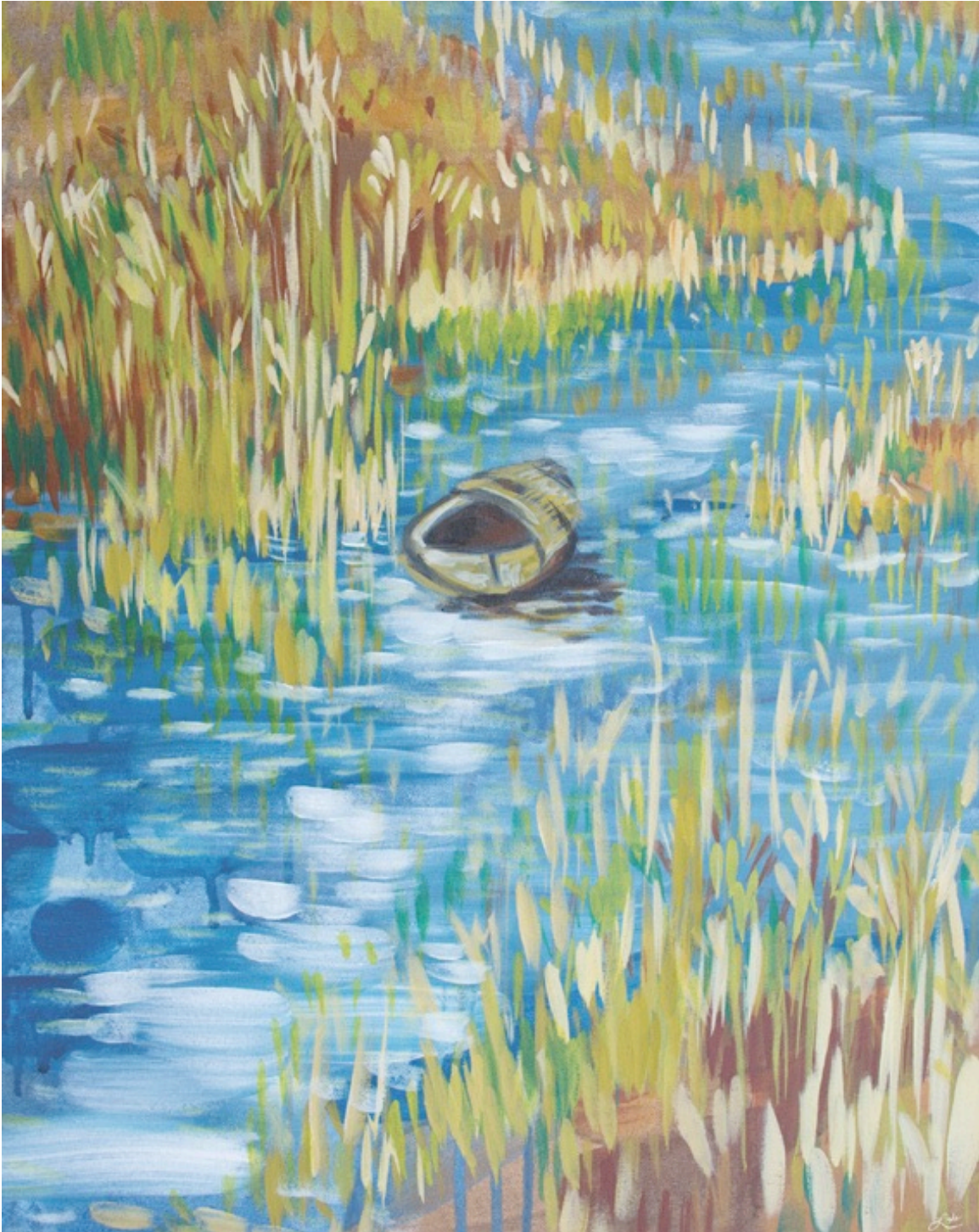


Worship at Trinity Lutheran Church  
August 16, 2020



*Welcome as we gather together in the name of God! Whether we are physically present with one another or gathering remotely, we know that Christ is truly present in our midst*

*Each Sunday, we will gather at 9:30am in our building as well as via Facebook Live. The service will be posted on our YouTube page*

*([https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEBfzqgPTuf8fe3PjPr21gA?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEBfzqgPTuf8fe3PjPr21gA?view_as=subscriber))*

If you know of others who are in need of **signs of God's love and grace**, who are curious and/or questioning, who would like to experience the peace of Christ – please invite them to join us “live” and/or to visit our Facebook page or YouTube channel.

If anyone needs to talk to someone amidst this time of anxiety, please feel free to contact Pastor Jen via the church office ([trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com)) and/or her personal email ([revjedyer1@yahoo.com](mailto:revjedyer1@yahoo.com)).

*Our weekly emails are also posted on our website <http://trinitybrewsterny.org/wordpress/>.*

*Listed here is the order of worship so that you are able to follow along. We have included links to the hymns and an anthem picked by Franklyn that you may listen to in addition to our online service*

*Congregational responses are in **bold**. You are invited to read aloud wherever you may be worshipping.*

***HYMNS:*** While we gather for in-person worship, we will not be singing any of the hymns. We will either speak the words responsively and/or listen to the accompaniment. All the words have been included for devotional use.

***Setting up:*** Set aside some sacred space where you are to worship and prayer. Light a candle (or more), set out your Bible and/or a cross. Spend a few moments in silence before you begin.

***Unraveled:*** This year's summer series is about the ways in which our lives are unraveled and the ways in which God weaves them back together again.

***Introduction:*** We are given the gift of relationships and are called to be faithful stewards of them. How do you honor and respect those relationships of family, friends and even stranger?

***Holy Communion (bread only) will be offered for “drive thru” service (9am-9:20am & 10:15am-10:45am) as well as at the end of this worship service. If this time does not work, please contact Pastor Jen.***

***We will be going LIVE before beginning the service with time for reflection to allow time for people to join our live feed before the spoken portion of our service begins.***

**PRELUDE** *Quiet Prelude on Rhosymedre* Murray Bradshaw

## **WELCOME**

*You are invited to comment below the video if there are particular prayers that you would like to lift up and have others pray about during the week. Please let us know that you are joining us online by commenting*

## **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

When you dream, what do you dream of?

**We dream of children who know love and churches with open doors.**

**We dream of rest and sunny days.**

When you dream, what do you dream of?

**We dream of peace without walls,**

**And equality for all people.**

When you dream, what do you dream of?

**We dream of milk and honey, food on tables, and an end to suffering.**

**We dream of the Church of Jesus Christ serving all God’s people.**

Family of God, This day, we dream together. This day, we worship together. For there is nothing on heaven or on earth strong enough to unravel God’s dreams for us.

**Let us worship Holy God. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

We humbly pause in God’s presence to lift up all those ways that we are bound by sin

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

Gracious God,

We do not know the plans you have for us.  
We do not know, so we place our children into “good schools.”  
We set aside money for days to come.  
We keep our fingers crossed and try to control the world around us.  
Having faith in the midst of uncertainty has never been easy for us.  
Forgive us for the moments when we refuse to trust you.  
Strengthen us so that when life unravels, we are strong enough to turn to you.  
That is our prayer of faith. Amen.

God beyond all expectations revealed the fullness of his love and grace on the cross and through the empty tomb. Jesus Christ gave all for us that we might live the fullness of life that God has given us. May God’s mercy and grace be woven into our lives as we receive the entire forgiveness of all our sins in the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

**GATHERING HYMN** *Borning Cry* (ELW 732)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lj2KCIYMD2w>

1) I was there to hear your borning cry  
**I’ll be there when you are old**  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
**To see your life unfold**  
I was there when you but a child  
**With a faith to suit you well**  
In a blaze of light you wandered off  
**To find where demons dwell**

2) When you heard the wonder of the Word  
**I was there to cheer you on**  
You were raised to praise the living Lord  
**To whom you now belong**  
If you find someone to share your time  
**And you join your hearts as one**  
I’ll be there to make your verses rhyme  
**From dusk to rising sun**

**INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE**

3) In the middle ages of your life

**Not too old, no longer young**

I'll be there to guide you through the night

**Complete what I've begun**

When the evening gently closes in

**And you shut your weary eyes**

I'll be there as I have always been

**with just one more surprise**

4) I was there to hear your bawling cry

**I'll be there when you are old**

I rejoiced the day you were baptized

**To see your life unfold**

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**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Gracious God, the One in whom we live and move and have our being. We rejoice and honor the gift of life that you bestow upon us all. Guide us to be wise stewards of all the relationships that you have placed in our care; we pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**READING: EXODUS 1:22; 2:1-10 | | Moses' Mother Gives Moses Up So He Can Live**

*(When Our Plans for Our Children Unravel)*

<sup>22</sup>Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, 'Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.'

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. <sup>2</sup>The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. <sup>3</sup>When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. <sup>4</sup>His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

5 The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. <sup>6</sup>When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. <sup>7</sup>Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' <sup>8</sup>Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. <sup>9</sup>Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. <sup>10</sup>When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

**Word of God, Word of life** Thanks be to God!

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go?*

***You have the words of eternal life! Alleluia!***

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-21**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter **Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>13</sup> Now after the (wise men) had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." <sup>14</sup> Then Joseph<sup>[a]</sup> got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, <sup>15</sup> and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

<sup>16</sup> When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men.<sup>-17</sup> Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup> "A voice was heard in Ramah,  
wailing and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

<sup>19</sup> When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, <sup>20</sup> "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel,

for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." <sup>21</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Jen Boyd**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: *If You But Trust in God to Guide You*** (ELW 769)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zFPe\\_G-Lqcc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zFPe_G-Lqcc)

## **INSTRUMENTAL**

- 1) If you but trust in God to guide you  
**With gentle hand through all your ways**  
You'll find that God is there beside you  
**When crosses come, in trying days**  
Trust then in God's unchanging love  
**Build on the rock that will not move**
  
- 2) When gain is there in anxious weeping  
**In helpless anger and distress?**  
If you are in your Savior's keeping  
**In sorrow will he love you less?**  
For Christ who took for you a cross  
**Will bring you safe through every loss**
  
- 3) The Lord our restless hearts is holding  
**In peace and quietness content**  
We rest in God's good will unfolding  
**What wisdom from on high has sent**  
God, who has chosen us by grace  
**Knows very well the fears we face**

## **INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE**

- 4) Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving  
**Offer you service faithfully**  
Trust heaven's word; though undeserving

**You'd find God's promise true to be**  
This is our confidence indeed  
**God never fails in time of need**

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### **APOSTLE'S CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.  
**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**  
**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**  
**born of the virgin Mary,**  
**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**  
**was crucified, died, and was buried;**  
**he descended to the dead.**  
**On the third day he rose again;**  
**he ascended into heaven,**  
**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**  
**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**  
**the holy catholic church,**  
**the communion of saints,**  
**the forgiveness of sins,**  
**the resurrection of the body,**  
**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*(Pastor Jen will be adding our fabric prayers to our community prayer wheel during this time)*

Woven together as your whole Church, we lift our prayers before you, O Lord, for the church,



the world, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for those who find themselves in bondage: those forced into slavery or prostitution, those oppressed by governments or economic systems, those enslaved by personal addictions. We lift up the ministries and organizations who seek to bring your peace-filled relief to all in bondage. Gracious God, hear our prayer, **and in Your love, answer.**

We pray for those who struggle to raise their children in the midst of violence or poverty; those who can only stand by and watch as their sons or daughters die of starvation or malnutrition, of preventable disease, or from gang violence. We pray for ministries like the ELCA World Hunger programs as well as BESP who offer your loving acceptance and help. Gracious God, hear our prayer, **and in Your love, answer.**

We pray for those who refuse to participate in violence or injustice, who courageously stand up for what they know is right, regardless of the personal consequences. Gracious God, hear our prayer, **and in Your love, answer.**

We also pray for those who oppress others, who are unable to break free from cycles of violence and anger, who are no longer able to empathize with their victims. Gracious God, hear our prayer, **and in Your love, answer.**

We pray for all who suffer this day, whether physically, emotionally, or spiritually. May Your presence surround and sustain each one, so that they may know your love and live. We pray especially this day for those that we name before you now... (pause), for those who have no one to name them and for those who do not know Christ's name. Gracious God, hear our prayer, **and in Your love, answer.**

Finally, God, we pray for ourselves—members of Your Body here on earth. Break down the barriers that divide us from one another. Unite us in our common allegiance to You as Lord and Savior. Grant us compassion and humility in our relationships. Release the gifts You have given to each one, so that in us and through us, Your kingdom might come and Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Gracious God, hear our prayer, **and in Your love, answer.**

*Here other petitions may be offered.*

*Pastor:* In the face of our own uncertainties, we offer all these prayers before you, O Lord, for

with you nothing is impossible as is revealed through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **SHARING THE PEACE**

The Peace of the Christ be with you always **And also with you**

*(you are invited to share a sign of peace with those who are with you, by commenting in the Facebook feed as well as by calling/sending a message of peace to someone)*

**OFFERING** *(You are invited to listen to this song as our “anthem” for this week. You are also encouraged to continue to share your offering with Trinity be mailing them to the church office or by donating online via our website: [www.trinitybrewsterny.org](http://www.trinitybrewsterny.org))*

**ANTHEM “God Takes Care of Me”** Crossroads

[https://youtu.be/ToY\\_gFoheEw](https://youtu.be/ToY_gFoheEw)

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of love, you abide with us; you provide for all our needs and guide us in your ways. Out of gratitude for your care, we bring our gifts before you. Use them for your work of caring, that all may feast at the table of abundance, walk without fear, and drink deeply from the cup of compassion given through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **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 and ever. Amen.**

## MISSION & MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*Pastor Jen will be at the door as you depart to share the body of Christ with you. Please wait to remove your mask and eat it after you are outside.*

### BLESSING

### DISMISSAL

Go, in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God!**

***Please maintain a distance of 6 feet between yourself and those who are not part of your household as you leave your pew and as you receive the Body of Christ. Also please keep your mask on and do not linger in the building.***

### SENDING HYMN: *Children of the Heavenly Father* (ELW 781)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1Le7-y9xVI>

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1) <i>Children of the heavenly Father,<br/>Safely in his bosom gather<br/>Nestling bird nor star in heaven<br/>Such a refuge e'er was given</i>              | 3) <i>Neither life nor death shall ever<br/>From the Lord his children sever<br/>Unto them his grace he showeth<br/>And their sorrows all he knoweth</i> |
| 2) <i>God his own doth ten and nourish<br/>in his holy courts they flourish<br/>from all evil things he spares them<br/>in his mighty arms he bears them</i> | 4) <i>Though he giveth or he taketh<br/>God his children ne'er forsaketh<br/>His the loving purpose solely<br/>To preserve them pure and holy</i>        |

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*(The worship has ended, let the service begin)*

**Worship Notes:** Parts of today's worship are adapted by Pastor Jen Boyd from the following sources: *Opening litany* ("Prayer by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org");

*Prayer of the Day (Pastor Jen Boyd); Prayers of Intercession (re:worship website); Offering prayer (Mary Petrina Boyd, <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>)*

**Music Notes:** Murray C. Bradshaw was born in 1930 in Hinsdale, Illinois. He is emeritus professor of musicology at The University of California, Los Angeles. He is organist at the Christian Science Church in Woodland Hills, California.

Scripture quotations from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission

**Altar Flowers:** Today's altar flowers are given by Barbara Sullivan in loving memory of her husband, Joseph, on their wedding anniversary; by Maureen & Mark Sergio in celebration of their daughter Savannah's twenty-seventh birthday. Happy Birthday and blessings always!

### **In Our Prayers**

*We are particularly mindful of so many who are in need of prayers during this time. You are invited to contact Pastor Jen to add specific names to this list:*

### **Prayers of Thanksgiving**

#### **Prayers of Healing**

Robert Peters (father of Stephen Peters)

Pastor Marv Henk

Diane & Frank Strittmatter (friends of Dorothy Kafalas)

Danielle Nestor (ankle surgery)

Mary Gerhardt (hip surgery)

Jill Russo's dad (cancer)

Maisa Tompuri (cataracts)

Danny Brooks (Carol Brooks' nephew)

Ursula Merolla (recently hospitalized)

Ralph DiNarte (friend of George O'Toole)

Brian (friend of Rosemary Gebhardt)

Lynne Caruso and Janna Kreps (friends of Holly Larocchia)

Ethan and Dina (friends of Georgina Marek)

Phyllis Land (friend of Pam Carlson)

Margaret, Elizabeth, Kathie, Larry, and Millie. (friends of Joanne Icken)

Katherine Waldvogel (Dawn Morello's mother)

Lillian Eberhardt (hospitalized)

Loretta Christiano (back surgery)  
Corey Pate (friend of Jeanette Baldanza)  
Kathie Gibbs (sister in law of Jeanette Baldanza)  
Jeff Brown (friend of Doug Noah)  
Emile "VINNY" Bellissimo (friend of Loretta Christiano)  
Helen Cornell (hospice)

### **Prayers for those serving in the medical community**

Jeanette Baldanza (Putnam Co. Dept. of Health)  
Michael Conroy (Putnam Hospital)  
Dr. Lauren Icken (Resident @ Albany Med)  
Eric Klammer (FDNY)  
Holly Larocchia (Arms Acres)  
Lisa Schuldt (Westchester Medical)  
Jeff Von Bargaen (Putnam Hospital)

### **Prayers for essential workers**

Justin Larocchia (Corrections)  
Kystal Langke (Postal worker)

### **Prayers of the Wider Church**

Bishop Elizabeth Eaton (Presiding Bishop of the ELCA) and ELCA staff  
Bishop Paul Egensteiner (Bishop of Metro NY Synod) and synod staff  
Mother Gladys Diaz (deployed Asst. to Bishop for our area)

### **Prayers for families who have had loved ones die**

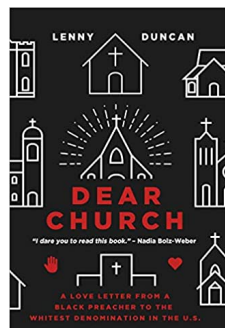
*Family of*

### **Additional Prayers**

### **Announcements**

**CLOTHING SHED CLOSED:** ST. Pauli textile who collects from the clothing shed has closed our shed temporarily. Please discourage anyone from making further donations at this time.

**Trinity reads:** the church Council is inviting the congregation to join them in reading "Dear Church: a love letter from a black preacher to the whitest



denomination in the US” by Rev. Lenny Duncan, an ELCA pastor. We have been Invited and challenged by both the Metro NY synod and the ELCA to be deliberate in anti-racism understanding and efforts. A part of these efforts, we are each encouraged as well to sign the ELCA anti-racism pledge (<https://www.elca.org/racialjusticepledge>). The book is available through our publishing house, Augsburg Fortress and other booksellers. If you need assistance in obtaining the book, please contact Pastor Jen. We will be hosting discussions of the book in September.



**Altar Flowers:** Since we are meeting in person for worship, if you would like to have flowers placed on the altar, please contact Kathie Ruhs.

**Blood Drive:** We will be hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> (12:30pm-6:30pm – note time change). It will be by appointment only and have additional precautions in place. We will include additional information as it gets closer. We are looking for a couple of volunteers to be present in the building during the drive (you will not be working directly with the drive, but be available for any questions. If you are able to help, contact Carol Fendt or Pastor Jen.

**Re-open Plans:** We are now open for in-person worship. Please carefully read the **Procedures document** to detailed information about what plans are in place and the expectations for those who plan to attend. There are numerous changes that are being made. You can find the document on our website.

**Please note:** *If you do not feel ready or comfortable to returning to in-person worship, please do not feel pressured or guilty about your decision. We will continue to offer worship on Facebook Live. In addition, if decisions are made by local or state governments regarding this status change, we will follow their guidance.*

**Bible Study:** continues to meet Wednesday nights via Zoom (see link below) that will dovetail with our Sunday morning themes (see next announcement). We will not meet when Church Council meets.



**Summer Worship Series: *Unraveled*** - What happens when our world falls apart? How do we press onward when our tightly-knit plans unravel into loose threads? What do we become when our identity—or the path we're on—comes undone? What if all of this is not the end we fear it will be? In our unraveling, sometimes life surprises us with unexpected joy, love, and hope—with a new beginning we couldn't have imagined. Sometimes we need God to unravel us, for we long to be changed.

This series will explore stories of unraveled shame, identity, fear, grief, dreams, and expectations. These stories will frame our worship and be used in Bible study. A **study journal** and an intergenerational **prayer art project** will be a part of this series as well.

**Upcoming readings:**

**August 23: JOB 28:12-28 Job's Lament & Loss**

*(Seeking Understanding When Everything Has Fallen Apart)*

**August 30: MARK 5:1-20 Jesus Heals Legion, a Man Possessed by Demons**

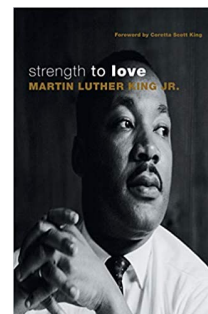
*(The Unraveling of the Mind)*



**“Essential Pets of Trinity”**: Check out our video now on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeBfzqqPTuf8fe3PjPr21gA>

**Faith Book Club** will not be meeting in August, but will meet again on Monday, Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> (7pm). The next book is “Strength to Love” by Martin Luther King, jr. It is a series of short essays that reflect on how his faith informed his work for justice. All are invited to join us; invite anyone else among family and friends that you think would like to be a part of our discussions as well.



**Recycling efforts:** Our Terracycle and returnables recycling efforts are on hold for the time being. We will let you know as soon as we resume them.

**Newsletter:** Since we are sending out regular updates, we will not have a newsletter sent out. If there is information that you need, please feel free to contact the church office ([trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com)) and/or Pastor Jen ([revjdye1@yahoo.com](mailto:revjdye1@yahoo.com))

**Food Pantry:** As the need grows for those in our community, you are invited to drop off items for Putnam CAP's food pantry. You may either drop them off here at Trinity or at the CAP office on Main Street in Brewster. You can find an updated list of their current needs on their website: <http://putnamcap.org/index.html>

**School supplies:** Putnam CAP still plans to help children in the county with their school needs, but are unable to receive the actual



items. They are asking for donations and/or gift cards to places like Target, Walmart, Staples and Office Max. They can be mailed directly to them at: 121 Main Street, Brewster, NY 10509.

**Zoom Gatherings:** Each of the gatherings use the same password (410002) except where indicated, but different meeting ids; see below for each of the links. *If you need the links at any time, please contact Pastor Jen ([revjedyer1@yahoo.com](mailto:revjedyer1@yahoo.com) or call/text 518-231-4633)*

### Weekly gatherings

**Wednesdays (7pm) Bible study** Meeting ID: 346 900 784)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/346900784?pwd=RnBtMEo4QUhQOG9veEZjRVNwMkd2QT09>

**Fridays (10am) Thread & Yarn group** (Meeting ID: 890-6099-7152)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89060997152?pwd=cW15NThGVzA5YUdsYWdKVGJYdVBkUT09>

### Sundays

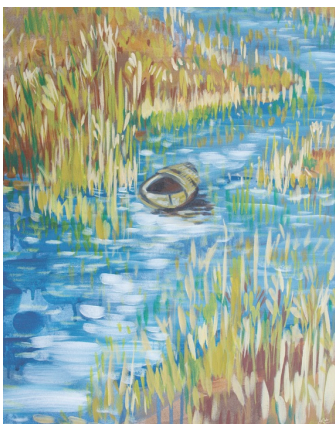
10:30 **Coffee Hour/Fellowship** (Meeting ID: 435 263 0119)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4352630119?pwd=YXo0a241ZkJMMThKb1FSbm5ITEZqUT09>

### Offering

*You are also encouraged to continue to share your offering with Trinity be mailing them to the church office or by donating online via our website: [www.trinitybrewsterny.org](http://www.trinitybrewsterny.org) . Please note that we are not depositing offerings every week, but about once a month.*

### Artist's statement



AN IMPERFECT ALLY

**(PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER ADOPTS MOSES)**

by lisle gwynn garrity

inspired by exodus 1:22, 2:1-10 | acrylic on canvas

Moses' mother and Miriam plot a clever plan, but it's far from foolproof. The risks far outweigh their chances for success. What if the basket they place him in leaks, drowning him instead of keeping baby Moses afloat? What if the current gets too strong, or the winds pick up, or he gets stuck in a tangle of reeds? What if the wrong person finds him and fulfills Pharaoh's command?

What if Pharaoh's daughter is moved with disgust when she sees what floats into her private bathing quarters? Even if Pharaoh's daughter decides to keep the child as her own, what will keep Pharaoh from killing Moses when she's not looking?



Their plan is too perilous, too fraught with danger for any infant to endure. And yet, we know of mothers who risk desert heat, fatigue, illness, dehydration, criminalized border crossings, and facilities with cages to pursue the slight chance—the mere hope—of survival for their child. Why would they do this? Because to stay home and succumb to the sure threats of genocide—or gang violence, or civil war—is far more dangerous. In this image, I gave the viewer the vantage point Pharaoh's daughter might have had. What melts her heart with mercy when she sees this Hebrew child float downstream? Was a well of rebellion rising up within her, making her eager to subvert her father's orders? Was she poisoned like most Egyptians with bias against the Israelites, but did the innocence and vulnerability of an infant shift her heart toward love? Had she desperately wanted a child of her own? Regardless of her motives, Pharaoh's daughter uses her power and privilege to act as an ally to Moses and his family in their worst unraveling. It's not a perfect solution, but God doesn't need perfection to achieve liberation.— lisle gwynn garrity ©