



The Messenger

TRINITY Episcopal Church, Columbus, Georgia

The Rev. Dr. Timothy H. Graham, Rector

The Rev. Andrew C. Blakemore, Associate Rector

Joseph Golden, Organist & Choirmaster

Dr. Aesook Moon, Associate Organist & Choirmaster

November 2025

From the Rector

The Rev. Dr. Timothy H. Graham

Dear friends,

We are entering the season of Thanksgiving. Specifically, we look forward to a special day on the calendar when we will gather with family and friends to express our gratitude for the life that we have. This holiday is, of course, rooted in our country's history. But the holiday, taken seriously, reminds us that we should be grateful every day. In some sense every Sunday when we come to church, we express gratitude to God for our lives, for the blessings in our lives, and for the opportunities we have to live our faith in the world.

Lately I have heard numerous people suggest to me that I should keep a gratitude journal. There is something powerful about putting things in writing. I have even suggested to other people that they do the same. But the truth is I have not yet started writing down what I am grateful for. Certainly, I am grateful from many things in my life. I want to take the time to write these thoughts down in a place where I can see the list of things that I'm grateful for. Perhaps I'm sharing this confession and aspiration here in this article to help me be more motivated to actually do it. There is a beautiful line in a prayer from our Book of Common Prayer that inspires me.

"give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days"

I want to be more aware of my blessings. I want to have more of a grateful heart. I want to see my life more clearly as an expression of gratitude. I want my gratitude to help me live a more faithful Christian life.

So, I encourage you to start a gratitude journal. I plan to start one myself. I also found recently three thought-provoking questions about gratitude that I may incorporate into my own journal. I'll offer them to you for something to think about as well.

1. "What challenge or hardship from your past are you now grateful for — and how has it shaped who you are ?
2. "Who in your life has quietly and gently supported you or shown you kindness without seeking recognition — and how can you honor or acknowledge that today?"
3. "If everything you had today disappeared tomorrow, what would you miss most — and are you truly appreciating it right now?"

There are many ways to express our gratitude. There are many ways in which we can write these things down in a journal. I want to be more aware of the things in my life that I'm grateful for because I think it will inspire me to be a better person, more faithful Christian, more the person God created me to be.

I hope and pray that you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with your family and friends. I hope and pray also that as we are meditating on the things we are grateful for, we will all be inspired to live a more faithful life.

God bless you all.

Father Tim

Building a Spirit-empowered community that serves and celebrates Christ.

*"Let my prayer come before thee:
incline thine ear unto my cry;"*
Psalm 88:2

In Our Prayers:

Parishioners

Claire Berry
Bruce & Gabe Clouser
Jack & Peggy Collins
Joyce Curry
Eliza Ewing
Sydney Flournoy
Glenn Haskell
The Jennings Family
Karyn Marra
Meta Rickard
Judith Rothschild
Dorothy Faye Smith
Kevin Topping
George Wade
Sally Walden & Family

If you know of a parishioner who is in the hospital, has had a child, or is facing some crisis, please let the Parish Office know so our Parish family can respond.

Friends

The Barria Escobar Family
Bill Berry
Nathan Brown
Sarah Brown
Amanda Bryan
Jim Buntin
Leandra Burke
Wayne Cartledge
Dana Cason
James Cochran
Fenton Dixon
Stephanie East
Jimmy Farr
Sherry Green
Angie Hart
Tom Haskell
Milton Jones
Kim Kimbrough
Buford King
Chuck Lewis
Eve Marcus
Martha Bone Meeks
Sam Nesbit
Tatum Norris
Ruth Pattison
Jay Pease
Andrew Pillar
Paul Rickard
Becky Rumer
Hadley Scott
Pete Scott
Ruthie Searle
Grady Simpson
Bryan Waters
Sam Wells
Howard Willis



Cold Weather Blanket Drive

Daughters of the King



This year, the Trinity chapter of the Daughters of the King is leading a blanket drive to provide homeless persons in Columbus with protection from the cold weather. Starting in November and continuing through the winter months, the DoK is asking Trinity parishioners to donate **new or used blankets, hats, gloves, and scarves**. These donations will be taken by the DoK to the Columbus Police Department to be used by the Homeless tactical unit for distribution in the community. Please bring your donations to the church office.

Cookbook Kickoff

Sunday, November 9th



After worship on **Sunday, November 9th**, copies of Trinity's BRAND NEW cookbook will be available for sale during a special high tea reception in the Parish Hall, with delectable samples from the cookbook. Entitled *And God Said, Bon Appétit!*, the cookbook is filled with recipes of all kinds, gathered from the kitchens of Trinity parishioners. A true labor of love, the cookbook also includes special artwork & historical anecdotes about life at Trinity.

The new cookbook costs \$25 and no special pre-order is necessary to buy. Consider purchasing copies this month for your house and as a special Christmas gift for friends, family, and neighbors!

Stewardship Campaign

Submit your 2026 Pledge

This time each year, all members of Trinity are asked to make a pledge to support the church financially in the year ahead. A pledge is not a financial transaction – instead, it's a voluntary agreement to give a certain amount to the ministries of Trinity over the next 12 months. Some people choose to pay their pledge all at once, while others make weekly or monthly offerings over the course of the year.

The leadership & staff of Trinity are grateful to all those who have pledged in prior years, and we hope you will renew your pledge this November. Pledges like yours make it possible for us to prepare the annual budget, transforming our hopes for parish life and ministry into practicable realities. If you've never pledged at Trinity before, we prayerfully encourage you to take time this year to reflect on your finances and make a first-time pledge. The amount of your pledge isn't what matters— what is much more important is your willingness to pledge at any level. Only when we pledge to stand together as a community of faith can we build toward the future and sustain the many ministries of Trinity that serve and celebrate Christ.

Pledge cards have been distributed in the mail and are available in the church office. You can also make your pledge online at trinityepiscopalchurch.com/pledge-card or by emailing parish administrator Mary Hurly directly at trinityfinancecols@gmail.com.

November Wednesday Night Supper

Episcopal Trivia

JOIN US FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER AND PROGRAM



NOVEMBER 5 | PARISH HALL | 6 PM

On **Wednesday, November 5th at 6pm**, Trinity will share supper and play a special game of trivia featuring questions about all things Episcopalian. Bring a team and compete to win the grand prize. Young or old, cradle Episcopalian or newbie, you may surprise yourself at just how much you already know about topics like Christmas carols, saints, liturgical seasons, and the prayer book. In good Episcopalian fashion, we will close the evening by praying Compline together. Come and join the fun!

MANY, MANY THANKS

Our English language contains a multitude of rich words to express our deepest emotions.

I have searched everywhere to find the ideal words to convey my eternal thanks to my Trinity family for the unending prayers and concern and physical and emotional support shown me in my recent medical ordeal.

I am well on the other side of that experience now, but I am thankful beyond measure every single day for the acts of love that literally brought me back to life.

This is a year and a Thanksgiving that I will never forget.

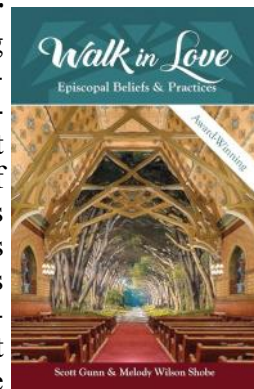
May our God continue to bless us all during this season of remembrance and anticipation for a meaningful and peaceful future.

With all best wishes,
Joseph Golden

Inquirer's Class

Catechesis during Sunday School Hour

Beginning **Sunday, November 16th**, come to the parlor during the Sunday School hour for a six-week introduction to the Episcopal Church. The class will be part open forum, part guided tour of our denomination and its beliefs and practices. Our discussions will be supplemented by readings from **Walk in Love**, the best-selling book by the Rev. Scott Gunn. Whether you are new to the Episcopal Church, or simply want



to explore further what it means to be an Episcopalian, all are welcome to participate. Adults who complete the class will also be eligible for confirmation and/or formal reception into the Episcopal church. Questions? Reach out to Father Andy (blakemore.trinity@gmail.com).

Adult Sunday School begins every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. Hope to see you there!



Help Lead Worship at Trinity
Many Ways to Serve

Each Sunday at Trinity, we “unite ourselves with others to acknowledge the holiness of God, to hear God's Word, to offer prayer, and to celebrate the sacraments” (BCP 857). Every worship service at Trinity takes the joint effort of a large team of volunteers and servers, many of whom operate “behind the scenes.”

Vergers know the flow of the liturgy and lead all members of the altar party through the service. **Lectors** read the Scripture lessons each week; **Lay Eucharistic Ministers** are trained to help distribute communion, lead the reading of the Creed, bid the Prayers of the People, and assist at the altar alongside the children and youth who serve as Trinity’s **Acolytes**. The amazing **Trinity Choir** rehearses each week to lead the singing of hymns and offertory anthems, while the **Intercessory Prayer Team** offers prayer for individuals in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit during the breaking of the bread.

Members of the **Altar Guild** care for the communion vessels and other objects set apart for worship in our church. They prepare the altar and the rest of the worship space for Sunday worship and for special services throughout the year. The **Linen Guild** mends, washes, and cares for the many liturgical linens used in the church. The **Flower Guild** prepares the beautiful flower arrangements seen throughout Trinity each week, then breaks these arrangements down so they may be distributed as part of Trinity’s pastoral care. And the **Guild of the Christ Child** helps make each child’s baptism at Trinity a special occasion.

As 2025 draws to a close, now is a perfect time to consider joining one of the worship ministries at Trinity. It’s a great way to deepen your understanding of the church’s traditions and prayer, and ministry leaders will be glad to work with you to fit serving into your schedule and availability. Ready to get involved? Reach out to a member of the clergy today!



Al-Anon Group Meeting Tuesdays at Trinity

The Serenity Seekers Al-Anon 12-step recovery meeting is now open to parishioners and others seeking support from the effects of growing up or currently being in relationship with an alcoholic. This free, anonymous (first names only) group meets in the parlor at Trinity from 11:30am-12:30pm every Tuesday. Just tap on the door on 1st Avenue and someone will open. All of us know or have known an alcoholic and all are welcome! For more information on Al-Anon visit www.al-anon.org.

Vestry Nomination Form

To be elected to the Vestry, a person must be a voting member of the Parish, what the Canons of the Church call a “member in good standing.” That category includes anyone who is a confirmed member of the Episcopal Church (or received into the Episcopal Church after an adult affirmation of faith in another branch of the Church), who is registered as a member of *this* Parish, and who is a “giver of record” to the support of this Parish. Please return this form to the Parish Office by **Sunday, November 23, 2025**.

As a member in good standing, and with his/her permission, I nominate

_____ To the Vestry of Trinity Episcopal Church.

(Signature) _____

A POWER FOR GOOD: My 2026 Pledge

In gratitude for God’s many blessings, I/we pledge \$ _____
 per week / month / year (circle one)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Please contact me about setting up payments from my checking account.

Please contact me about including the church in my estate plans.

You may mail this pledge card to the church or drop it off in the offering plate.

If you prefer, email Mary Hurley at trinityfinancecols@gmail.com

or call the church office at (706) 322-5569 ext. 310.

Trinity Episcopal Church

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