

December 14, 2025

Welcome to Trinity!

"Lord, because you are with me and in me, I can have joy in every season of my life. As I go about my day, help me to remember your love and promises, which are the source of all my joy."

We are glad you are worshipping with us today. Please consider filling out a "Walk With Us" card in the pew and put it in the offering plate so we can get in touch with you. It is a joy to welcome children to worship with us here at Trinity. There is an activity table in the front of the church with Bible based coloring pages and other activities. Children's Programming takes place every Sunday at 9:45 am in the Ogden Room. Again, welcome!

A Liturgical Note for Advent

Advent is about slowing down, making space, and being intentional for the coming of Christ – both in Bethlehem; but, also in our lives and in the days to come.

Such intentionality is not simple, and it can be slightly disorienting. As such, our Advent liturgy intentionally reflects this shift. Our response to Bible readings has shifted, our Eucharistic Prayer has changed, the version of the Our Father has changed, our Prayers of the People have changed, our Statement of Faith has changed. This is all intended to help us make space and prepare.

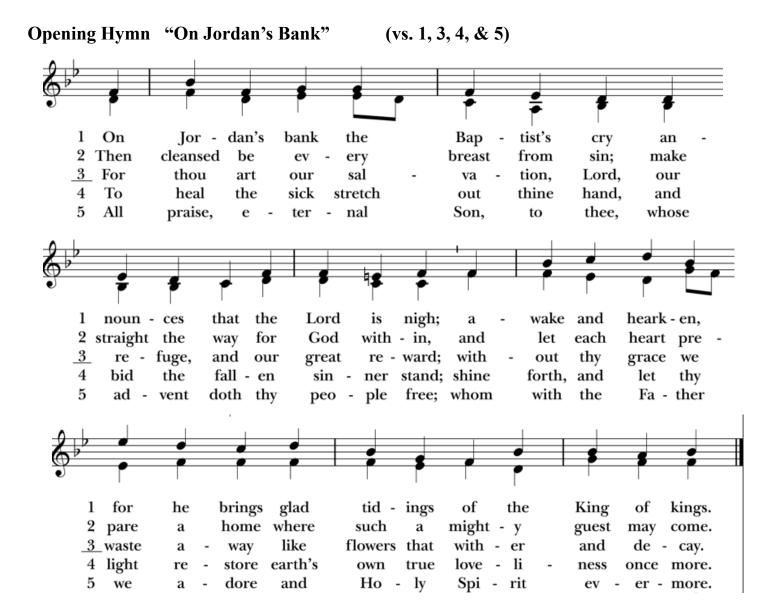
May this intentional shift during Advent grant you space to be still, prepare, and welcome the coming of Christ.

Prelude "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Alfred Fedak

Welcome The Rev. Jonathan Radtke

During the Lighting of Advent Wreath "Glorioso" Steve Danyew The Trinity Bell Choir



Opening Acclamation

Priest: Blessed be the God who comes to us.People: The One who comes to set us free.

The Collect for Purity

Priest & People:

All-loving 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 Gloria "Advent Gloria



Priest: God be with you.People: And also with you.

Priest: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Isaiah 35:1-10

Read by Lynne Gammon

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,

with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,

and the thirsty ground springs of water;

the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,

the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,

and it shall be called the Holy Way;

the unclean shall not travel on it,

but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

No lion shall be there,

nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

they shall not be found there,

but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,

and come to Zion with singing;

everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;

they shall obtain joy and gladness,

and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader: Hear What the Spirit is saying to the people. People: Thanks be to God.

Canticle 15, Magnificat

Led by Lynne Gammon

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *

in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *

and has lifted up the lowly.

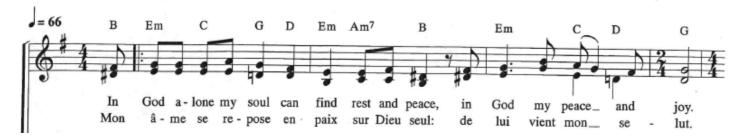
He has filled the hungry with good things, *

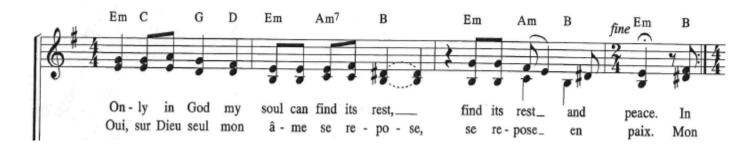
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. **Amen.**

Sequence "In God Alone" (sing 5 times)





The Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew People: Glory to you, O Christ

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Jonathan Radtke

Affirmation of Faith from World Council of Churches

We believe in God, who loves us and wants us to love each other. This is our God.

We believe in Jesus, who cared for children and held them in his arms.

He wanted a world where everyone could live together in peace.

This is Jesus Christ.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who keeps working with us until everything is good and true.

This is the Holy Spirit.

We can be the church, which reminds people of God because we love each other.
This we believe. Amen.

Prayers of the People Form II

Led by Tim Dunn

Each period of silence will begin and end with the ringing of a bell.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Thomas Brown; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well- being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, those in prison, and all those who have commended themselves to our prayers, especially Ralph Parady, Rose Chukwu, Maizie Argondizza, Angelika Schechter, Lee, Edna Flaherty, Jennifer Larkin, Nancy, Dickie and his family, Christina Siravo, Deborah Galaneau, Scott Atkinson, Kent Thurston, Cathy C., Brian & Nancy Plourde, Anne Rolle, Annie Garman, John L., Toby, Chris Bennett, Bruce Dalbeck, Luna, Maddie White, Mike Mercier, Susan, Phyllis Greene, George Clarence Frost, Lucia Leone, and all the children and staff at the Glenburnie Primary School.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed.

Pray for those who have died.

Silence

I ask your prayers and thanksgivings offered silently or aloud at this time.

Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

Priest says a concluding prayer.

Today's altar arrangement is given to the glory of God in memory of Donna Downing's father, David Thurston, on the 12th anniversary of his death. He is greatly missed by his family.

General Confession

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence to reflect on the ways we have turned away from God in our actions and places of inaction.

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.

The Absolution

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

The Peace

Priest: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you

Announcements

Offertory Anthem "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

arr. David H. Williams

Sung by the Trinity Choir

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving: (All Stand) Enriching Our Worship EUCHARISTIC PRAYER I

The Priest says:

The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you. Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Priest proceeds:

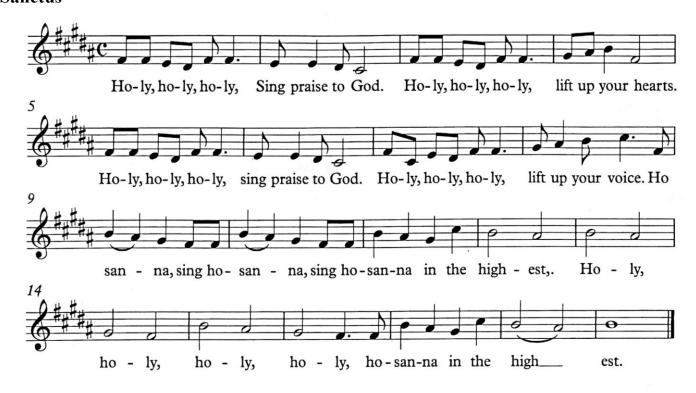
It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

People and Priest sing the Sanctus

Sanctus



People May Remain Standing or Kneel; the Priest Continues:

The Priest continues:

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Priest and People:

Christ has died. † Christ is risen. † Christ will come again.

The Priest continues:

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

During the season of Advent, as we intentionally prepare for the coming of Christ, we are using the more contemporary translation of the Lord's Prayer. This version is less familiar to some of us, which is helpful in a season of intentional preparation. When Christmas Season arrives, we will return to the traditional translation of the Lord's Prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

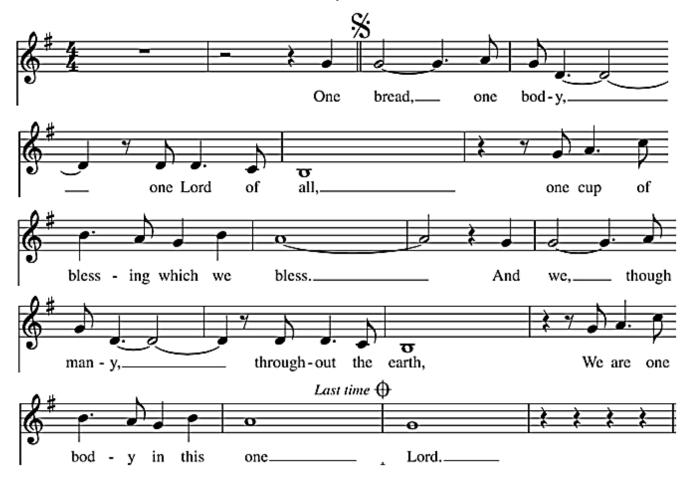
The Priest breaks the consecrated Bread and says:

Priest: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People: We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

A Period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem "One Bread, One Body"



The Invitation to the Table

Priest: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

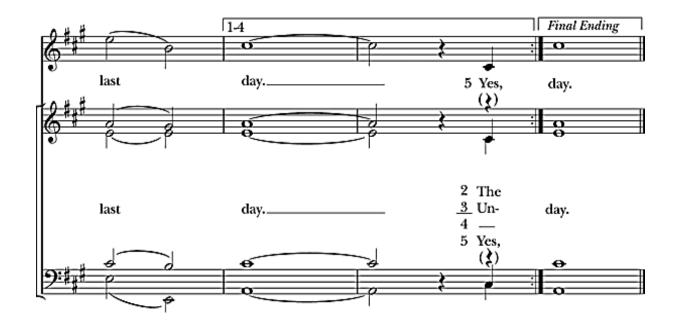
All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. The priest will place the host in your hands. If you would like to receive the consecrated wine, approach the Eucharistic minister who will share the chalice with you. There are two ways to receive the wine. You may sip from the silver chalice or dip in the pottery chalice. If you would rather not receive the wine, simply return to your seat. The Choir receives communion first, then all others are invited to receive as directed by the ushers beginning at the front of the church. If you would prefer to remain at your seat and receive there, the priest will come to you at the end of Communion. Please be sure to tell an usher that you would like communion brought to you.

Gluten free host is available for any who would like it. Simply tell the Priest when you come forward for communion. All are welcome and all are wanted at Trinity.

THE COMMUNION

Communion Hymn "I Am The Bread of Life"





POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Priest: Let us pray

People: Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

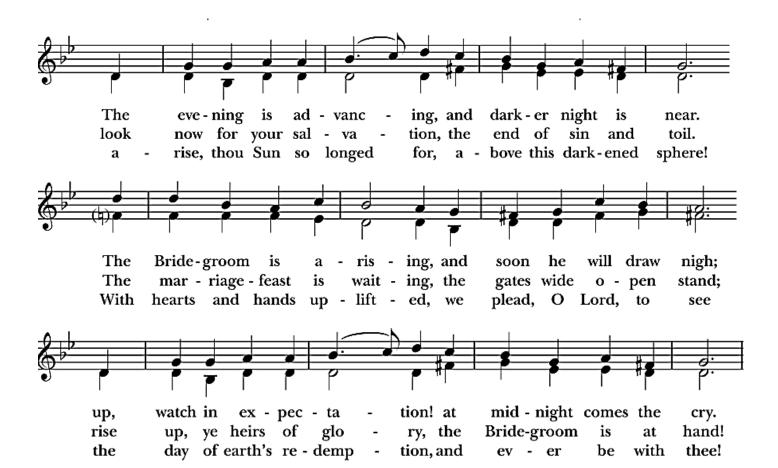
The Blessing

The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, in the name of the Holy Trinity. **Amen.**

The Priest blesses the people.

Closing Hymn "Rejoice, Rejoice Believers"





Dismissal

Priest: Go in peace to make ready for the coming of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Toccata on "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Page Long

Today's Ministers

The People of Trinity Church

Pastor The Rev. Peter Swarr
Assistant Priest The Rev. Jonathan Radtke
Minister of Music Dr. Mary Frances Fest
Children & Youth Musician Eileen Rose Giadone
Sunday School Crafts Rory Nickerson

Lectors & Layreaders Lynne Gammon

Tim Dunn

Ushers Karen Spear

Bill Spear

Livestream Ministers Polly Sewall

Pam Cleghorn Bill Green Scott Marten Elizabeth Youn

Trinity Bell Choir

Flower Guild Elizabeth Young

Altar Guild Jan Lewis & Linda Gordan

Trinity Choir

Stuart Tisdale

Kathleen Albert
Lynne Gammon
Pam Green
Marty Resotko
Bryan Lewis

Cindy McLellan, Director
Mary Dumond
Kathleen Albert
Lynne Gammon
Katie Hardy

Bryan Lewis
Cindy McLellan
Michael Morin
Terry Quinn Tisdale

Katie Hardy
Stephanie Kelley
Lynne St. Peter
Marty Resotko

This Week at Trinity

Sunday, Dec. 14	8 & 10 AM Services
	9:45 am Children's Programming in Ogden Rm.
	12 – 2 pm Service Corps (Williston Immanuel)
	3 – 7 pm Ukulele Club in Lincoln Hall
	5 – 7:30 pm Renaissance Voices in Sanctuary
Mon, Dec. 15	9 am – noon Monday Morning Crew
	10:30 -11:30 am Lectio Divina by Zoom
	3 – 8 pm AK Music in Church Transept
	6:30 – 7:30 pm Adult Ed & Prayer Group in Ogden Rm.
	7 – 8 pm AA in Lincoln Hall
Tues., Dec. 16	12 – 4 pm Lift Group in Lincoln Hall
	2 – 8 pm AK Music in Ogden Rm.
	5 – 8 pm PCO in Sanctuary
	7 pm Vestry Meeting in Ogden Rm.
Wed., Dec. 17	10:15 am Park Danforth
	3 – 6:30 pm AK Music in Ogden Rm.
Thurs., Dec. 18	6 – 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
Fri., Dec. 19	1 − 5:30 pm AK Music in Ogden Rm.
	7 – 8 pm AA in Ogden Rm.
Sat. Dec. 20	10 am – 4 pm Mary Frances in Sanctuary