## Worship at Trinity Lutheran Church October 18, 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

(<u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEBfzqqPTuf8fe3PjPr21gA?view\_as=subscribe</u> <u>r</u>)

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) and/or her personal email (revjedyer1@yahoo.com).

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

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.

**Introduction:** From a place of deep sadness Hannah prays to God, vowing that if God will give her a son, she will dedicate that son to God. And God answers!

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

"Adagio in D"

**Baldassare Galuppi** 

#### 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

God is in the business of bringing life, even in barren places. So come with your whole self, bringing your anguish and your hope, for the One who calls us is faithful. Whether you seek comfort for your spirit or strength to overturn the injustices of this world, God will meet us here.

Come, let us worship God together with our whole heart, mind, and strength.

### CONFESSION

Whatever image we are projecting to the world,

God knows the truth of our pain and our failings. There is no need to hide.

When we are honest with God, and with ourselves, **the Spirit makes room in us for new life to take root.** Trusting in God's goodness and compassion, let us pray.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

You are the God who loves, showing kindness and compassion to all who call on you. And You are the God who does justice, measuring our actions and systems according to your truth.

We confess that we would prefer our own measure instead, for we have believed the lie that strength and power and prosperity are evidence of your blessing and also a means to obtain our desires. Forgive us for preferring our way to yours.

We admit that we have grown comfortable with the way this world works, and our position within it, and therefore uncomfortable with vulnerability — our own, or others'.

Forgive us for the times we have made a show of our faith, caring more about how others see us than how you do. Forgive us, Lord God, for we confess we are not ready for the world to be turned upside down. Forgive us, and make us ready to receive your word of life once again. We ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

Friends, hear and believe this good news: in Christ, God is making all things new — even you, even me. Through the Spirit, the old ways are overturned and a new way opens before us, and there is nothing that can stop God's grace. Know that you are forgiven, believe that you are forgiven, and live as if you are forgiven, and be at peace. **Thanks be to God. Amen.** 

#### GATHERING HYMN Lord of All Nations ELW 419

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oidixiyAxzM

Lord of all nations, grant me grace to love all people, every race; and in each person may I see my kindred, loved, redeemed by thee.

#### **INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE**

Give me thy courage, Lord to speak whenever strong oppress the weak. Should I myself the victim be, help me forgive, remembering thee.

With thine own love may I be filled and by thy Holy Spirit willed, that all I touch, where're I be, may be divinely touched by thee.

Text: © 2008, International Liturgy Publications

#### 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

God who answers prayer, We are blessed and humbled that you hear us when we call to you in our time of deepest longing. Receive our gratitude for your listening ear. Amen.

## READING: Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20; 2:1-10||

After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the Lord. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the Lord. She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord, and wept bitterly. She made this vow: 'O Lord of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant, and remember me, and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head.'

They rose early in the morning and worshipped before the Lord; then they went back to their house at Ramah. Elkanah knew his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the Lord.' Hannah prayed and said,

## 'My heart exults in the Lord;

## my strength is exalted in my God.

My mouth derides my enemies,

because I rejoice in my victory.

### 'There is no Holy One like the Lord,

#### no one besides you;

## there is no Rock like our God.

Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength. Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil. The barren has borne seven. but she who has many children is forlorn. The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts. He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and on them he has set the world. 'He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness: for not by might does one prevail. The Lord! His adversaries shall be shattered; the Most High will thunder in heaven.

The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king, and exalt the power of his anointed.'

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: Luke 1:46-55

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter **Glory to you, O Lord** 

And Mary said,

'My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things,

and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

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

#### SERMON

**Pastor Jennifer Boyd** 

HYMN OF THE DAY: My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness ELW 251 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RzlqsFMhUOk

#### **INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE**

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness, lord; I sing my savior's praise! you looked upon my lowliness, and i am full of grace. now ev'ry land and ev'ry age this blessing shall proclaim great wonders you have done for me, and holy is your name.

To all who live in holy fear your mercy ever flows. with mighty arm you dash the proud, their scheming hearts expose. the ruthless you have cast aside, the lowly throned instead; the hungry filled with all good things, **the rich sent off unfed.** 

#### **INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE**

To israel, your servant blest, your help is ever sure; the promise to our parents made their children will secure. sing glory to the holy one, give honor to the word, and praise the pow'r of the most high, one god, by all adored.

Text: © 1995, Augsburg Fortress

#### **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

We pause to humbly offer up our prayers before God for the church, the world, and all those in need.

## A brief silence.

Gracious and merciful God, we thank you for hearing us when we come to you.

## We lift our hearts in gratitude for your care:

we see your blessings around us in the turning of the seasons, in the gift of family and friends,

# even in the privilege of technology that keeps us connected, learning, and serving.

We bring our thanks and praise for the ways you provide for us in every place we find ourselves.

# Today we especially thank you for the people who continually build us up,

### whose love never wavers, even when we cannot receive it.

And we pray for those who struggle with their mental health, with eating disorders,

with grief that overwhelms.

## We remember this day those who are bullied,

## those for whom home is not a safe place,

those who cannot be themselves even among their loved ones.

We ask for your comfort and your wholeness to cover them, fill them, and bring peace.

## (brief silence)

We thank you this day for those who add their blessing and hope to our prayers,

who remind us of your faithfulness and guide us to trust your word.

## And we pray for those who hear only words of despair,

## who live in fear, in the midst of war or famine or disease.

We remember this day those who are ill,

those waiting for test results, praying not to get bad news, those struggling to breathe or suffering through treatments.

We ask for your grace to be made tangible, to bring them hope and healing.

## (brief silence)

We thank you this day for those who have walked this journey ahead of us,

# whose songs of praise echo through the ages and remind us of what you can do.

We pray for those who wait impatiently for the day of your justice, who have been oppressed and silenced and hungry and forgotten.

We remember this day those who work for peace,

# those who have suffered at the hands of those who flex their might, those who demand to be remembered, by you and by us.

We ask for your power to bring new life this day,

and your strength to turn this world toward the light of your kingdom, even now.

Here other petitions may be offered.

*Pastor:*We trust in your promise, O God, and so we offer ourselves, the prayers of our hearts and the living of our days, for your glory.

Hear us, and answer us, through the power of your Holy Spirit, and in the name of Jesus the Christ. **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)

ANTHEM: "Open the Eyes of My Heart" Paul Baloche https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ViBNqNukgzE

## **INVITATION OF STEWARDSHIP/OFFERING PRAYER**

We are so used to the quote "God loves a cheerful giver," and it is true...yet it is also true that God loves and works with whatever we are able to give. If what we have to give is given through heartfelt anguish and grief, God will receive our gift and respond with compassion. If what we have to give is frustration at the way the world works and insistence that God change it for the better, God will receive our gift and respond with vision and power. The Spirit enables us to be generous because we are made in the image of God, whose generosity is beyond our understanding — so whatever the state of your soul today, know that God calls you as you are, to give and to receive the blessing of a life aligned with God's goodness. Let us pray.

We come as we are, and we give what we have, O God. May these gifts, offered as a reflection of our gratitude for your grace, be a blessing that turns the world upside down, bringing life and hope into the desolate places. We ask in the name of Jesus, who gave himself for the life of the world. 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 In Thee Is Gladness ELW 867**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xC1ixVXQ9PY

In thee is gladness amid all	Who trusts thee surely has built
sadness,	securely
Jesus, sunshine of my heart.	and stands forever: Alleluia!
By thee are given the gifts of	Our hearts are pining
heaven,	to see thy shining,
thou the true redeemer art.	dying or living, to thee are
Our souls thou wakest;	cleaving;
our bonds thou breakest.	naught can us sever: Alleluia!

Jesus is ours! We fear no powers, not of earth or sin or death. He sees and blesses in worst distresses; he can change them with a breath.

Wherefore the story tell of his glory

with hearts and voices; all heav'n rejoices in him forever: Alleluia!

We shout for gladness, triumph o'er sadness, love him and praise him and still shall raise him glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

Text: © 1969, Concordia Publishing House

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

**Worship Notes**: Portions of the worship service has been adapted by Pastor Jen from the following resources: Working Preacher (Introduction, Prayer of the Day,); Bible Worm/Rev. Terri Peterson (Preparing for worship, confession, Offering prayer, Prayers of Intercession)

**Music Notes: Baldassare Galuppi (18 October 1706 – 3 January 1785)** was a Venetian composer, born on the island of Burano and was called II Buranello. His father was a barber, who also played the violin in theatre orchestras, and is believed to have been his son's first music teacher. He was trained in composition and harpsichord by Antonio Lotti, the chief organist at St Mark's Basilica. In 1740, Galuppi was appointed director of music at the Ospedale dei Mendicanti in Venice, where his duties ranged from teaching and conducting to composing liturgical music and oratorios. In his first year of service at the Mendicanti, he composed 6 motets, 13 settings of the *Salve Regina*, and two psalm settings. Although he became internationally known as an operatic composer, he maintained a steady output of sacred music throughout his career. In April 1762 Galuppi was appointed to the leading musical post in Venice, *maestro di capella* of St Mark's, and in July of the same year he was also appointed choir master at the Ospedale degli Incurabili. At St Mark's, he set about reforming the choir. He persuaded the Basilica authorities, the Procurators, to be more flexible in payments to singers.

Paul Joseph Baloche (b.1962) is an American Christian music artist, worship leader, and singer-songwriter. A native of Maple Shade
Township, New Jersey, Baloche was the worship pastor at Community
Christian Fellowship in Lindale, Texas for 26 years. He and his wife, Rita
left Texas in January 2015, moving to New York City to be nearer family.
Baloche composes on piano and acoustic guitar, favoring guitar when
leading worship. His wife, Rita Baloche, is also a Christian songwriter.
Altar Flowers: Today's altar flowers are given by Jo-Ann & Charles
Nestor in honor of their twin daughters, Megan & Danielle's twenty first
birthday. Happy Birthday and congratulations to you both and God's
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 Danielle Nestor (ankle surgery) Jill Russo's dad (cancer) Maisa Tompuri (cataracts) Danny Brooks (Carol Brooks' nephew) Mary O'Toole (Sister 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 Lang (friend of Pam Carlson) Margaret, Elizabeth, Kathie, Larry, and Millie. (friends of Joanne Icken) Katherine Waldvogel (Dawn Morello's mother) Lillian Eberhardt 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) Burt Pelletier (friend of Peter Gebhardt) John Wills (Back Surgery) Thomas Tazza (friend of Peter Gebhardt) Richard Avy (Husband of Judy Avy and Friend of Fred & Pamela Carlson)

### Prayers for those serving in the medical community

Jeannette 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 Bargen (Putnam Hospital) **Prayers for essential workers** 

READINGS		
Oct 25	<b>2 Samuel 7:1-17 (Luke 1:30-33)</b> God's promise to David concerning his heir, who	
God's Promise to David	will be God's Son and whose kingdom will endure forever.	
Twenty-first Sunday after		
Pentecost (or Reformation)		
Nov 1	1 Kings 17:1-16 [17-24] (Luke 4:24- 26) Elijah and the widow; God's care for those	
God's Care for the Widow	on the margin.	
Twenty-second Sunday after		
Pentecost (or All Saints)		
Nov 8	Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10 [4:1-11] (Luke 18:13) Jonah's attempted escape from God,	
Jonah and God's Mercy	God's mercy on the people of Nineveh.	
Twenty-third Sunday after		
Pentecost		
Nov 15	Isaiah 6:1-8 (Luke 5:8-10) Call of Isaiah: Holy, holy, holy is God; the prophet's sin,	
God Calls Isaiah Twenty-	cleansing, and sending.	
fourth Sunday after		
Pentecost		
Nov 22	Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-28; then 31:31-34 (Luke 22:19-20) Jeremiah's scroll	
God Promises a New	calls for repentance, but the king burns it. The prophet promises a new covenant,	
Covenant Christ the King /	written on the heart.	
Reign of Christ Sunday		
Nov 29	Daniel 6:6-27 (Luke 23:1-5) Daniel in the lions' den; deliverance; God's kingdom	
Daniel's Hope in God First	shall never be destroyed.	
Sunday of Advent		
Dec 6	Joel 2:12-13, 28-29 (Luke 11:13) Turn to a merciful God, promise of the Spirit.	
God's Promised Spirit		
Second Sunday of Advent		

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 Lorraine Cornell (Doris O'Toole's mother) Additional Prayers

#### **Announcements**

**BLOOD DRIVE UPDATE:** Thank you to all who donated at our September 29, 2020 blood drive held here at Trinity. We collected **93 units of blood**, of which 77 were whole blood and 8 units were double red cells. It was a great community event. Thanks to Caitlyn, Pastor Jen, and Georgina Marek for their support and publicity efforts that helped make this drive one of the most successful ever, and thanks also to Dorothy Kafalas for being available in the church office during the entire drive to any Hudson Valley Blood Drive personnel or donors. **Next blood drive: 2021, Tuesday March 2 at Trinity.** 

#### Trinity's Vision: Sharing the Peace of Christ

In the coming weeks, you are invited to join the Church Council in brainstorming ideas related to our vision of sharing the peace of Christ. In the midst of today's world, how might we bring a sense of hope-filled peace into the lives of others? Who in your life might need to experience the peace of Christ? We will be making very tangible efforts to live out this vision and we need everyone's commitment to living it out!

**Christmas services?:** In looking at a variety of ideas related to how we might celebrate Christmas faithfully and safely, we are seeking your input. We need to have a sense of how many people might attend any in-person Christmas eve or day services. Please go to: <u>Christmas in-person worship</u> and take a very short survey. If you are unable to do this online, please contact Pastor Jen. *Your input is valuable and needed!* 



**Congregational meeting:** On **Sunday, Nov. 1st (10:30am)** we will gather once again (virtually & in-person) to discuss the possibility of being a sleeping site for the emergency shelter. We hope to have a member of the current board to help answer questions. Watch for a letter to be sent out soon with more information.

**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 antiracism understanding and efforts. A 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 gathering - via Zoom- on Monday, Oct. 26th. The link will be sent out with the bulletin on that Sunday



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.



**Bible Study:** Has resumed, Meeting each Wednesday Via Zoom (7pm). We will be using the theme: "Love is greater than...We will be using some of the themes in the graphic like: fear, grief, money, etc

**Faith Book Club:** We had some great conversations at our last book club gathering about the book, "Strength to Love" by Martin Luther King - there is so much that is pertinent to today that we thought we needed to discuss more. This will give everyone a chance to read the book before we meet on Monday, Oct. 19th. The chapters are fairly short, but jam packed with much food for thought - you may want to just plan to read a chapter or two a wee

thought - you may want to just plan to read a chapter or two a week to let it all sink it.

## WELCA Fall 2020

We will be meeting on the following Days:

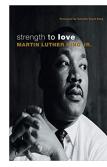
Oct. 22 – 10 AM – work on service projects

Nov. 5 – 10 AM -Bible Study lead by Irene

Nov. 19-10 AM - work on service project

Dec. 3 – 10 AM- Advent study led by Pastor Jen

Dec. 17 – 10 AM Advent study led by Pastor Jen



**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) and/or Pastor Jen (revjdyer1@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



**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 or call/text 518-231-4633*)

Weekly gatherings

Wednesdays (7pm) Bible study Meeting ID: 346 900 784) https://us02web.zoom.us/j/346900784?pwd=RnBtMEo4QUhQOG9veEZj RVNwMkd2QT09

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

## https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89060997152?pwd=cW15NThGVzA5YUdsYW dKVGJYdVBkUT09

### Sundays

10:30 **Coffee Hour/Fellowship** (Meeting ID: 435 263 0119) <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4352630119?pwd=YXo0a241ZkJMMThKb1FS</u> <u>bm5ITEZqUT09</u>

## 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: <u>www.trinitybrewsterny.orq</u>. Please note that we are not depositing offerings every week, but about once a month. Dear Friend,

"When you can't change the direction of the wind – adjust your sails," a quote from inspirational writer, H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

#### Thanksgiving

We learned this week that our supermarket partners cannot permit food drives this year. This will have a devastating impact on the delivery of our Thanksgiving Basket Program. Modifying time-tested processes isn't going to be easy but it's essential that we acknowledge the limitations and adhere to all health and safety guidelines.

A difficult decision has been made to accept donations of *turkeys only* every Monday through Friday at the CAP office during November. We'll be reaching out to several local service organizations to ask for their help with pies, rolls and butter: items that can easily be handled without the need for additional manpower.

Adjusting our sails means that we are asking for donations of turkeys and \$25 grocery store gift cards for Thanksgiving by November 13<sup>th</sup> to ensure that families receive these cards in time to shop for themselves.

The end result will be families enjoying delicious, traditional Thanksgiving meals as plentiful as what we've provided in past year.

#### Holiday Toys

Holiday Toys presented us with a similar dilemma. How do we safely ensure all our children receive gifts at the holidays? Adequate space for this program has always been a challenge, but this year it is particularly daunting. There isn't a place we know with enough space to accommodate this program and at the same time ensure a safe environment with room to guarantee social distancing for all involved.

Another difficult decision was reached to distribute store gift cards to the parents for the purchase of gifts for their own children. Our modest goal is to guarantee that each child receives \$50 worth of gifts. Sufficient time must be allotted for parents to shop around, search for the right items, take advantage of sales, perhaps order online and wait for holiday delivery.

Another sail adjustment as we ask you to please make your CAP monetary holiday donation by November 13<sup>th</sup>.

Holiday gift cards will be distributed with the Thanksgiving Basekts.

Your monetary donation will be used for the purchase of an assortment of gift cards, allowing parents a choice of stores for their holiday shopping.

Your gift is vitally important and so very much appreciated. As a convenience, you can donate online by clicking on the DONATE button at the top of this page.

We know that you share with us a genuine concern for the well-being of everyone in our community. You are the ones who put the wind in our sails. Together, we can do this.

The wind has changed direction. Let's all adjust our sails and create new traditions this holiday season! HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!