

# THE CHIMES

Trinity Episcopal Church  
815 N. Grant St.  
Bay City, Michigan 48708

March 2022

Volume 25 Issue 3



Dear Trinity Community,

You are loved. You. Are. Loved. And nothing, NOTHING can separate you from God's love. No matter what. No matter what you think. No matter what or how you believe. No matter what your circumstances. No. Matter. What. The apostle Paul writes in Romans 8:38-39, "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord".

This is good news because with so much going on in our lives the last two years, we all probably need to be reminded of this. With Covid and our ever-changing weather patterns and social unrest and, now, war in Ukraine. We humans are hard-wired to react to threat whether real or perceived. Our fight-or-flight reflex kicks in and we can get so caught up in that that we need to use our brain to remind us that nothing can separate us from the love of God. And that no matter what the outcome of our situation(s) may be, we are loved beyond measure.

Our new Bishop Provisional Prince Singh is a man who exudes God's love and hope. His online service of welcome was Thursday, February 24 and is available for viewing on the Diocese of Eastern Michigan's Facebook page. He spoke eloquently on the gift of transitions and love. One of the things he said was that "Love can only be understood when it's embodied." In other words, there must be a tangible, in-the-body experience of love to begin to grasp love.

I cordially invite you to meet Bishop Singh when he comes to visit Trinity on Sunday, March 13 at our Sunday worship. I expect you will be blessed by his presence and message of hope and love. This will also be the first Sunday that our organ will be back in full voice! Beginning March 1, the restrictions regarding eating will be lifted and we can begin having coffee hour once again! So, we will be able to enjoy some time with him after church at coffee hour. He will meet with the Vestry as well. Trinity will continue to wear masks and check-in upon arrival.

And March 2 is Ash Wednesday! We will be having our services at noon and 7pm. We are permitted to do the imposition of ashes and will come to the altar rail to do so. For those not comfortable having someone else place ashes on the forehead, packets of ashes and Q-tips will be provided during the service. Packets are available in the bin outside the office door for those who will be worshipping at home.

Also, on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30pm during Lent, we will have a bible study in the Guild Room and via Zoom using the upcoming Sunday's readings. Hard copies of these are available in the bin outside the office door and inside as you come to worship. A link to the bible study resource will be sent out in an email and posted on our website and Facebook page. The Zoom link will be sent in an email only.

As we begin Lent's journey, may we continue to be reminded of God's abundant love from which we can never be separated.

In Christ's love,  
*Rev. Sue Rich*

### **THANK YOU**

Rev. Curt Zimmerman for leading worship on February 13, 2022.

Rev. Nancy Mayhew for covering pastoral emergencies during Rev. Sue's vacation.

### **OUR SYMPATHIES TO**

Sharon Scharich whose mother, Allison Denison, died on January 15, 2022.

Mary K, Katharine and Matt Freel on the death of Don Freel who died on February 4, 2022.

The family of Ed Henneke (former chancellor of the Diocese of Eastern Michigan) who died on February 11, 2022.

Brenda Weaver (our Bookkeeper) whose mother, Joyce Morin died on February 12, 2022.

The family of Richard Boutell Fletcher who died on February 13, 2022.

The family of Jane Willard who died on February 16, 2022.

### **SPECIAL MARCH DATES**

- Ash Wednesday, March 2, services at noon (spoken service) at 7pm (with choir).
- Sunday, March 13 Bishop Prince Singh will lead worship. Please make a point to join us and meet him!
- Sunday, March 13 Daylight Savings Time begins— remember to turn your clocks ahead!
- Sunday, March 13 will be the first Sunday our organ will be in full voice!

### **REMEMBER TRINITY IN YOUR WILL**

As a way to offer enduring support ministry here, please consider putting Trinity in your will.

### **MASK AND FOOD UPDATE**

We are no longer required to wear masks at all times in the building. They will be required to wear when coming forward for communion. Coffee Hour is resumed!

As of July 1, 2021 we entered into Phase 3 of the PLAN FOR RE-ENTRY FOR GREAT LAKES EPISCOPALIANS which can be found at [www.eastmich.org/coronavirus](http://www.eastmich.org/coronavirus). This means that at this time:

- Masks are required for communion only
- Check in with name and contact only
- Passing of the Peace will be done at a distance
- Hand sanitizer continues to be used before receiving communion
- Communion will be at the altar rail and brought to those who desire
- Communion will be bread only
- Online worship continues
- Coffee hour resumes with food served by gloved servers

### **WORSHIP AT TRINITY**

It is understood that when out in public there is the risk of exposure to COVID-19 and we trust that each household will make the best decision for themselves as to attend worship in-person or online. Trinity's space is quite large and we have implemented safety measures above the diocesan requirements.

Please note: Our virtual services are live streamed or recorded/preserved to be available to others by way of our website, social media, or other on-line platforms. Even though there is no deliberate attempt to include the congregation in the broadcast or publication, you are hereby notified there is the possibility of your image being shown and your presence and participation constitutes your permission for that to occur.



### OUR PROVISIONAL BISHOP

The Rt. Rev. Prince Grenville Singh, Ph.D. serves as Bishop Provisional of the Episcopal Dioceses of Eastern and Western Michigan. He was elected by the joint convention of the dioceses held in Lansing, October 2021.

Bishop Singh was born and raised in India, attending seminary and serving several congregations before immigrating to the US in the mid-90s for additional study and service in the Episcopal Church. He was consecrated bishop of the Diocese of Rochester in 2008. His church-wide leadership includes Bishops Against Gun Violence, the House of Bishops Theology Committee, the Taskforce on the Theology of Social Justice, as a coach in the College for Bishops and several others.

In his fourteen years as bishop diocesan of the Diocese of Rochester, his tenure was marked by three core priorities: *relational welcome*, nurturing and growing the beloved community; *servant leadership*, empowering lay and clergy leaders for the work of the church; and *spiritual stewardship*, considering spiritual and material resources with an eye on sustainability, generosity, and invitation.

Bishop Singh brings energy and excitement for the work we're doing together as dioceses — charting a way forward grounded in mission, imagination, and collaboration.

February 24, 2022

**Dear Saints,**

History teaches us that violent takeovers and coercion are not gospel values -- though Christians have been complicit with such expressions. Our prayers and intentional thoughts surround the people and all creation in Ukraine as this manifest plague of coercion debilitates the life and safety of many.

Let us pray:

*Oh gracious, God of peace and agency.*

*We cry with the people and all creation in Ukraine to bring this violent war to a quick end.*

*We pray for global leaders to intervene and nip this culture of bullying in the bud. Please help us to disallow such tendencies when we witness their manifestations near or far from us. May we never be bystanders of indifference and hate!*

*You are the source of all that is good and holy, and we ask for your deep and abiding presence to hold these, our dear siblings, close to yourself.*

*Please help us be peacemakers where we are and help us put away tactics of devaluing the God-given dignity of others and their spaces.*

*In your Holy Name, we pray. Amen.*

**Yours faithfully,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Singh', written over a faint circular stamp or watermark.

**The Rt. Rev. Prince G. Singh**

Bishop Provisional

The Episcopal Dioceses of Eastern & Western Michigan



Wednesday Evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 there will be a bible study in the Guild Room and via Zoom. Hard copies are available in the bin outside the office door and in the side chapel. A link to the bible study resource will be sent out in an email and posted on our website and Facebook page. The Zoom link will be sent in an email only.

**Lent Resources Available Online & at Church:**

\*40 Days of Gratitude (a journal from The United Thank Offering - UTO)  
<https://unitedthankoffering.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/40-Days-of-Gratitude-4.pdf>

\*Lenten Gratitude Practices for Children and Families: UTO and Growing Gratefulness  
<https://unitedthankoffering.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/UTO-Lenten-Educational-Materials-for-families.pdf>

\*Bible Study for each Sunday of Lent

\*Lent Madness, the fun March madness-like experience that pits two saints against one another each day during Lent until the winner receives the revered Golden Halo. Go to [www.lentmadness.org](http://www.lentmadness.org) to vote, sign up for daily emails, and learn about this fun Lent activity. Brackets can be found in the side chapel.



**Birthdays**

Pat Maxim  
Emily Gray  
Sean Brady  
Sue Clements  
Adam Culler  
Denise Morin  
Ken Fowler  
Jane Moulthrop  
Steven Beckert  
Matthew Smith  
Moria Brady  
Carla Maxim  
Morgan Salazar  
Tracey Krzysik

**CONTRIBUTIONS**

Your continued financial support of Trinity is greatly appreciated. Your Finance Committee and Vestry continue to work diligently to utilize all resources available to us during this unprecedented time.

Ways to provide us with your contributions:

- Write and mail a check to Trinity
- IRA contribution
- Go to [www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org](http://www.trinityepiscopalbaycity.org), click on the online giving link which will take you to the diocesan webpage.

**Altar Flowers**

There is an opening on March 20<sup>th</sup> if you would like to donate to honor someone or as a memorial to someone. Please call the office or Elizabeth Campbell if you are interested.

Trinity Church  
Her People, Her Building  
Then and Now

*This month, we take gleanings from the Trinity Church Record, the church's first newsletter which started in 1869, and from one from our more recent newsletters in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, The Trinity Chimes.*

As we begin the Lenten season here is a reflection on this time of penance, fasting and preparation from Rev. Wright, an early rector of Trinity Church. The thoughts are in *Volume II, No. 10*, issued in *February 1871*.

### *The Duties of Lent*

We are again on the eve of the Lenten Season. We are called to devote ourselves to the soul strengthening exercises of confession and humiliation\*. The good we receive from the special services of this holy time will depend upon the spirit in which we take part in them. If we engage in them simply because they are appointed, then we shall degenerate into mere formalists. We shall be feeding upon husks. We shall not know what nourishment is. But if we enter upon the services and out of love for them, the results cannot be otherwise than substantial. We shall grow, we shall feel ourselves stronger from our hearts, we shall thank God that He permitted us to see the Lenten part of this year.

\*Please note that centuries ago the word also meant "humbling, or humble condition, humility." (Oxford English Dictionary or OED)

The following is gleaned from the *March 1990 Trinity Chimes*. Submitted by Mrs. Frances Fitzgerald, a loyal and devout member for many years, the brief article was gleaned from something she had read and thought was important to share. A faithful reader of *The Anglican Digest and Forward Day by Day*, it was perhaps there that she found this little gem.

### *Forty Days of Lent*

Forty is a significant symbol of God's grace through times of preparation. Moses and Elias spent 40 days in the wilderness; the Jewish people wandered 40 years before entering the Promised Land; Jonah gave the city of Nineveh 40 days to repent; Jesus fasted 40 days in the desert following His baptism; and the season of Lent is 40 days, excluding Sundays.

In the early church, Lent was a time of teaching. By the end of the fourth century, converts to the faith were required to spend three hours a day in classes for seven weeks. Sundays were excluded from the Lenten period of penance because Sunday is the day of Resurrection, and is always to be celebrated.

St. Paul's United Methodist Church  
Middletown, N Y

With a prayer for a blessed and holy Lent as "the glory of these 40 days we celebrate with songs of praise."

Faithfully submitted by the Historical Guild

**PRAYER LIST UPDATES**

If you have someone you would like to add to one of our prayer lists, please email [trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com](mailto:trinitychurchbaycity@gmail.com) or call 989-326-0469 (cell).

**UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION**

Have you changed your address, phone number or other information lately? If so, please make sure that information gets to us! Thank you.



**PUZZLE**

*A wonderful washing*

David's prayer of repentance reveals a desire to be cleansed of his sin.

*Directions: Unscramble the words on the left. Then match them with the correct phrases from Psalm 51 (NIV) on the right.*

ETRCAE _____	_____ out my transgressions (v. 1)
HS AW _____	_____ away all my iniquity (v. 2)
RSEEROT _____	_____ me with hyssop, and I will be clean (v. 7)
WNERE _____	_____ me, and I will be whiter than snow (v. 7)
TLBO _____	_____ your face from my sins (v. 9)
DIHE _____	_____ out all my iniquity (v. 9)
NATRG _____	_____ in me a pure heart (v. 10)
LNSECAE _____	_____ a steadfast spirit within me (v. 10)
LBTO _____	_____ to me the joy of your salvation (v. 12)
W HSA _____	_____ me a willing spirit, to sustain me (v. 12)

Answer: blot, wash, cleanse, wash, hide, blot, create, renew, restore, grant

# Puzzle!

Complete the Scripture verses (NIV, unless marked) using letters found in the words



See! The winter is \_\_\_\_\_; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come. (Song of Solomon 2:11-12)

"Therefore, if your whole body is full of light, and no part of it \_\_\_\_\_, it will be just as full of light as when a lamp shines its light on you." (Luke 11:36)

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the \_\_\_\_\_, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them ... ? (Psalm 8:3-4)

We all, like sheep, have gone \_\_\_\_\_, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:6)

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the \_\_\_\_\_ and members of the household of God. (Ephesians 2:19, ESV)

Answer: past, dark, stars, astray, saints

**WORSHIP ON FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE**

In-person and Online:

Sunday-10:00 AM – Holy Communion

Online only:

Wednesday-11:30 AM – Morning Prayer

Tues & Thurs-9:00 PM – Compline

**FOOD OF FAITH 2:30 P.M. on Sundays**

**OFFICE HOURS**

Currently by appointment

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