



**TRINITY**  
UNITED CHURCH  
*Smiths Falls, Ontario, Canada*

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany - A  
February 5, 2023

“Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the straps of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?”

*Isaiah 58: 6*

### **Welcome and Announcements**

- † Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.
  - Trinity is an Affirming Congregation
- † Our building is open 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday through Thursday

We are delighted to welcome guest Musician, **Doug Savage**, this morning.

### **Welcoming New Members**

**Smiths Falls Community Food Bank** appreciates donations

Please pray for our **Children and Children’s Programming**. In person Sunday School is the 2nd and last Sunday of the Month

The Christian Community Team would like to know if there are those willing and able to pick somebody up on the way to church.

**Soaking Prayer** is offered each Sunday following the Service

February 5,  
12:30pm, **Drum Circle**

February 6,  
9:30am, **UCW - Gathering**  
10:00am, **UCW - Meeting**  
1:00pm, **Book Group**

February 7,  
2:00pm, **Van Horne Worship**

February 8,  
10:00am, **Bible Study**  
12:30pm, **Healing Pathway**  
1:30pm, **Christian  
Community**  
7:00pm, **SLT**

February 12,  
8:30am, **Early Communion**  
9:00am, **Choir Practice**

**The Belonging Project** - Experience and practice good connection through this introductory series of five sessions. Every Tuesday to 28 February, 3-5pm in the Trinity Chapel

Want to know more? See Carol Williams or call 613 269 4427 or email [journey@ripnet.com](mailto:journey@ripnet.com)

Please plan to attend all five sessions for the full two hours

**Confirmation Class** continues

**Introit** Guest Musician - Doug Savage

**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

## Call to Worship

Just as sunrise breaks through the darkness each day,  
**So God's grace, mercy and justice shine forth.**

We gather together, with devotion and doubt, with weariness and wonder;

**trusting that God's peace and love are present here.**

Come and worship as you are, knowing you are loved.

**We come, rejoicing, to praise God's holy name.**

## Opening Prayer

Holy One, Light of the world,

In the sparkle of the snowflake, we see your beauty.

In frosted treetops, we delight in your splendour.

Even in the cold of winter, your creation amazes us.

We praise you for blessing the world with such beauty and giving us a place within it.

Just as months of winter renew creation for springtime growth,  
renew us with your Spirit in this time of worship  
to grow in faithfulness and service.

Grant that our lives can shine the light of Jesus into these challenging times. Amen.

## Hymn 670 "Take My Hand Precious Lord"

Precious Lord, take my hand,

lead me on, let me stand,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;

through the storm, through the night,

lead me on to the light:

take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear,  
    precious Lord, linger near,  
when my life is almost gone,  
    hear my cry, hear my call,  
hold my hand lest I fall:  
    take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears,  
    and the night draws near,  
and the day is past and gone,  
    at the river I stand,  
guide my feet, hold my hand:  
    take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

## **Prayer of Confession**

**Holy One,**

**We confess we have taken creation for granted.**

**We exploited resources as if they were only for us.**

**We consumed what we wanted, carelessly.**

**Forgive us, we pray.**

**Shine your light on us so we see the ways of your wisdom clearly  
and follow the path Jesus sets before us with humble hearts.**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

Christ is the first born of creation, shining a redeeming light.

In him we are forgiven, restored and made new.

Thanks be to God, we can make a fresh start today.

**Scripture**            Isaiah 58:1-12  
                              Psalm 112 (VU834)  
                              Matthew 5:13-20

Isaiah 58:1-12

Shout out; do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me

and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness

and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgments;

they want God on their side.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day

and oppress all your workers.

You fast only to quarrel and to fight

and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today

will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose,

a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush

and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,

a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the straps of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you;  
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.  
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.

The Lord will guide you continually  
and satisfy your needs in parched places  
and make your bones strong,  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water  
whose waters never fail.

Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;

you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

Psalm 112 (VU834)

*Refrain -*

***The just shall trust in God alone.***

Blessed are those who fear God,  
**who greatly delight in God's commandments.**

Their descendants will be mighty in the land,  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.  
**Riches and plenty shall be in their house,  
their righteousness enduring forever.**

They are a light in the darkness for the upright,  
being gracious, compassionate and just.  
**It goes well with those who lend generously,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.**

*Refrain -*

***The just shall trust in God alone.***

For the righteous will never be shaken;  
they will be kept in remembrance for ever.  
**They will not live in fear of bad news;  
with resolute heart they trust in God.**

Their heart is steady, they do not fear;  
in the end they will see their enemies' downfall.  
**They distribute freely to the poor,  
their righteousness enduring forever;  
they will hold up their heads in honour.**

***Refrain -***

***The just shall trust in God alone.***

**Anthem**      “You Are the Light of the World”

Matthew 5:13-20

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

**Meditation**      Guest Musician - Doug Savage

**Reflection**      Discern Your Values

**Hymn** "The Old Rugged Cross"

On a hill far away, stood an old rugged Cross  
The emblem of suffering and shame  
And I love that old Cross where the dearest and best  
For a world of lost sinners was slain

**Refrain -**

*So I'll cherish the old rugged Cross  
Till my trophies at last I lay down  
I will cling to the old rugged Cross  
And exchange it some day for a crown*

Oh, that old rugged Cross so despised by the world  
Has a wondrous attraction for me  
For the dear Lamb of God, left his Glory above  
To bear it to dark Calvary

**Refrain -**

In the old rugged Cross, stain'd with blood so divine  
A wondrous beauty I see  
For the dear Lamb of God, left his Glory above  
To pardon and sanctify me

**Refrain -**

To the old rugged Cross, I will ever be true  
Its shame and reproach gladly bear  
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away  
Where his glory forever I'll share

## **Invitation to the Offering**

The prophet Isaiah issued a call to feed the hungry, cloth the naked and house the homeless. We give in response to this call, praying that every gift accomplishes more than we can ask or imagine through the power of God at work in us and through us.

## **Offering Options**

- E-transfers to [secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca](mailto:secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca)
- delivery to church office
- through Trinity website DONATE button
- PAR

## **Stewardship Moment**

### **Offering Prayer**

Your love makes us salt for the earth and light for the world.

Bless our gifts so that they bring light into dark days and salt to flavour the earth with your justice and mercy. Amen.

## **Time for the Young**

### **Hymn "In The Garden"**

I come to the garden alone

While the dew is still on the roses

And the voice I hear, falling on my ear

The Son of God discloses

### ***Refrain -***

***And He walks with me, and He talks with me***

***And He tells me, I am His own***

*And the joy we share as we tarry there  
None other has ever known*

He speaks and the sound of His voice  
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing  
And the melody that He gave to me  
Within my heart is ringing

***Refrain -***

I'd stay in the garden with Him  
Though the night around me be falling  
But He bids me go through the voice of woe  
His voice to me is calling

***Refrain -***

### **Prayers of the People**

God of justice and righteousness,

Thank you for the gift of your son who came to live out your love in this world.

Thank you for his words and deeds which continue to challenge and guide us today.

He called us to be light for the world and salt for the earth.

We thank you for the ministries undertaken through Mission and Service and its many partners,

for the light they bring to lives under so many different pressures,

and the necessities they provide to sustain communities and make hope tangible.

And so we pray for your world with all its wonders and its worries,  
which rest on our hearts and yours:

We pray for those who need your justice:

For those who sleep on the cold streets,  
those who do not have enough to eat,  
and those who worry about how to make ends meet for their  
families.

We pray for all those facing violence,

In their homes or communities,  
for nations engulfed in conflict  
and for places struggling to recover after flooding, drought,  
storm or unrest.

We pray for refugees and political prisoners;

for children who must work instead of going to school  
and for parents who long to give their children a better life.

Sustain each of these people with your hope

that their needs can be fulfilled and rights restored.

Empower us to use our resources to do what we can for them,  
and give strength and courage to advocates and aid workers  
who bring hope to birth in many places.

We pray for all who need your healing touch:

For people who are confused or afraid,  
for those in hospitals and nursing homes and those who care for  
them,  
for all who are dealing with long-term disability or mental  
illness,

long Covid and the many illnesses circulating this winter.

and for those who have encountered loss through the death  
of a beloved,  
change in circumstance or disappointed hopes.

Surround each one with your peace and comfort  
so that hope for healing will be renewed each day.

Compassionate God,

Make us salt and light for the world, not by presuming we know best  
how to fix others  
but as compassionate and caring neighbours, unafraid to reach  
out.

Encourage us with your grace and inspire us by your Holy Spirit,  
for you are always with us.

We gather all our prayers into one voice, praying as Jesus taught us -

### **The 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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**EOORC Prayer Cycle**

Lyn -Christ Church Pastoral Charge

Christ Church United

**Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

Andorra, Italy, Malta, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Vatican City

**We Depart to Serve in Peace and with Love**

**Hymn** 238 "How Great Thou Art"

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

***Refrain -***

***Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!***

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

***Refrain -***

But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,

sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin.

***Refrain -***

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"

***Refrain -***

**Benediction**

Go in faith to be salt for the earth and light for the world in Jesus' name.

May God's love restore you;

May Christ's teaching inspire you;

May the Holy Spirit equip you to serve in a world that is ready to receive you,

blessed by God, holy One and holy Three.

Amen.

**Choral Amen**

**Postlude** Guest Musician - Doug Savage

## Recurring Events and Activities at Trinity

Every Monday, 1:00pm	Book Group
First Monday, 9:30am	UCW
Fourth Monday, 9:30am	Property Team / Church Hall
Every Tuesday, All Day	Pastoral Visitation
First Tuesday, 1:00pm - 3:00pm	Retirement Residences
First Tuesday, 7:00pm	Outreach and Social Justice
Third Tuesday, 9:30am	Stewardship & Finance Team / Upper Room
Third Tuesday, 6:00pm	Potluck and Praise
Every Wednesday, 10:00am	Bible Study / Seasonal Study
Second Wednesday, 12:30pm	Healing Pathway
Second Wednesday, 7:00pm	Spiritual Leadership Meeting
Fourth Wednesday, 12:30pm	Healing Pathway
Last Wednesday, 7:00pm	Council
Second Friday, 6:00pm	Rainbow 101
Every Sunday, 8:30am (Except Second Sunday)	Choir Practice
Every Sunday, 11:30am	Soaking Prayer
Second Sunday, 8:30am	Early Communion
Second Sunday, 9:00am	Choir Practice
Second Sunday, 10:30am	Sunday School
Last Sunday, 10:30am	Sunday School
Last Sunday, 1:00pm	Lanark Drum Circle