



# The Messenger

Trinity Episcopal Church, Columbus, Georgia

The Rev. Timothy Graham, Rector

The Rev. Kyle Stillings Associate, Rector

Joseph Golden, Organist & Choirmaster

Dr. Aesook Moon, Associate Organist & Choirmaster

March 2019

## From the Rector

*From the Rev. Timothy H. Graham, Rector*

What does the church do to celebrate the New Year? While the rest of the world celebrates the beginning of a new year on January 1, the Church begins a new year with the first Sunday of Advent, four weeks before Christmas. That Sunday is the beginning of our liturgical year and begins a four week season of waiting for the birth of our Savior. Following the four Sundays of Advent, we celebrate the season of Christmas. For us, Christmas is a season, and not just a day of celebration. There are 12 days of Christmas, and they end on the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6. The Feast of the Epiphany marks the beginning of the season of Epiphany. Often characterized by a star and the arrival of the Magi, this season is about the showing forth or manifestation of Jesus. In this season we hear in scripture about the baptism of Jesus and the time when his ministry is shown forth to the world.

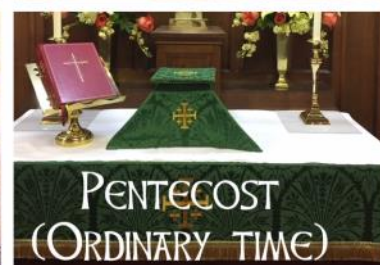
On Ash Wednesday we begin the season of Lent, a 40 day penitential season in which we are invited to a time of prayer, fasting and self denial as we contemplate our Lord's passion. At the end of the season of Lent we arrive at Easter, the glorious feast of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Easter for us is a season that lasts for 50 days, ending at the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost Sunday we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, the

birthday of the church. Pentecost for us is also a season, the longest season of the church that makes up about half of the liturgical year. We also call this ordinary time, and in this ordinary time we hear scripture readings that invite us to deepen our faith. At the end of the Pentecost season is the feast of Christ the King, and then we arrive again where we began, at the season of Advent. Our liturgical year helps us stay grounded and throughout the year we learn about the birth, ministry, teachings, death and resurrection of Jesus, and also the gift of the Holy Spirit and the understanding of our faith. Our scripture readings on Sundays follow a three year cycle, and there are appointed ones for each Sunday of the liturgical year for three years. A few weeks ago at the beginning of Advent we started Year C of the Revised Common Lectionary. If you would like to look ahead and find the scripture readings appointed for any given Sunday, you can find them on this website: [www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net) or you can take home a printed calendar that is available in our church office.

I look forward to walking through the liturgical year with you.

Grace and Peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Fr. Tim Graham



***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*

***We pray God's protection for those serving in battle.***

***In Our Prayers:***

- Bill Batastini
- Charlie Morgan
- Fleur Stearns
- Margaret Quintard
- Dr. Lloyd Hudson
- Lucius Morton
- Don & Nancy Bloebaum
- George Wade
- Ann Sturkie
- Hadley Scott
- Joyce Curry
- Tracy Mourer
- Paul Rickard
- Joey Burke
- Bob Miller
- Cecil Cheves
- Dexter Jordan
- Fred Korzan
- Lilly Myers
- Kathleen Bishop
- Gina Black Watson
- Doug Foster
- George Trussell, Sr.
- George Trussell, Jr.
- Bob Upchurch
- Aiden Elias
- Mackenzie Etheridge
- Gladys Sherwood
- Sharon Sprouse
- Ginger Calhoun
- Jessica Taylor
- Cammy Marchetti
- Bryan Wright
- Rudi C. Pierson
- Susan Brooks
- Virginia Turner (Ely)
- Presleigh Stephens
- Camilla Rich
- Lieutenant Stevens
- Jo Myers
- Betsy Blanchard Staples
- Mary Bennett
- Gordon Bradford
- Georgr Cantrell

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.



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**Rev. Kyle Stillings**

Greetings and peace to you in the name of God the father and our Lord Jesus Christ. My name is Kyle Stillings, and I am delighted to be part of the Trinity community serving as your new associate rector. Many of you have seen me on Sunday morning, but the reception line after worship isn't the best time for longer introductions so here I am to tell you a little bit more about me.

I grew up in a town just outside Seattle, Washington where I was the oldest of two boys. I competed nationally in speech and

debate in high school which is where I learned to be loud when I preach. I graduated from the University of Washington with a BA in comparative religion, and received my MDiv from Virginia Theological Seminary. After graduating my first call was as chaplain to the medical school in Galveston, Texas. I also worked with disaster relief efforts on the island housed at the student center in the wake of Hurricane Ike. While in Texas I met Ines, and we were married shortly before moving to Tallahassee, Florida to serve as chaplain to Florida State University. While in Florida we celebrated the birth of our first daughter, Sophia. My next call was to be the rector of a parish in the suburbs of Memphis, Tennessee. Our family grew while in Tennessee with the birth of our daughter Margaret. I am excited to now be worshipping and serving with all of you at Trinity, and look forward to years of joy and service to God's people in Columbus.

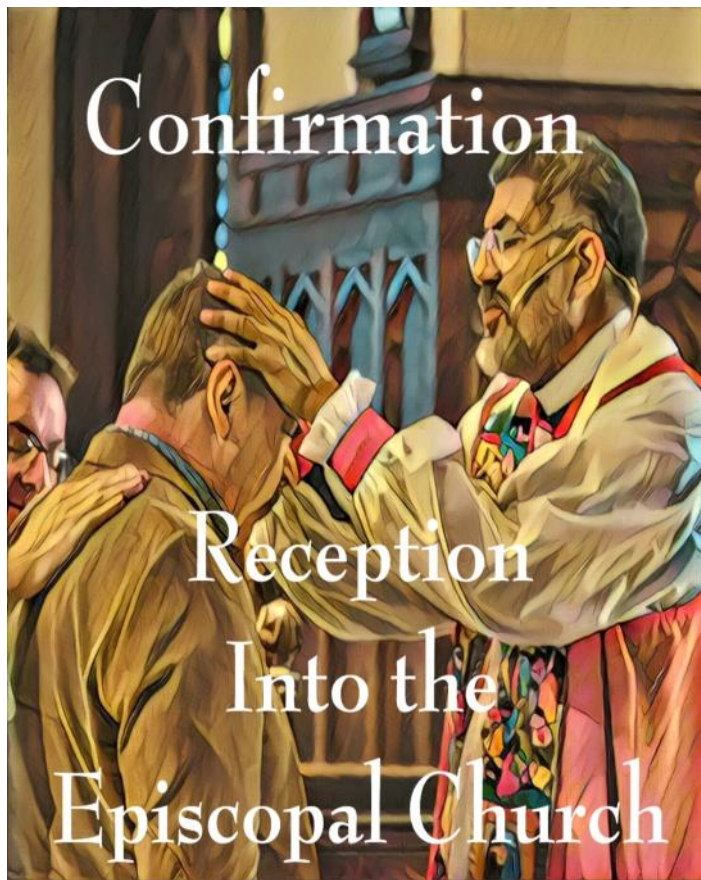
I do love my work as a priest, especially worship, teaching, pastoral care, and retreats. However, I do also have some hobbies that I enjoy when I am off duty. I love to bake, and am especially thrilled when Sophia takes an interest in baking with me. I used to camp and hike quite a bit, but have learned that I need to find a new season for outdoor activities as I am still not fond of summer heat in the South. I enjoy reading and listening to audiobooks, and also love to play cards and board games. I like the idea of knitting and journaling, but have found I don't actually enjoy the doing of those things nearly as much as I imagined. I also enjoy tormenting my children by singing along to their music, but care too much for all of you to subject you to that at church. I love spending time with my family at parks and zoos, or simply being in their company on a quiet Saturday afternoon.

I am excited to get to know all of you better in the weeks and months to come. I would be delighted to visit over a cup of coffee or tea whether in my office, at one of the local cafes, or to make a home visitation as is your preference. May God be with us as we walk together following in the footsteps of our savior.

In Peace,  
Kyle +







### Rev. Kyle Stillings

We have been blessed at Trinity to witness and celebrate several baptisms already this year, and I look forward to many more in the weeks and months to come. It is always a joy to welcome new lives into the family of God. One thing that we do at baptisms is repeat our own baptismal promises and remember that baptism is the beginning, not the end, of our new life in Christ. We have several youth who are preparing for confirmation when our bishop, The Rt. Rev. Robert Wright, is with us for worship on April 14th. They will claim as their own the promises that were made on their behalf when they were baptized. There is also an opportunity for adults to make a public demonstration of their intention to continue walking with God as members of the Episcopal Church. Were you baptized as a child, but never made a mature commitment to your faith? I invite you to get confirmed. Have you already been baptized as an adult, or claimed your faith as an adult in another denomination? I invite you to be received by the bishop into the Episcopal Church. Have you already been confirmed or received, but would like to publicly renew your commitment to a life of faith in Jesus Christ? I invite you to be reaffirmed. Do these categories sound a little confusing to you? Don't worry! They aren't, and all adults are invited to participate in the same classes in order to prepare. New to the faith or life-long member all are welcome to gather for lunch and learning on March 24th and 31st after the 10:30 services. If you have questions about church membership, please speak with me or the Rector. Welcome !



**Lauren Blanchard** - March is a busy and exciting month for our youth program! We will begin weekly Confirmation classes on March 10th and participate in a weekend retreat at Camp Mikell on March 15th - 17th. This year we have seven youth who will be confirmed! Please pray for them as they start their journey to Confirmation! Bishop Wright will be joining us on Sunday, April 14th for the confirmation service. We look forward to having him!

Be on the lookout for information regarding our summer mission trip! Location and dates will be announced soon, but we are planning a trip at the end of July. We hope you can join us!

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**Rev. Kyle Stillings** - I would like to invite all of you to join me in a three week exploration of the book of Jonah his Lent. Together we will explore the themes of God's graciousness and willingness to forgive, our need to repent and return to the Lord and the expansive breadth of God's Love and compassion. This will be an introductory level class that does not assume familiarity with the text or any cultural or historical context. Copies of the text will be available in class, but I encourage you to bring your favorite translation of the bible with you - differences in translation can spark good questions and conversation. There will be a blend of presentation and group participation, so please feel empowered and encouraged to share questions and thoughts that Jonah stirs up inside of you.

In peace  
Kyle+

## Upcoming Events

### March 11 at 12 noon

Lenten Luncheon with the Rev. Royesse Stowe

### March 15-17

Youth Confirmation Retreat at Camp Mikell

### March 17 6:30 p.m.

St. Patrick's Day Adult Fellowship gathering  
Cissy Van Ingen's home – 2801 Madden Drive  
Drinks provided. Bring an appetizer to share.

### March 18 at 12 noon

Lenten Luncheon with Rev. Hazel Glover

### March 24

Rev. Anthony Estes preaching at Sunday services

Adult Confirmation Class 11:45-1:00 Lunch provided.  
All adults interested in joining Trinity, please join us.

### March 25 at 12 noon

Lenten Luncheon with Anthony Estes

### March 31

Adult Confirmation Class 11:45-1:00 Lunch provided.  
All adults interested in joining Trinity, please join us.  
Youth Confirmation Class 11:45-1:00 Lunch provided



## 2019 Trinity Church Lenten Series

Please join us on Mondays during Lent for lunch and speaker.

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March 11 - The Rev. Royeese Stowe, Methodist minister, Covington, GA

March 18 - The Rev. Hazel Glover, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Newnan, GA

March 25 - The Rev. Anthony Estes, Episcopal Deacon, Detroit, MI

April 1. - The Rev. Danny Dieth, First Presbyterian Church, Columbus, GA

April 8 - The Rev. Allen Pruitt, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Lagrange, GA