimes it feels as natural as breathing, and sometimes we want to run as far as we can. But take assurance in this: You are not alone. God is with us, and God's call can be trusted, because no matter where it leads, God is there.

God, help us accept your call on our lives and to trust that what you equip us to do is what you call us to do as members of the Body of Christ. Thanks be to God!

Amen.

*Opening Prayer

By Kirsten Linford – from the Abingdon Worship Annual 2026.

Let us pray....**Creator God, who shall we say that you are? By what name can we call you – that would be enough to speak of all that you are and all that you shall be? We can only call you "I Am", for you Were – and Are – and always Will Be – the Holy One. You call us by name and invite us to come to you. We answer, "Here I am," and come to stand on holy ground. May we remember that all ground is holy ground, for you are in all times and places – calling us to our lives each moment. Amen**

***Opening Hymn** “Deep in the Shadows of the Past” TFWS 2246, vv. 1, 3 & 4

Time for All Ages

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

The First Reading

Exodus 3:1-15

***The Gospel**

Romans 12:9-21

The Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“Who Am I”

Pastor Judy Jones

Musical Interlude

“Elevation in e”

op. 41 no. 6, Alexandre Guilmant

Prayer of Confession and Yearning

Loving God, Holy Shepherd, we long for a higher calling. When we would rather tend our flocks in peace than confront the powers of this age, open our hearts to your guidance and direction. When we would rather keep silent than face the suffering of others, open our mouths to speak your truth. Turn us from human considerations and set our minds on your kingdom, through Christ, our Lord. Amen

Words of Assurance

By B.J. Beu from the Abingdon Worship Annual 2023

The great I AM invites us to turn aside
and boldly embrace paths that lead to life.
Turn and receive blessing upon blessing.

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

“Elevation in E”

Jean-Adam Guilain

*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

From Discipleship Ministries

Holy God, you call ordinary people from unexpected places and send them into hard and holy work. As you met Moses in the fire that did not consume, meet us now in these gifts we bring. Shape us by your presence, not by fear; by service, not by power; by love that risks itself for the sake of others. Receive our offering as a sign that we trust your “I AM” to go with us and that we are willing to follow Christ, even when the way is demanding. Use what we give to bring freedom, healing, and hope to your world. Amen. (Exodus 3:1-15)

*Closing Hymn “Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”

UMH 581, vv. 1, 2, & 4

*Benediction

Beloved, when the path is easy and when the path is rough, when God calls through a burning bush or a still, small voice or a loving rebuke, remember: you are not alone. May God bless you with the courage and humility to accept God’s call and with the assurance that if God calls you, God will equip you. **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 “Lobt Gott, ihr Christen allzugleich” (“Let all together praise our God”)
BuxWV 202, Dietrich Buxtehude

Announcements

Help Us Discover the Gifts Among Us

In the coming weeks, we're inviting everyone who considers Trinity Church their church home—members, friends, and newcomers alike—to complete a brief Gifts Survey. This isn't a volunteer sign-up sheet or a way of assigning more jobs. Instead, it's an opportunity to help us discover the abundance of gifts, skills, experiences, and passions that God has already placed within our congregation.

As Trinity grows, we want to become a church that begins with what God has already given us, rather than with what we think we're missing.

The survey takes just a few minutes to complete. Please follow the link to read more about why we're doing this and to fill out the survey:

<https://forms.gle/AZwXfMX9XwQZwEFJ7>



Paper copies of the survey are also available in the office.

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 want 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

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 Judy Jones

Organist: Keith Rollinson

Usher: Andrew Porter

Acolyte: Nicole Porter

Reader 1: Nancy Parland

Reader 2: Lois Bascom

Videographer: Walker Miles

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.