

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA



everything
[in] between
stranger & neighbor

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN VISION STATEMENT

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we seek to BE Christ's faithful disciples, living – intentionally – the inward/outward journey as a community of the concerned, a fellowship of the forgiven, and a company of the committed – reaching out to make Christ's presence known in society through face-to-face servant ministry.

March 9th 2025 ~ First Sunday in Lent

"The ringing of the bells moves us from a spirit of getting here to a spirit of being here."

Stranger - Neighbor
"To love is what it takes to live"
How are you a good Samaritan?

GATHERED BY GOD IN WONDER

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

GATHERING SONG: NO. 406 "We Are Standing on Holy Ground"

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

Who is my neighbor?

How can I help?

What do I have to learn?

Where is God in it all?

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

So may we listen. May we learn.

May we stay curious, and may we look for God.

This is our invitation to lean in. Let us worship our holy God.

*OPENING HYMN: NO. 399 "God Welcomes All" (sung twice)

ADMITTING THE BROKENNESS OF LIFE

CALL TO CONFESSION

*Invitation to stand

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you have told us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we get tripped up on logistics. We want to know: who is our neighbor? Do we have to love the stranger? Must we have compassion for our enemy? Forgive our human tendency to create exceptions in the face of love. Rewire our hearts so that we might see the face of a neighbor in every stranger we pass. With hope we pray, amen.
Time for Silent Confession
Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Family of faith,

When we set limits on love,

God loves extravagantly.

When we forget that we are neighbors,

God claims us as God's own.

When we judge, hold back, or harm,

God surrounds us with grace.

There is nothing we can do or leave undone

that could separate us from the love of God.

This is the good news of the gospel. Thanks be to God!

Amen.

*SONG OF RESPONSE: NO. 421 "Have Mercy, God, Upon my Life" v. 4

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD IN OUR MIDST

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 15

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE: Luke 10:25-37

SERMON: "Everything [in] Between: Stranger & Neighbor"

SPECIAL MUSIC

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: From A Sanctified Art Church, if God asked you, "Who is your neighbor?" what would you say?

**We would say,
every child, every person,
every weeping willow,
and every morning lark.
Every freckled face,
every wrinkled pair of hands,
every tail-wagging dog,
and every crisp ripe apple.
We would say,
we are connected—
to one another, to all of God's creation.
There are no strangers in God's house.
We are all family here.**
I think God would delight in that answer. For it is said,
"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your strength,
with all your mind,
and you shall love your neighbor as yourself."
We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen.

RESPONDING IN GRATITUDE AND SERVICE

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY: No. 643 "Now Thank We All Our God" v. 3

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*FINAL HYMN: "Jesus, Teach us to be Neighbors"

8

instrumental interlude

1. Je - sus, teach us to be neigh-bors,
2. Je - sus, teach us to be neigh-bors,
3. Je - sus, teach us to be neigh-bors,

liv - ing, lov - ing side by side, hands for help - ing
giv - ing, serv - ing those in need, mak - ing peace and
work - ing, pray - ing for the day when the Lamb will

one an - oth - er, arms of wel - come, o - pen wide.
do - ing jus - tice, shar - ing faith in word and deed.
be the Shep-herd, when our tears are washed a - way.

Ev - er learn - ing, ev - er grow-ing, Je - sus, teach us
Ev - er learn - ing, ev - er grow-ing, Je - sus, teach us
Ev - er learn - ing, ev - er grow-ing, Je - sus, teach us

all to be chil - dren of the new cre - a - tion,
all to be chil - dren of the new cre - a - tion,
all to be chil - dren of the new cre - a - tion,

6

instrumental interlude

joined in true com-mu - ni - ty,
where we are one fam - i - ly.
sing - ing praise in har - mo - ny.

*CHARGE

*SUNG BENEDICTION: NO. 543 "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me" v. 4

Worship Leadership

Stephanie Sorge, Pastor
Mary Lou McMillin, Liturgist
Paulo Steinberg, Pianist
Yogi Gillette, House Steward

We welcome flutist Dita Krenberga from Latvia. This week she and Paulo Steinberg performed at JMU and at the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church in DC. An exceptional musician and teacher, she has recorded many CD albums and has also been featured in multiple Latvian films.

We welcome all who are visiting with us today and encourage you to sign the guest book or to fill out the blue "Welcome to Trinity" slip.

Trinity Announcements

Nurture: Starting today, Nurture time will be intentionally open for conversation, support, strategizing, or whatever else is needed in these days!

Easter Flowers: It is time to order Easter flowers! Forms can be found online or you can pick one up at our church office. Donations in lieu of flowers will go to Church World Service. The order deadline is **Sunday, March 30.**

The Signal App: We're introducing a new way to stay in touch—Signal! This free, secure messaging app will allow Trinity members to communicate, share updates, and stay connected in a simple and private way. Contact Stephanie or the office for links to sign up!

For more details and announcements: Visit the "What's Happening Now" page on our website.



This Week at Trinity

March 9 - March 14

Sunday, March 9

7:45 am - Book Study	Zoom
10:00 am - Hybrid Worship	Church House & Online
11:00 am - Explorers Class	Yoke Room
2:30 pm - Mark Dewey's Ordination	Church House & Online

Wednesday, March 12

5:45 am - Lectio Divina	Zoom
9:00 am - Clothes Closet Set Up	Commons
10:00 am - Reaching out Book Study	Yoke Room
12:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting	Yoke Room
6:30 pm - Clothes Closet Open	Commons

Thursday, March 13

9:00 am - Backpack Program	Keister Elementary
11:30 am - Grief Support Group	Harbor Room
6:30 pm - Enneagram Class	Centering Space
7:00 pm - Chess Club	Commons

Friday, March 14

5:45 am - Lectio Divina	Zoom
8:30 am - Rocktown Wellness	Commons
3:00 pm - Backpack Program	Keister Elementary



*More
Announcements*



*Online
Calendar*

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN MISSION STATEMENT

Confident of our identity as God's pilgrim people sent into the world to embody the gospel and serve God's people as prophets, we eagerly search – with eyes and ears wide open – for the newness of Christ's love and grace breaking into our lives each day. To ALL, we offer a receptive, safe space:

- to *worship* in creative and participatory ways,
- to *nurture and be nurtured* as we learn and grow together – fearless of the questions and challenges that faith stirs within us,
- to be in *fellowship* with one another – building together a loving, forgiving, caring community; and,
- to experience the *mission* and ministry that calls us out - beyond ourselves – to work with God for justice, peace, and love.

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN SESSION

Stephanie Sorge, *Moderator*
Linda Bradley, *Clerk of Session*

CLASS OF 2025

Yogi Gillette
Mark Dewey
Mary Lou McMillin
Susie Phend

CLASS OF 2026

David Carothers
Amy Lemmons
Ginnie Reinhold
Bob Schminkey

CLASS OF 2027

Karla Irving
Stephanie Gardner
Lauren Strawderman
Mary Colleen Knapp



Trinity Presbyterian Staff

Stephanie Sorge, *Pastor*
stephanie@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org

Kim Shank, *Pastoral Care Associate*
kim@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org

Christabell DeMichele, *Church Administrator*
office@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org

Victoria Riddle, *Communications Specialist*
communications@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org

Church Office Hours:
Mon-Fri 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Stephanie's Sabbath: Friday
Kim's Sabbath: Tuesday

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