



AUTHORITY

Matthew 21:23-32

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 27, 2026 9am

Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church. Thank you for joining our community in worship today.

If you are interested in baptism or wish to become a member of the parish, please speak to a member of the staff. We would be delighted to have you join our family. If you are not yet an Episcopalian, please feel free to ask someone near you for assistance during the worship service.

Visitors, please sign the guest book.

The entire text for the Eucharist may be found in the **Book of Common Prayer**.

The Word of God – pages 355–358

Holy Communion – Eucharistic Prayer A – page 361

The Breaking of the Bread and Post-Communion Prayer – pages 364–365

All hymns and service music are included in the bulletin for your convenience.

The hymns with numbers are found in **The Hymnal 1982**.

ENTRANCE RITE

Opening Hymn 477

All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine

ENGELBERG



1 All praise to thee, for thou, O King di - vine, _____
2 Thou cam'st to us in low - li - ness of thought; _____
3 Let this mind be in us which was in thee, _____
4 Where - fore, by God's e - ter - nal pur - pose, thou _____
5 Let ev - ery tongue con - fess with one ac - cord _____

1 didst yield the glo - ry that of right was thine, _____
2 by thee the out - cast and the poor were sought; _____
3 who wast a ser - vant that we might be free, _____
4 art high ex - alt - ed o'er all crea - tures now, _____
5 in heaven and earth that Je - sus Christ is Lord; _____

1 that in our dark - ened hearts thy grace might shine. _____
2 and by thy death was God's sal - va - tion wrought. _____
3 hum - bling thy - self to death on Cal - va - ry. _____
4 and given the Name to which all knees shall bow. _____
5 and God the Fa - ther be by all a - dored. _____

Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

Words: F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984)

Music: Engelberg, Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924); Richard Proulx (b. 1927)

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant continues

ALmighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Antiphon is sung twice. The congregation repeats the Antiphon after the verses.



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O GOD, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

First Lesson

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

The word of the LORD came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

People The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-6



- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my | trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to | shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their | schemes.**
- 3 Show me your ways, O | LORD, *
and teach me your | paths.**
- 4 Lead me in your truth and | teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day | long.**
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and | love, *
for they are from ever- | lasting.**
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my trans- | gressions; *
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O | LORD.**

The Second Lesson

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death--even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

People The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



The Holy Gospel *All standing*

Matthew 21:23-32

Celebrant
People

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

Celebrant
People

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

Repeat the Gospel Alleluia

The Sermon

The Rev. Denzil J. Luckritz

The Nicene Creed

All standing

WE BELIEVE IN ONE GOD,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.

**Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People – Form IV

The Leader and People pray responsively

Let us pray for the Church and the world.

Grant, almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *Silence.*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the blessings of this life. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People

MOST MERCIFUL GOD,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. **Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The minister and people greet one another.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

O Bless the Lord, My Soul

Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov

O bless the Lord, my soul, and let all that is within me bless his holy name. O bless the Lord, my soul, and do not forget all of his generous acts: who forgives all of your wrongs, your iniquities, your sins, and who heals all your diseases, all of your ills; who redeems your life from destruction; who crowns you with loving kindness, compassion and steadfast love.

Presentation Hymn

GROSSER GOTT

**Holy Father, Holy Son,
Holy Spirit, three we name You,
though in essence only one;**

**undivided God, we claim You,
and, adoring, bend the knee
while we own the mystery.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People. The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People. The third staff is for the Celebrant. The fourth staff is for the People.

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting people of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood and to preach the Gospel to all nations. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow - er and might, heav'n and earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the
 name, who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

The People remain standing and the Celebrant continues

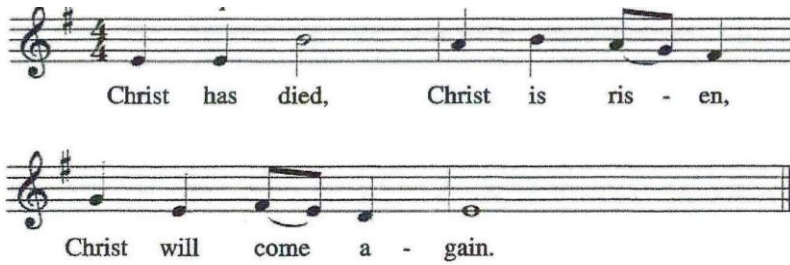
Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People



We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace: and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing:

HYMNAL S119

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, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

Fraction Anthem: Agnus Dei

MISSA PACEM

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the
world: have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the
world: grant us peace.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The people will be instructed how they will be receiving the Sacrament.

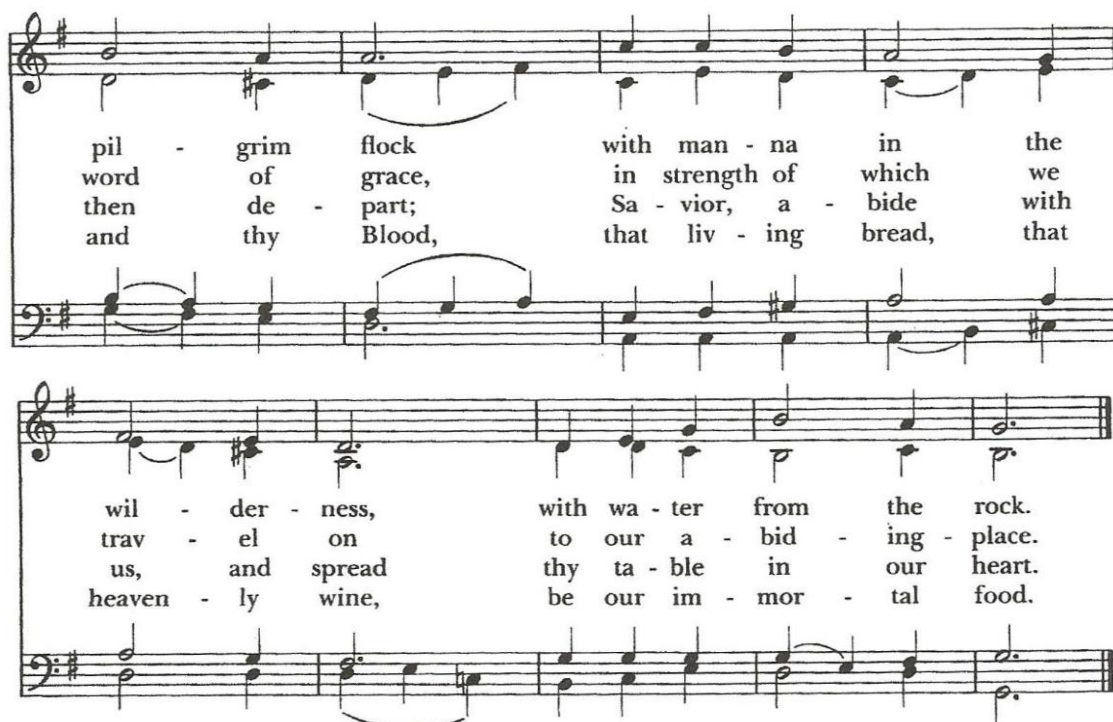
The Episcopal Church welcomes all baptized Christians of any age, regardless of denomination, to receive Holy Communion.

Communion Hymn 343

Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless

ST. AGNES

1 Shep-herd of souls, re-fresh and bless thy cho-sen
2 We would not live by bread a-lone, but by thy
3 Be known to us in break-ing bread, and do not
4 Lord, sup with us in love di-vine, thy Bo-dy



pil - grim flock with man - na in the
word of grace, in strength of which we
then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bide with
and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, with wa - ter from the rock.
trav - el on to our a - bid - ing - place.
us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart.
heaven - ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt.
Music: *St. Agnes*, melody John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876); harm. Richard Proulx (b. 1937),
after John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876);

Post-Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us now rise and pray.

ETERNAL GOD, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Brothers and Sisters, remember that life is short, and we have little time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind. Rest assured that God is infinitely more concerned with the promise of our future than the mistakes of our past. And may the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier be with you now and always. **Amen.**

1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my
 2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly

heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er
 by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good
 I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a

ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to

flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me
 from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from
 leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and

on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt.

Music: Nettleton, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813**The Dismissal***Celebrant*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

*People***Thanks be to God.**

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TODAY’S MUSIC: Doxology A “Doxology” is a song of praise to God. It is often sung in liturgical worship. The Gloria in excelsis is a Doxology. Many doxologies are hymns of praise to the Trinity. As you look at the words for the *Presentation Hymn*, you will see that it is a doxology to the Trinity. Some presentation hymns are hymns of thanksgiving. Probably coming in November.

✠ This week we pray for ✠

Our parish friends in need: Amy, Natilie, Jamie, Ellie, Danna, Penney, Luna, Debbie, Sara, Jeff, Alex, Janet, Joy, Cindy, Joyce, Dustin, Bill, Kira, Ron, Bernice, Denise, Jean, Dorothy, Kaylyn, Judy, Marilyn, Rob, Talia, Roy, Rose, Ian, Michelle, Ed, Erick, Lily, Desmond, Alton, Chris V., Patti M., Linda, Sarah, Brian, Michael, Alison, Tim, Cheryl, George, Dick, Gale, Malcolm, Signe, Nate, Devon, Katie, Mary, Maggie, Jason, Bud, Cathie, Mike, Sue, Daniel, Jared, Marrienne, Cathy, Ken, Sasha, Cecilia, Anthony, Andrea, Robert, Inga, Gary, Otto, Jenson, Chaney, Julian, Bobbie, Mary Ellen, Jim, Jamie, Marilou,, Sheila, Tom M., Eileen, Chireen, David, Debbie, Bernie, Nigel, Barb G., Rita, Terry, Matthew, Al, Sharon, Lisa, Christie, Robin, Rainer, Don, Virg, Tawnya, Shanna, Kim, Kris, Connor, Anne, Bob, Phyllis, Ella, Talon, Taylor, Linda J, Ty, Roberta, Paul, Dick, June, Larry, John, Bruce, Charles, Charlene, Greg, Lynn, Phil, Gloria, Jörg, Lauren, Leo, Rodney & Bonnie.

✠ The Flowers are given to the Glory of God ✠

✠ The Sanctuary Candle is given to the Glory of God ✠

In Loving Memory of Heather Stewart

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week

Rob Borchert, Tom Drake, Gregory Gyllsdorff, Linda Barber

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know.

THIS WEEK’S WORSHIP ONLINE @ ZOOM

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3889192038>

OR JOIN US ON FACEBOOK @ TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH, AURORA, IL GROUP

MORNING PRAYER 9AM – EVENING PRAYER 7PM

TUESDAY-THURSDAY

Flower Charts 2026 Flower Charts are located on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Please sign up if there are special dates which you would like to have flowers on the altar in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a birthday, anniversary, or other important event. (Suggested donation for flowers is \$40.)

Sanctuary Candle 2026 Sanctuary Candle Sign-Up is now available. Please sign up if there are special dates which you would like to have the candle lit in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a birthday, anniversary, or other important event. Donation for the candle is \$5.

Neighbor Box We are placing non-perishable food in the box weekly. The Box will soon be secure so that items in plastic or paper can also be donated. Parishioners can help by routinely picking up an extra item when shopping, donating money by cash or accessing the Neighbor Box donation tab on our website; www.trinityaurora.com on the online giving page. Collections baskets are at the back of the church. Our gifts will make a difference for many families.

✠ SERVING TODAY ✠

Serving: Mariann Evans
Lector – Lesson 1: Cecilia Seabrook
Lector – Lesson 2: Karen Dolan
Intercessor: Karen Dolan
Ushers: Dick & Gale Blogg
Malcolm Blogg

✠ SERVING NEXT SUNDAY ✠

Serving: Linda Barber
Lector – Lesson 1: Lisa Luckritz
Lector – Lesson 2: John Heath
Intercessor: John Heath
Ushers: Dick & Gale Blogg
Malcolm Blogg



Trinity Episcopal Church

218 East Benton, Aurora, IL 60505

630-897-7283 – www.trinityaurora.org – Rob@trinityaurora.org

The Rt. Rev. Paula E. Clark, *Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago*

The Rev. Denzil J. Luckritz, *Priest-in-Charge*

Gregory Gyllsdorff, FAGO, ChM, *Director of Music and Organist*

Vestry

Guy Stephens, *Sr. Warden*; Marilou Clohessy, *Jr. Warden*; Thomas Herget, *Treasurer*;
Cathie Patterson, *Clerk*; Mike Corr, John Heath, Thomas Herget, Cindy Olson,
Cecilia Seabrook, Douglas Tucker