



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

527 Washington Street
Reading, PA 19601
(610) 374-4861
www.trinityreading.org

✝ ✝ ✝

Our worship at Trinity
follows the church's
ancient form.

Everything you need for
worship is in this bulletin.

✝ ✝ ✝

All who trust that
Christ is present in Holy
Communion are invited to
receive Him with us today.

✝ ✝ ✝

Please silence your cell
phone.

✝ ✝ ✝

Our AED is mounted on
the wall in the stairway
next to the baptismal font.



At Trinity, we welcome
all LGBTQ+ people as
full participants in our
common life. We're proud
to proclaim this publicly in
our city and wider church
as a Reconciling in Christ
congregation.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST AT 10:00 AM

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 28, 2024

Congregational words are in bold print.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland
(Savior of the Nations, Come), BWV 599

J. S. Bach

Please stand in body or spirit.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
creator of darkness and light,
word of truth,
wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.


Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

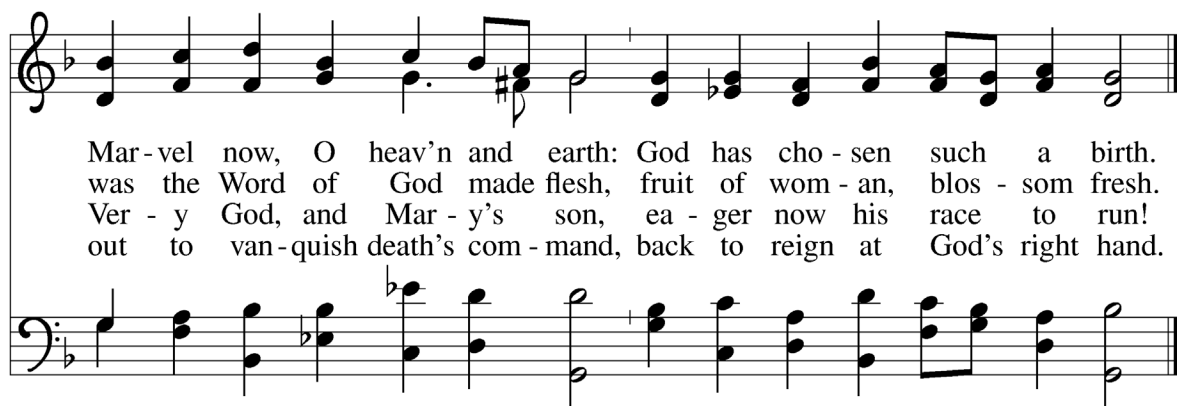
God, our rock and refuge,
we pour out our hearts before you.
We have known you but have not always loved you.
We have wounded one another
and sinned against you.
We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit
dwelling in each of us.
Remember your covenant.
Renew your creation.
Restore us,
that we might proclaim your good news to all.
Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.
 God has spoken:
 The time of grace is now.
 In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.
 By the authority of † Jesus Christ,
 your sins are forgiven.
 You are God's beloved.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN - ELW 263 - Savior of the Nations, Come



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home.
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, but the mys - tic Breath of God,
 3 Won-drous birth—oh, won-drous child—from his throne, a vir - gin mild!
 4 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds, back to God his path-way leads;



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth.
 was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of wom - an, blos - som fresh.
 Ver - y God, and Mar - y's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
 out to van-quish death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.

5 Now your manger, shining bright,
 hallows night with newborn light.
 Night cannot this light subdue;
 let our faith shine ever new.

6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,
 virgin's son, incarnate Word!
 To the holy Trinity
 praise we sing eternally!

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. hymnal version
 Music: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524
 Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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.

KYRIE

The musical notation for the Kyrie consists of three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, accessible style. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first staff begins with a quarter rest, followed by the lyrics 'Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.' The second staff begins with a quarter rest, followed by the lyrics 'Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.' The third staff begins with a quarter rest, followed by the lyrics 'Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.' The melody for 'mer - cy' is repeated across the three staves.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Compassionate God,
you gather the whole universe
into your radiant presence
and continually reveal your Son as our Savior.
Bring wholeness to all that is broken
and speak truth to us in our confusion,
that all creation will see and know your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Be seated.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

After the reading:

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 111

The choir introduces the refrain. The congregation repeats the refrain and sings the refrain where indicated. The psalm will be sung alternately between the choir and the congregation.



Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with | my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the | congregation.

**Great are your | works, O LORD,
pondered by all who de- | light in them.**

Majesty and splendor | mark your deeds,
and your righteousness en- | dures forever.

**You cause your wonders to | be remembered;
you are gracious and full | of compassion. R**

You give food to | those who fear you,
remembering forev- | er your covenant.

**You have shown your people the power | of your works
in giving them the lands | of the nations.**

The works of your hands are faithful- | ness and justice;
all of your pre- | cepts are sure.

**They stand fast forev- | er and ever,
because they are done in | truth and equity. R**

You sent redemption to your people
and commanded your cove- | nant forever;
holy and awesome | is your name.

**The fear of the LORD is the begin- | ning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding.
God's praise en- | dures forever. R**

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SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.

After the reading:

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

TEACHING TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Please stand in body or spirit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The gospel acclamation is sung by all and repeated after the verse.



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Verse: *Our hearts burn within us as you open to us the scriptures.*

GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28

Forces that would bring death and disease have taken hold of a man, yet they recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. Jesus commands these forces to leave and people are amazed at his authority.

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Be seated.

SERMON

Please stand in body or spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY - ELW 517 - Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

The musical score is written for a three-part setting (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a treble staff and a bass staff. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with line numbers 1, 2, and 3 indicating different parts of the hymn. The music is a simple, homophonic setting with a steady rhythm.

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife

and bring to naught all he has done.
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

APOSTLES' CREED

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

Let us pray for the church, the world, and for all of God's creation.

After a brief silence each petition concludes:

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

After the final petition:

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy, through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please greet one another and then be seated.

OFFERTORY

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Harold W. Friedell

The Trinity Choir

See ELW 470 for text.

Please stand in body or spirit.

OFFERTORY CANTICLE



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, Holy One,

for all good things come from you.

In bread and cup you open heaven to us.

Meet us at this table,

that we receive what we seek

and follow your Son, Jesus,

in whose name we pray.

Amen.

DIALOG

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and

God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

O God triune, how majestic...

Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song:

The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer...

Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song:

The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

We praise you for the heart of Jesus,...

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song:

The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

O God triune, you create the worlds,...

we rise from our deaths to praise you again:

The earth is full of your glory.

The earth is full of your glory.

Amen, and amen.

Amen, and amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.
Come and see.

Be seated.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

DISTRIBUTION

All who trust that Jesus Christ is present in this holy meal are invited to receive communion.

Please follow the direction of the usher; if your pew is located on one of the side aisles, walk to the rear of the sanctuary. Two lines will form in the center aisle. The left line will commune at the left side of the altar rail; the right line will commune on the right side.

When you reach the front of the sanctuary, there are serving trays located on the tables. Please choose either an empty glass to receive wine, or, if you prefer, a prefilled glass in the center ring containing grape juice. After taking your cup, proceed to the rail. Fill in around the rail from the center to the ends. You may stand or kneel as is your preference.

The pastor will give you a piece of bread; eat it when you receive it. If you prefer a gluten free alternative, please inform the pastor.

Then, an assistant will come to offer wine from a pouring chalice. Please extend your glass to be filled with wine or indicate that you have grape juice. After drinking the wine or juice, you are welcome to remain in place for a moment of meditation.

After you finish your time of reflection, please return to your pew, depositing your empty glass in the trays located on the tables at the head of the side aisles.

Please stand in body or spirit.

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Giver of every gift,

Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.

Raise us to life by your power

for the benefit of all and to your glory,

now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

God who names you,

Christ who claims you,

and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,

✠ bless you and remain with you always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN - ELW 507 - O God of Light



1 O God of light, your word, a lamp un - fail - ing,
 2 From days of old, through blind and will - ful a - ges,
 3 Un - dimmed by time, those words are still re - veal - ing
 4 To all the world your sum - mons you are send - ing,



shall pierce the dark - ness of our earth - bound way
 though we re - belled, you gent - ly sought a - gain,
 to sin - ful hearts your jus - tice and your grace;
 through all the earth, to ev - 'ry land and race,



and show your grace, your plan for us un - veil - ing,
 and spoke through saints, a - pos - tles, proph - ets, sa - ges,
 and quest - ing spir - its, long - ing for your heal - ing,
 that myr - iad tongues, in one great an - them blend - ing,



and guide our foot - steps to the per - fect day.
 who wrote with ea - ger or re - luc - tant pen.
 see your com - pas - sion in the Sav - ior's face.
 may praise and cel - e - brate your gift of grace.

Text: Sarah E. Taylor, 1883–1954, alt.

Music: ATKINSON, H. Barrie Cabena, b. 1933

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Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort
(Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word)

Johann Gottfried Walther

Please join us for coffee and conversation in the Hintz Room immediately following worship.

Today's reception is hosted by Ralph & Vickie Unruh and David & Sue Shellong.

+ + +

Worship at Trinity this Lent!

Midday worship: After a pandemic-induced pause, we're pleased to announce that Trinity's Lenten midday service will resume in 2024. Join us at 12:05 PM in Trinity's chapel for a simple, 25-minute Eucharist on: Ash Wednesday (February 14), February 21, February 28, March 6, March 13, and March 20. Bring a brown-bag lunch to eat with us after each of our midday services. Trinity will provide coffee and tea to lubricate conversation!

Ash Wednesday (February 14): In addition to our brief midday service at 12:05 PM, we'll hold a festival liturgy on Ash Wednesday at 7:30 PM. Weather permitting, Dcs. Deborah and Pr. Hans will also be available in Trinity's courtyard for a brief penitential rite and "Ashes to Go" from 8:30 AM until 9:30 AM as well as from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM.

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Sunday, January 28, 2024 - Epiphany 4

Leaders in Today's Liturgy

Presiding and Preaching: Pr. Hans E. Becklin

Assisting Minister: Donna Osborne

Minister of Music: Karen S. Eddinger

Lector: Thomas Souders

Communion Assistant: Steve Hofmann

Greeter: Erica Hofmann

Ushers: David & Sue Shellong

Altar Guild: Bernadette Ilgen, Jacinda Motley, Joshua Motley, Linda Motley, Charlene Norton, Robin Oberholtzer and Beth Welz

Today's altar flowers are sponsored by Daniel & Ellen Huyett in memory of Mary Jane Huyett and Daniel H. Huyett, 3rd

We thank James & Irmgard Barrett for planning today's worship

Ongoing Prayer Requests

Katy Jablonowski (daughter of Nancy Everson), Carol Hoffman (Christine Motley's mother), Bette Ashton (Christine Motley's grandmother), John Kline (friend of Ron Eddinger), Dar Unger, Darryl Jeffries, Dick Evans, Ed Harlin, Walter Schur, John Bornhofen, David Unruh (brother of Ralph Unruh), Celia Cosentino (friend of Jane Zobian), the Sawyer family, Nancy Nagle, Jan Opalinski, and Tina Koch (friend of Jenn Smith)

Immediate Prayer Requests

Jerry Holleran, John Kirby, Harry Feinauer, Richard Diesinger (brother of Russ Diesinger), Sandi & Tom McCarthy (friends of Carolyn & Jerry Holleran), Jonathan Bloom (friend of Jenn Smith), Terry Hack (brother-in-law of Maggie Shelly), Bob Hoffman (Christine Motley's father), and the family and friends of Hermann Sonon, who recently joined the church triumphant.

Trinity Households and Ministry Partners

Geoff & Amber Eddinger; Ron, Karen, Zach & Jesse Eddinger; Ned, Meghan, Ann & Helen Ehrlich; Kaye Endres; and Dick & Suzy Evans; Christ Episcopal Church and Fr. Bryce; the Common Ground Recovery Community and Pr. Tom; and Calvary Lutheran Church in West Reading and Pastor Lauren Wolfe Blatt

Broadcast Schedule for January on Comcast Channel 190

Sundays

6:00 PM World Views:

Tibetan Buddhism

6:30 PM Music From Trinity:

Derrick Thompson and

Jeffrey Lentz

7:00 PM Trinity Worship Service

Wednesdays

4:00 PM Trinity Worship Service

5:00 PM Music From Trinity:

Derrick Thompson and

Jeffrey Lentz

5:30 PM World Views:

Tibetan Buddhism

Trinity's Sunday morning

worship is also live streamed via Facebook and YouTube.

You may log on to either platform on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM and worship at the same time as the in-person congregation.

Save the Date! Pastor Hans E. Becklin to be installed on February 10th!

Bishop Christopher deForest of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod will install Pastor Hans as Trinity's Senior Pastor in a festival Holy Eucharist to be held on Saturday, February 10th at 1 PM. Pastor Marissa Becklin (Faith United, Denver, Pa.) will preach. Clergy are invited to vest and process, wearing white vestments as we mark the Vigil of the Transfiguration. A reception for all present will follow the service.

Sunday Forum Schedule

9:00 AM in the Hintz Room - Interesting. Informative. Inspiring.

February 4th: Idols Old and New - Part 2: In the Small Catechism, Luther instructs us to fear, love, and trust God above all things. St. Paul taught the church in Corinth how to deal with the ever-present idols of the Greco-Roman world. Join Pastor Hans for a bible study on First Corinthians 8 as we seek to answer the question: how can we truly place God first in our lives, when so many idols bid us to bow down?

Outreach and Service Opportunities

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. - Matthew 25:35

This February, mark your calendars for many opportunities to live out your faith: through giving, fasting, and/or walking. More information forthcoming. Stronger together, we make a difference in our community and our world!

Sunday, February 11 – Souperbowl of Caring – for Lighthouse Women and Children's Center

Saturday – Sunday, February 17-18 – Act2Day 4Tomorrow – WBMD Stronger Together Youth Overnight (right here at Trinity)

Saturday, February 24 – Coldest Night Of The Year 2024: It's cold out there! On 2/24 people from the West Berks Mission District (Lutheran Churches) are participating in a winterrific family-friendly walk at Penn State Berks Campus to raise money for New Journey Community Outreach so we can continue serving people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness in the Reading Community. We will be walking with people from faith communities and civic organizations from all across Berks County to make a difference! Some give by walking. Some walk by giving. We are stronger together! Please, register as a walker for our WBMD team and/or give generously at walk.w-ith.us/WBMD

Open Altar Flower Sponsorship Date - February 25: We invite you to sponsor the altar flowers (\$80 for full sponsorship, \$40 for co-sponsorship) on Sunday, February 25. Your dedication will appear in the Sunday bulletin. Contact Rachel Gambone in the church office (610) 374-4861 ext. 23 or sign up in the notebook on the narthex counter. Thank you for beautifying our worship space.

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, January 28

9:00 AM: Sunday Forum (Hintz Room)
 9:00 AM: Sunday TLC
 10:00 AM: Worship (Nave)
 11:15 AM: Coffee & Conversation (Hintz Room)
 11:15 AM: Mixed Ensemble (Bard House)
 2:00 PM: Common Ground Worship and Meal
 6:00 PM: ChAOS - Media Ministry at Trinity
 (Trinity)

Monday, January 29

1:00 PM: Program Staff Meeting (Bard House)

Tuesday, January 30

9:30 AM: Full Staff Meeting

Wednesday, January 31

6:30 PM: Handbell Choir (Robing Room)
 7:30 PM: Joint Choir Rehearsal (Hintz Room)

Sunday, February 4

9:00 AM: Sunday Forum (Hintz Room)
 9:00 AM: Sunday TLC
 10:00 AM: Worship (Nave)
 11:15 AM: Coffee & Conversation (Hintz Room)
 11:15 AM: Mixed Ensemble (Bard House)
 2:00 PM: Common Ground Worship and Meal
 6:00 PM: ChAOS (Trinity)

Church office hours are 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Monday-Thursday

Staff of Trinity Lutheran Church

The Rev. Hans E. Becklin	Senior Pastor
Deaconess Deborah Graf	Deacon for Formation & Service
Karen S. Eddinger	Minister of Music
Matthew Mellen	Media Director
Rachel Gambone	Parish Secretary
Peter Graf	Financial Administrator
Dave Troche	Sexton

The Rev. Fred S. Opalinski	Pastor Emeritus
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Vestry of Trinity Lutheran Church

Amy Litvinov +	President, <i>Congregational Life</i>
Jennifer Smith +	Vice President, <i>Media</i>
Martha Good +	Secretary, <i>Congregational Life</i>
Erica Hofmann +	Treasurer, <i>Finance</i>
Steve Welz +	<i>Personnel</i>
Donna Osborne	<i>Worship & Music</i>
Eric Rosenbaum	<i>Property</i>
Tom Hofmann	<i>Outreach & Service</i>
Pr. Hans E. Becklin +	

+ indicates members of the Executive Committee

Email the Vestry: vestry@trinityreading.org

Email Pastor Hans: hbecklin@trinityreading.org