



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Year A  
September 27, 2020

Key Scripture - Matthew 21:23

When he 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?"

Theme - By What Authority?



*We Welcome Police and Peace Officers*

- † Newcomers please sign our guestbook
- † Special requests may be made through Facebook
- † Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.
  - Trinity is an Affirming Congregation and is inclusive of folk who find themselves a part of what is described as “LGBTQ+”
  - Our Congregation is Active in a Ministry of Prayer, Service and Care.

## Welcome and Announcements

This week's Phone Tree Message - 22 September 2020



## Canadian Police and Peace Officers' Memorial

*On September 24, 1998 the Government of Canada officially proclaimed the last Sunday of September of every year as Police and Peace Officers' National Memorial Day. This National Memorial Day gives Canadians an opportunity each year to formally express appreciation for the dedication of police and peace officers, which made the ultimate tragic sacrifice to keep our communities safe.*

## Prayer for Police and Peace Officers

Send down your blessings on your servants,  
who so generously devote themselves to helping others.

Grant them courage when they are afraid,  
wisdom when they make quick decisions,  
strength when they are weary, and  
compassion in all their work.

When called to aid both friend and stranger,  
let them faithfully serve you in their neighbour.

## Trinity United Church COVID-19 Worship Protocols -

- **Capacity and Support**
  - The sanctuary can accommodate 30 “Bubbles.”

- 30 individuals or
    - family units to a maximum of 50 individuals
  - The church “lift” is available
  - One washroom at the sanctuary level will be available
  - Fellowship Hall and other facilities are out of bounds
- **Suspended Activities**
    - Communion
    - Fellowship Time
    - Children’s programming
    - Congregational singing
    - “Passing the Plate” for Collection
- **Minimizing Exposure**
    - Risk assessment information will be available prior to worship
    - Health screening station will be set up outside
    - Entry, Exit and Movement within the sanctuary will be managed by Ushers
    - Post Service Cleaning and Disinfecting will be completed ASAP
- **Communication**
    - Posters will be prominently displayed in all critical areas as reminders regarding physical distancing, mandatory mask wearing and hand washing
- **Trinity United Church News and Updates -**
    - **Worship Services are again being broadcast on COGECO**
    - Services are available on Trinity’s Web Page and FaceBook
    - **Sunday’s Scripture speaks to authority to act -**
      - **Key Scripture - Matthew 21:23**
        - **“When he 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?”**

■ **Theme - By What Authority?**

- **In a time when the notion of defunding the Police has become topical, it seems that some folk would like to know why Police do some of the things they do and by what authority.**
- **Jesus was asked why he did what he did and by what authority too.**
- **Smiths Falls Police Service’s “Community First” speaks to an ethos that compels Community and Care.**

- If a lunch delivered to your home would be helpful, we will serve as we are able. Contact the Office.
- **If you would like to help or receive a lunch, let Betty Lou know - 613 291 0701**
- A note from the Stewardship Team
  - Please consider Pre-Authorized Payments (PAR) as a consistent way to support the congregation
  - Grocery / Gift Cards are still available for sale - Contact the Church Office at - 613 283 4444

○ Care

- Please remember your mask when you leave your home.
- **Masks are available at the church Tuesday and Saturday 11:30 am - 12:30 pm and Sunday morning prior to worship.** It is a blessing to know that we have many folk in our own Congregation and community who are so faithful in making masks so that all of us can be safer.
- Of course, masks are not a replacement for 2 metres of separation



We are grateful for the Town of Smiths Falls and Lanark County. Take Away Meals are subsidized through the generosity of the Community Grant Program and COVID-19 emergency funds.

Two Guys for Lunch are active partners with us in this community service.

### Congregational Notes

- If you would like to return your geranium pots, you may leave them at the church on Sunday, Tuesday or Saturday. A box for collecting them will be available.

**Christmas Wreath**

**Trinity United Church Women  
Fundraiser**

**18" Fresh Balsam Wreath**

**Pre-order by October 30th**

**by emailing  
trinitysffundraising@gmail.com**

**or phone  
Barb at 613-283-1182**

*More details with order.*

**Pick-up date is December 1st**

**\$25.00**

- Gift Cards are still for sale though the office and can be ready for pickup on Sundays or by arrangement with the Office.

## **Upcoming**

- Next Sunday is World Communion Sunday
  - The Table will be set. However, we are not permitted to prepare or distribute the Bread and the Cup for sharing. We are thinking of ways our folk can participate.
  - Folk at home may participate either on Facebook or COGECO (Your TV).
  - As you share, using your own elements, know that grace is in this and allow it to abide in you.
- Thanksgiving is two weeks away.
  - The lunches we prepare, distribute and deliver are healthy and balanced. Thanksgiving is festive. If you would like to make a donation toward making our Thanksgiving Saturday Lunch (10 October) more festive, you may do so by contacting Betty Lou Kempt or the Office.

## **Acknowledging Traditional Territory**

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of Reconciliation

**Introit** MV 87 " Water Flowing From the Mountain" vs. 1

Water flowing from the mountain.

Water flowing o'er the earth.

Water comes to us, so precious.

Living water gives us birth.

## **Call to Worship**

Let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus.

**He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.**

God has highly exalted him and given him the name that is above every name,

**So, at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.**

In our worship, we bring glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**We humble ourselves in praise, and offer ourselves in service in Jesus' holy name.**

## **Prayer of Gathering**

Steadfast God,

As the seasons change, you are still at work in the world,  
transforming hearts and situations.

We praise you for all you do to repair injustice,  
bringing peace to places of hostility,  
working for goodness to prevail among neighbours and nations.

You have shown us the true face of power in Jesus Christ,  
reaching out with healing and hope to touch desperate lives.

Let us see the face of Jesus in this time of worship,  
and fill us with renewed energy and insight this autumn,  
so that we can join in your work to bring justice and joy  
into the world you love  
in Jesus' name.

Amen.

**Hymn** 166 "Joy Comes At The Dawn"

**Refrain -**

*Joy comes with the dawn;*

*Joy comes with the morning sun,*

*Joy springs from the tomb and scatters the night with her song,*

*Joy comes with the dawn.*

Weeping may come;

weeping may come in the night, when dark shadows cloud our sight.

**Refrain -**

*Joy comes with the dawn;*

*Joy comes with the morning sun,*

*Joy springs from the tomb and scatters the night with her song,*

*Joy comes with the dawn.*

Sorrow will turn,

sorrow will turn into song, and God's laughter makes us strong.

**Refrain -**

*Joy comes with the dawn;*

*Joy comes with the morning sun,*

*Joy springs from the tomb and scatters the night with her song,*

*Joy comes with the dawn.*

We will rejoice,

we will rejoice, and give praise, to the One who brings us grace.

**Refrain -**

*Joy comes with the dawn;*

*Joy comes with the morning sun,*

*Joy springs from the tomb and scatters the night with her song,*

*Joy comes with the dawn.*



## Learning with Children

### Childrens' Prayer

**Scripture** Psalm 25 (VU752); Matthew 21:23-32

Psalm 25 (VU752)

*Refrain -*

***To you, O God, I lift my soul, to you I lift my soul.***

To You, O God, I lift my soul; my God, in you I trust.

Let me not be put to shame, nor let my foes gloat over me.

**Let none who wait for you be shamed;**

**Let them be shamed who wantonly break faith.**

Show me your ways, teach me your paths.

**Lead me in your truth and teach me.**

**For you are God my Saviour.**

**For you I wait all the day long.**

*Refrain -*

***To you, O God, I lift my soul, to you I lift my soul.***

Remember your mercy, O God, and your steadfast love,

For they are as old as time.

**Do not remember the sins and offenses of my youth.**

**According to your steadfast love remember me,**

**for your goodness' sake, O God!**

*Refrain -*

***To you, O God, I lift my soul, to you I lift my soul.***

You are upright and good, O God,

Therefore you show the path to those who go astray.

**You guide the humble to do what is right,  
And teach the lowly your way.**

All your ways are loving and sure

**For those who keep your covenant and commandments.**

*Refrain -*

*To you, O God, I lift my soul, to you I lift my soul.*

Matthew 21:23-32

When he 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.

**Hymn** 842 "Unto The Hills" vs 1, 3, 4

Unto the hills around do I lift up my longing eyes:  
O whence for me shall my salvation come, from whence arise?  
From God the Lord doth come my certain aid,  
from God the Lord who heaven and earth hath made.

Jehovah is Himself thy keeper true, thy changeless shade;  
Jehovah thy defence on thy right hand, thine own true aid.  
And thee no sun by day shall ever smite;  
no moon shall harm thee in the silent night.

From every evil shall God keep thy soul, from every sin;  
Jehovah shall preserve thy going out, thy coming in.  
Above thee watching, God whom we adore  
shall keep thee henceforth, yea, for evermore.

**Reflection** - Known or Ought to have Known

**Hymn** 242 "Let All Things Now Living"

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;  
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
by guiding us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night;  
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,  
as forward we travel from light into Light.

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses  
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;

the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.  
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
with glad adoration a song let us raise:  
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving,  
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise

**We Respond to God's Word  
Offering Ourselves  
For The Work And Witness Of The Church**

### **Invitation to Offering**

During these trying times, Trinity's life and work continues in many ways. While our Sunday services and many other things in our lives are on hold until further notice, and our building is closed, our staff and members are still active and operational costs continue.

There will be no opportunity for the regular collection of offerings each week, so Trinity needs you to share your gifts in a different way. We have 4 options:

1. Please visit the [www.trinityunitedsf.ca](http://www.trinityunitedsf.ca) and use the "DONATE" button. It takes you to [CanadaHelps.org](http://CanadaHelps.org) where you can make a safe and secure, one time or monthly donation as often as you want.
2. This may also be a good time to start using Pre-authorized Payments. The form for that is attached to this post and can be printed off and mailed to the church office at 41 Market Street / PO Box 28, Smiths Falls, K7A 2E7
3. We have also set up an e-transfer account to accept your donation. Please use [secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca](mailto:secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca) . Password not required. Please note your envelope number and amount allocated to general church expenses, M&S. and/or capital projects.
4. Of course you can always mail a donation to the church office at 41/ PO Box 28 Market Street, Smiths Falls, ON K7A 2E7

If you require assistance or have any questions about making donations, please do not hesitate to contact the church office at 613-283-4444 or by email at [secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca](mailto:secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca).

Thank you.

### **Offering Prayer**

**Meditation** "His Eye is On The Sparrow" (Gabriel)

## **Prayers of the People**

### ***Prayer for Police and Peace Officers***

Send down your blessings on your servants,  
who so generously devote themselves to helping others.

Grant them courage when they are afraid,  
wisdom when they make quick decisions,  
strength when they are weary, and  
compassion in all their work.

When called to aid both friend and stranger,  
let them faithfully serve you in their neighbour.

**Amen.**

## **National Memorial Service**

### **Officers Honoured In 2020**



Cst. Heidi Stevenson

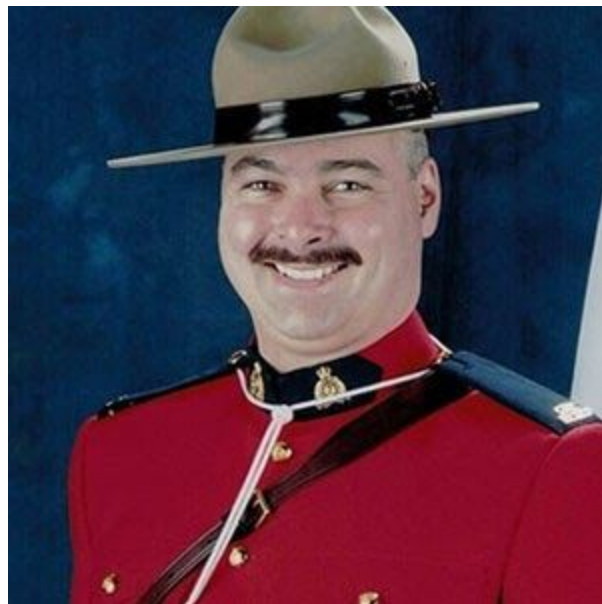
April 19, 2020

**Gunshot**

*RCMP Nova Scotia*

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On Sunday April 19, 2020 RCMP Constable Heidi Stevenson was shot and killed while attempting to stop a rampaging active shooter in Nova Scotia.



Cst. Allan Poapst

December 13, 2019

**Motor Vehicle Incident**

*RCMP Manitoba*

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On December 13 2019, 49 year old Constable Allan Poapst was killed in a motor vehicle incident while travelling westbound on the Perimeter Highway just North of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

God of our past and our future, God of healing and hope,  
We come before you with grateful hearts,  
trusting that you walk with us through every situation.  
Today we pray for those who facing danger and despair in these times:  
those living with hunger that never ends,  
those facing daily unrest and violence,  
those challenged by the coronavirus pandemic and measures to control it,  
and all those anxious about their future...

And we pray for those who work to relieve suffering in these places and those working to bring justice and peace.  
Bless them all with your courage.

We pray for all those wrestling with sorrow or discouragement in any area of their lives;  
For those living with illness or pain;  
For those bearing up with chronic conditions or disability;  
For those who know the grief and change of bereavement...

And we pray for all those who work to bring healing and comfort and agencies which offer support and care in our community.  
Bless them all with your compassion.

We pray for all who feel helpless or hopeless in this present time:  
For those facing unemployment, struggling to make ends meet;



For those caught up in the pain of misunderstanding or broken relationships;

For any working through situations of conflict at home or at work...

And we pray for all who offer guidance and support to face these challenges

and for those who lend skills in reconciliation or mediation

Bless all these with your wisdom and patience.

We are thankful that we can experience God in a relationship from which we draw strength, courage and encouragement.

The ways of knowing God - Mother, Father, Fiend -  
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer;

may be expressed in the prayer Jesus taught us -

### **We Depart to Serve with Joy**

**Hymn** 222 "Come Let Us Sing"

Come, let us sing to the Lord our song,  
we have stood silently too long;  
surely the Lord deserves our praise,  
so joyfully thank God for our days.

O thirsty soul, come drink at the well;  
God's living waters will never fail.  
Surely the Lord will help you to stand,  
strengthened and comforted by God's hand.



You dwell among us and cause us to pray,  
and walk with each other following your way;  
our precious brothers and sisters will grow  
in the fulfilling love they know.

Deserts shall bloom and mountains shall sing  
to the desire of all living things.  
Come, all you creatures, high and low,  
let your praises endlessly flow.

### **Benediction**

God sends us from this place with a word of hope.

**We will offer the shelter of grace to all in need.**

Jesus sends us out with the word of life.

**We will seek to share community with those we will meet.**

The Spirit sends us into a world which longs for justice.

**We will trust that God's freedom will be offered to all  
people.**

### **Choral Amen**

**Postlude** "Theme from 'Hill Street Blues'"



**EVERY**  
**CHILD**  
**MATTERS**