

Third Sunday of Advent
The Holy Eucharist., Rite II
December 14, 2025/10:00 AM

Trinity Episcopal Church

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Faith • Compassion • Community

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An INTRODUCTION to ADVENT: The COURAGE of HOPE

Written by Bishop Deon K. Johnson



In this season of Advent, we are called to embrace the courage of hope. Not the kind that denies the darkness, but the kind that enters into it. God's most profound works often unfold in obscurity—creation from chaos, resurrection from the tomb, the incarnation in the stillness of night. Advent does not rush to the joy of Christmas but lingers in the holy tension of waiting. It bids us to slow down, to notice where God is poking, provoking, and prodding us toward deeper relationship—with ourselves, with one another, and with the divine.

Advent is not just a countdown as we rush headlong towards Christmas; it is an invitation. It calls us to hold back the mad dash toward the manger and walk instead the slower, sacred path of preparation. Light a candle against the shadows. Read the prophets. Dwell in the questions. Sing the hymns of longing. Pray with the saints who waited before us.

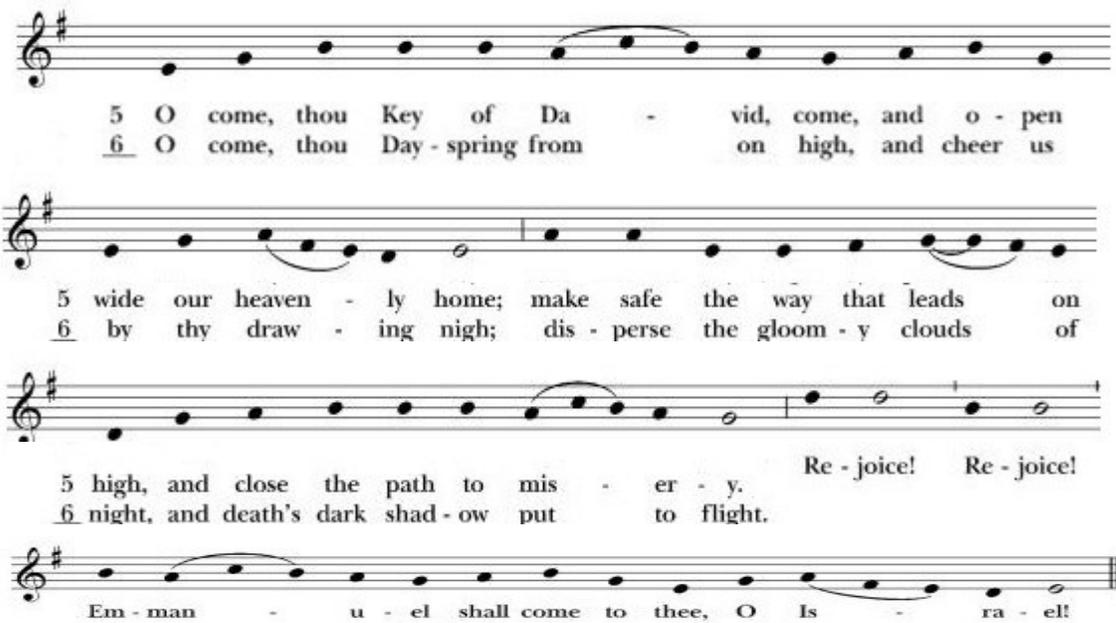
For Jesus is coming—into our world, into our lives, into our gloom. And with him, he brings the fierce, transforming light of courageous hope.

May our anticipation of hope be holy.
May our waiting be pregnant with possibility.
May our expectation be buoyed in our longing.
For surely God dwells with us in this waiting place.

THE BIDDING & LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

The Season of Advent takes its name from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming” or “visit.” Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. For Christians Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year. During Advent we prepare for and anticipate the coming of Christ. We remember the longing of our Jewish ancestors for a Messiah and our own longing for, and need of, forgiveness, salvation, and new beginning.

The Bidding for Advent



5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us

5 wide our heav - en - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of

5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y. Re - joice! Re - joice!
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.

Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

A hymn may be sung. Once the community has gathered the Presider greets the assembly.

Presider Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**

Presider Dear friends in Christ, as we travel towards Bethlehem in this journey of Advent, we come together in the midst of a busy season to take a breath. To slow down as we anticipate Jesus' coming once more into the world. We are invited for a time to breathe in together the life that God gives us; to listen for the beating of God's heart and the blessings and lessons this season brings. As we gather for this time of worshipful anticipation let us in the silence rest in God's presence.

A prolonged silence is kept.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Presider May Christ, the One whose coming we await, fill our homes and hearts with joyful anticipation as we journey to the manger. Amen.

Presider Each week we light an Advent candle as a symbol of our journey.

People **With its light comes our prayers and our stories.**

ADVENT WEEK THREE

Presider The candle of this third week of Advent is a candle of **joy**. Today the flame of this candle reminds us of the joy that Jesus brings into this world. Jesus said, “Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.”

Once the candles are lit, the Presider continues

Presider Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth as a burning and shining light.

People **May we your servants rejoice in Christ's light and so be led to witness to him who is the Lord of our coming kingdom, Jesus our Savior and Sovereign of the ages. Amen.**

SEASONAL ACCLAMATIONS

Standing before the assembly the Presider welcomes the community to worship.

Presider Blessed are you, Sovereign God, just and true:
People **To you be praise and glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

Or

Presider Blessed be the Holy One whose coming we await,
People **And blessed be the One who comes to set all people free. Amen.**

Or

Presider Blessed are you, Creator of all,
People **To you be praise and glory for ever!**

Then may be added

Presider In the tender compassion of our God
People **The dawn from on high shall break upon us,**
Presider To shine on those who dwell in the shadow of death,
People **To guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Or

Presider As your dawn renews the face of the earth,
People **Bringing light and life to all creation,**
Presider May we rejoice in this day you have made;
People **As we wake refreshed from the depths of sleep,**
Presider Open our eyes to behold your presence,
People **And strengthen our hands to do your will!**

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open,
People **All desires known, and from whom 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.**

Hymn 59 "Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding"

Merton

Descant

2 Wak-ened by the sol- emn warn- ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
5 Hon- or, glo- ry, might, and bless- ing to the Fa- ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill- ing voice is sound- ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak-ened by the sol- emn warn- ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex- pect- ed, comes with par- don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo- ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon- or, glo- ry, might, and bless- ing to the Fa- ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis- pel- ling, shines up- on the morn- ing skies.
5 with the ev- er- last- ing Spi- rit while un- end- ing a- ges run.

1 "Cast a- way the works of dark- ness, O ye child- ren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis- pel- ling, shines up- on the morn- ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor- row, one and all to be for- given;
4 may he with his mer- cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev- er- last- ing Spi- rit while un- end- ing a- ges run.

The Penitential Order & The Word of God

Opening Acclamation & Summary of the Law

BCP 351

The people standing, the service continues

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant continues

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

CONFESSIONS & ABSOLUTIONS

As we enter in to worship we ask God's forgiveness for things done and things left undone and things done on our behalf so that we may be reconciled to each other and to God.

CONFESSION FORM A

Presider Holy God, we have fallen short in loving you and loving our neighbors; we stand beside each other and ask for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence is kept for a time.

Presider Most Holy God, in the midst of this season of expectation and new life, we confess:

People **We have resisted the light of your love; we have not fully shared the gifts entrusted to us; and we have not treasured the gifts of others around us. Holy Trinity, make us holy. Holy God, make us whole. Amen.**

The Presider offers assurance of God's forgiveness.

Presider May the Trinity of Love bring you back to God and forgive you all your sins; be assured of God's eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn S-102 "Trisagion"

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Trisagion". It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Collect of the Day: 3rd Sunday of Advent

BCP 212

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy Spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

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.**

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES

We hear the stories of the experience of God from our spiritual ancestors. Reading and commenting on scripture goes back to the earliest services of Christianity. Following the pattern of Jewish synagogue worship, readings follow a set pattern for what will be read when.

First Reading: First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

Reader A reading from Hebrew scripture

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 God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM OF THE DAY

The psalms are a part of the poetry of the Hebrew people. They express joy and sadness, loneliness and thanksgiving as part of the human longing to be united with God.

Canticle 15 *The Song of Mary Magnificat*

BCP 91

***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.***

The Second Reading: James 5:7-10

Reader A Reading from the New Testament

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 76 "On Jordan's banks the Baptists cry"

Winchester New

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL Matthew 3:1-12

Presider God is with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People **Glory to you, O Christ.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.

Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

At the end of the Gospel the Presider says

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Thomas Skillings

We remain seated for the sermon. Having someone comment on the scriptures read goes back to the earliest days of Christianity and to the Jewish Synagogue worship which preceded it.

AFFIRMATIONS OF FAITH

The Presider, priest or deacon, leads the assembly in an affirmation of faith. Originally the entire service was viewed as our confession of faith. But, since the Sixth Century, the Church has recited either the Nicene Creed or the Apostle's Creed at the Eucharist. The word creed comes from the Latin credo for "I believe" or "I lend my heart to." Creeds tell a deeper "truth" that goes beyond "facts."

The Nicene Creed or An Advent Creed may be used. In the place of a Deacon, the Presider may lead the Creed.

The Nicene Creed [Expanded]

Deacon Let us affirm our faith in the One, Holy and Living God. *Silence is kept for a time.*

Deacon We believe in one God, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

People **We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Creator, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Creator. Through him all things were made.**

Deacon For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

People **In his life among us, he proclaimed good news to the poor, liberty to the captives, sight to the blind, and release to the oppressed.**

Deacon Jesus ate with outcasts, forgave sinners, challenged injustice, and embodied the boundless love of God.

People **In word and deed, he revealed the reign of God drawing near.**

Deacon For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Creator.

People **He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

Deacon We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Creator and the Son. With the Creator and is worshiped and glorified. Who has spoken through the Prophets.

People **We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer changes people. Prayer is not about changing God, but about changing us more into the likeness of God. Collectively and individually we offer the hopes and desires of our hearts to God. The Deacon, when present in the liturgy, offers the prayers for those who are sick or have asked our prayers.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM A

When a Deacon is present the Presider addresses the Deacon saying;

Presider N., Deacon in the Church of God, what cares and concerns of the world do you bring before us to be held up in prayer?

Deacon People of God, I bid your prayers for...

The concerns of the community and wider world, including those who are sick, in need, or in want, are named.

Deacon “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep gloom—on them light has shined.” In this season of anticipation and hope, let us be seekers of the light and peddlers of hope found in Christ Jesus our Savior.

Leader You who dwell in the darkness and the light, in the silence and in the sound; dwell in the hearts of your people that in hope, peace, joy and love, we may be agents of your heavenly reign and await with anticipation the coming of Christ, the Morning Star. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

Leader You who framed the brightness of the first light in creation; dispel the arrogance, animosity, and anger that shatters the unity of your holy Church. Fill your faithful people with the radiant light of truth, that we may be made one in faith, hope, and love. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

Leader You who delivered your people from the misery of bondage in slavery to the land of promise; set us free from enslavement to division, disunity, and distrust in our public life and labor. Illumine those in authority with the light of vision, that they may lead the peoples of the nations to greater unity and concord. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

Leader You who patterned the stars and called the sun in to being, who appointed the moon and chartered the cosmos. Pattern the hearts of people everywhere to see in each other the beauty of the universe and the splendor of creation, that divisions of race, class, gender, and ethnicity may dissolve into one common humanity. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

Leader You who shower comfort and hope to the lowest, the lost, and the least, shower the light of compassion on the sick, the sorrowful and the suffering especially those we name [_____]. Help us to be your compassion and hope in the world. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

Leader You who welcome into the brilliant light of eternity the souls of those who have died; welcome those whose lives have been cut short by violence, warfare, and strife. Shine the light of hope on our faithful dead, especially those we now name [_____]. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

Leader You who delight in the complexity of creation and the splendor of each creature; help us to delight in the diversity of the earth, our island home. Inspire your people to care for the earth and its creatures and repent and return when we abuse, misuse, and neglect our fellow creatures. Christ be our light.

People **Shine in our hearts.**

Presider May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find us ever burning with the light of love, the spirit of truth, and the wellspring of hope; that following the way of Jesus and filled with the flame of the Holy Spirit, we may be a holy people whose lives and living inspire, incite, and inflame your world with compassion and care. Through Jesus the Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Or

Presider Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE

As we enter the most sacred portion of our worship we exchange a sign of God's promised peace. There are no set words to use in greeting each other, but "Peace be with you" "God's peace" and "Shalom" are all commonly used.

Presider The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

We are a community of reconciliation and peace; therefore, we greet each other with a sign of our desire for peace.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community announcements, notices, prayers, and celebrations may be offered at this time.

GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

Having been nourished from the richness of God's love in sacred story and reconciled to each other through prayer and peace we gather at Christ's table to offer ourselves to be transformed for service in the world. The gifts of bread, wine and money are offered by the assembly to be set apart or consecrated as a reminder of Christ's sacrificial love and life.

THE OFFERTORY

The gifts of bread, wine, money and other gifts are brought to the Presider as an offering to God. Once the Holy Table or Altar is prepared the Presider and people give thanks to God for the many gifts we have been given.

OFFERTORY MUSIC:

Offertory Anthem "Advent Alleluia"

Jonathan Willcocks

DOXOLOGY

O Trin - i - ty! O U - ni - ty! Be pres - ent as we
wor - ship thee; And with the songs that an - gels sing
U - nite the hymns of praise we bring. A - men.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYERS FOR ADVENT

The Eucharistic Prayer, or Great Thanksgiving, is the prayer of the Church to invite Christ to be present in the elements of bread and wine. Now we come to the second act in the drama with the Liturgy of the Table. It is based on Jewish Fellowship meals, particularly the Passover observance. But this second half of the service is not communion in and of itself. It is the whole service, both acts of the drama, that make up the Eucharist.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: FORM 1

Presider God is with you. *or* The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider 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 thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Presider proceeds.

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Presider Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Hymn S-130 Sanctus "Holy, holy, holy, Lord" (See Page 16)

Schubert/Proulx

Presider Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all. Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

Presider On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Presider After supper 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Presider Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Presider We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Presider Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

Presider All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

People **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (TRADITIONAL)

The Lord's Prayer follows in either traditional or contemporary language. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection. In the Lord's Prayer we ask for daily bread meaning the things we need to get through each day. But as a part of that, the bread also symbolizes God's presence.

Presider As our Savior has taught us we are bold to pray.

People **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.**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread in view of the assembly.

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

or

Presider By your hand you feed your people, food of angels, heaven's bread.

People **For these gifts we did not labor; by your grace have we been fed.**

Presider In this meal we taste your sweetness, bread for hunger, wine of peace.

People **Holy word and Holy wisdom, satisfy our deepest needs.**

Presider Send us now with faith and courage to the hungry, lost, bereaved.

People **In our living and our dying we become what we receive.**

Hymn S-164 *Agnus Dei* "Jesus Lamb of God"

Schubert/Proulx

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

INVITATIONS TO COMMUNION

We partake in the Eucharist and are spiritually nourished, but it is not for our benefit alone. Communion enables us to return to the world with renewed vigor for proclaiming the Gospel in our words and in our lives. In the Eucharist, Christ's presence both nourishes us and challenges us.

Presider These are God's holy gifts, for you, God's holy people.

Presider Come to this table, you who wait and you who long, you who hope for the dawn, and you who rest in the night.
Then may be added: Here the Word is made flesh, and the Light of Christ meets us in bread and wine. Come, for all is ready, it is Christ who invites you to meet him here.

SHARING THE SACRED MEAL

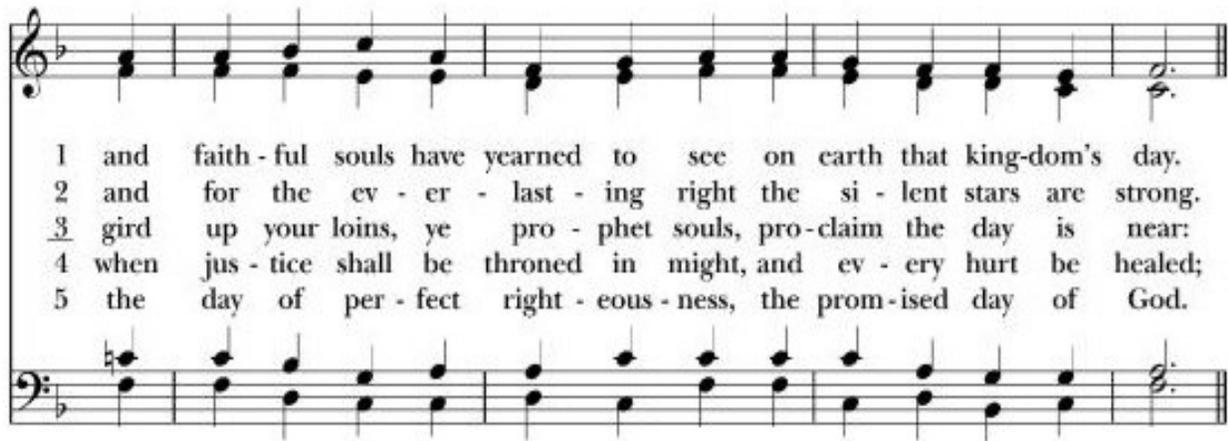
This is Christ's table and all are welcome and all are fed. All the baptized are invited to partake in the sacred meal. Please follow the movement to the altar.

COMMUNION HYMN: 615 "Thy Kingdom come!"

St. Flavian



1 "Thy king - dom come!" on bend - ed knee the pass - ing a - ges pray;
2 But the slow watch - es of the night not less to God be - long;
3 And lo, al - rea - dy on the hills the flags of dawn ap - pear;
4 the day to whose clear shin - ing light all wrong shall stand re - vealed,
5 when know - ledge, hand in hand with peace, shall walk the earth a - broad;



1 and faith - ful souls have yearned to see on earth that king - dom's day.
2 and for the ev - er - last - ing right the si - lent stars are strong.
3 gird up your loins, ye pro - phet souls, pro - claim the day is near:
4 when jus - tice shall be throned in might, and ev - ery hurt be healed;
5 the day of per - fect right - eous - ness, the prom - ised day of God.

POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

After the Silence the Presider invites the congregation to stand and pray saying:

Presider God is with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Together, let us pray.

People **God of promise, we thank you for feeding us with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and for gathering us into the mystery of your Advent: a time of waiting, watching, and expectation. Send us now into the world trusting in your faithful presence in all things at all times; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.**

CLOSING SONG

We begin and end our time of worship by praising God through song and prayer.

Recessional Hymn 640 "Watchman, tell us of the night"

Aberstwyth

1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom - ise
2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; high - er yet that star a -
3 Watch-man, tell us of the night, for the morn - ing seems to

are. Trav - eler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, see that glo - ry -
scends. Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, peace and truth its
dawn. Trav - eler, dark - ness takes its flight, doubt and ter - ror

beam - ing star. Watch-man, does its beau - teous ray
course por - tends. Watch-man, will its beams a - lone
are with - drawn. Watch-man, let thy wan - derings cease;

aught of joy or that hope fore - tell? Trav-eler, yes; it
gild the spot that gave them birth? Trav-eler, a - ges
hie thee to thy qui - et home. Trav-eler, lo! the

brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.
are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.
Prince of Peace, lo! the Son of God is come!

Two groups may sing antiphonally, alternating by sentences.

DISMISSALS

As the celebration ends, we are charged to "Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord." The Eucharist is therefore not an exclusive gathering that separates us from the world, but a challenge to reach out beyond our own church to the world around us.

Deacon Our worship is ended. Our service in the world begins. Go into the world to love what God loves. Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Deacon Our worship is ended. Our service in the world begins. Go forth in the Name of Christ, walking in hope, carrying peace, living in love, and radiating joy.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Deacon Our worship is ended. Our service in the world begins. Go forth as companions of light and shadow, bearing witness to the presence of Christ in all creation. Go into your neighborhoods, into the quiet streets and bustling places alike, to those who know the promise of God and to those who have yet to hear it. Go in hope. Go in peace. Go in joy. Go in love.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Intercessions, Petitions, and Thanksgivings

We pray for **Sean**, our Presiding Bishop, and **Deon**, our Bishop; for **Doris, Betty**, and **Martin**, our clergy; for **John, Michelle**, and **Ashley**, our staff; for **Phil, David, Jacob, John, Jo Anne, Richard, Benisha, Eleanor, Grace, Shawn, and Melissa**, our Vestry; for **Harlan, Rich, Avril, Benisha, Shawn, and Melissa**, for technology on Sundays and weekdays; and for those who sing, read and pray, in person and from home. In our Diocese of Missouri, we pray for the people and ministry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church (1870) in Ironton and Richard, their Vicar. In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for Hogar Cristo Rey - Maria de los Angeles Cotto. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil.

For those in particular need of prayer, especially

Bud Adkins; **Jerry** Aehle; **Connie** Akers; **Deborah** Alessi; **Jaimie** Allen; **Alex** Alvarez; **Alyssa**; **Anne, Becky, Jerry** Barnard; **Valerie** Barr; **Denny** Bay; **Terry** Bell; **Rich and Mariah** Berger; **Breana; Jo Ann** Brockman; **Kent** Brown; **Stephanie** Brown; **Travis** Brown, **Benisha** Brudy; **Jim** Burke; **Rita** Burnde; **Deanna** Campbell; **Anne** Chau; The Rev. **Barbi** Click; **Rose** Cloud; **Joe** Connor; **Cather; Marc** Daigle; **Nancy** Dale; **Noreen** Davis; **Jess** Dixon; **Josh; Emily** Drury; **Patty** Eggers; **Bob** Fagan; **Alison** Fambrough; **Nancy** Feeney; The **Fisher Family; Trisha** Fitzpatrick; **Gregory** Fraser; **Julie** Fuchs; **Paige** Fuchs; **Donna** Furrer; **Kelsey & Derek** Funk; **Sheryl** Gibbs; **Sue** Granger; **Susan** Goddard; **Abigail** Gogel; **Jason** Graff; **Paul** Graue; **Carolyn** Hackman; **Connie** Hall; **Jackie** Halter; **Kate** Hayes; **Larry** Hewitt; **Bob** Honeychurch and **Sylvia** Sweeney; **Sherri** Hugunin; **Debbie** Jackson; **Jennifer; Janis; Tyler** Johnson; **Cornelia & Jim** Kriegh; **Kalisa** Krouper; **Karen** Kupka; **Chloe** Lane; The **Leyden family; Katie** Lillard; **April** Lindbergh; **Tim** Lindley; **Doris** Lohe; **Margaret** Lynch; **Brandon** Madsen; **John** Maginnis **Mary Jo, Marissa, Lee** Martin; **Brenna** Mason; **Zoe** Matthews; **Jamie** McCune; **Barbara** McKeel; **Gale** McKiddy; **Cate** Mertins; **Lauren** Mertz; **Kenneth** Mettlach; **Bob** Miller; **Jake** Neu; **Laura** Neuman-Howe; **Colin** Nichols; **John** Nichols; **Leslie** Niebrugge; **Nancy** Noel; **Jane** Overstreet; **Jon** Overstreet; **Ernie** Parente; **Hannah, Clay, Cyrus and Ezra** Parks; **Mary** Parrella; **Robin** Perkins; **Barbara** Perkins, **Rosemary and Hurley** Perkins; **Phyllis, Cindy** Pricker; **Ellen** Ramirez; **Ray & Adele; Allie** Redmond; **Robert**; the **Rutsch Family, Lisa** Schildknecht; **Louis** Seiler; **Judy** Shannon; **Kurt and Dave** Sheets; **Tom** Shine; **Mary** Shive; **Kathy** Smith; **Carol** Steinhauer; **Ann T; Tisha** Thornton; **David** Turk; **Linda** Tyranski; **Mary** Vogel; **Codi** Walker; **Mary** Walsh; **Chad** Warren; **Joe** Welton; Canon **Doris and David** Westfall; **Mary** Willard; **Charlotte** Williams; **Pat** Willmering; **Iris** Wright.

For members of our congregation who cannot worship with us regularly, especially

Karen Basanavicius, **Tom** Kuypers, **Pat** Neal, **Grace** Nichols; **Carol** Nicholson, **Charlotte** Williams

For those in the armed services, especially

Travis Allen, **Brian** Barnard, **Zachary P.** Behlmann, **Richard** Broseman, **Corey** Burleigh, **Scott** Burleigh, **Justin** Killian, **Joshua** LeDuc, **Corey** Ring, **Zachary** Taylor, **Christopher** Westfall, **Dustin** Wilhelm, **Gary** Woods

For all first responders and health care providers, especially

Deanna Bowen, RN; **Emily** Briggs; **Jim** Crawford, Hospice Chaplain; **Mary Ann** Curran, CRNA; **Jason** Graff, **Emily** (Crain) Green, RN; **Christy** Henke Ratliff, Hospice Chaplain; **David** Homing, **Shahla** Kuypers, RN; **Becky** (Lackey) Logel, RN; **Julie** (Smith) McKenney, RN; **Clay** McKiddy, DNP; **Jessica** Middleton, RN; **Aaron** Morgan **Nancy** Noel, MD; **Cindy** (Lackey) Waaso, RN; **Ekene** Onoforo, RN, PhD; **Christine** Ogawa, BSN; **Julius** Mensah, BSN

For anyone facing particular hardship, especially

We pray for peace and hope in Palestine and Israel, and an end to the destruction and death in Gaza, Sudan, Ukraine, Russia, and Lebanon. We pray for those who have no home. We pray for all victims of gun violence, for all victims of addiction, epidemic, injustice, hunger, injury, or abuse. We pray for all those who have contemplated, attempted, or died by suicide, and for all those who love and have loved them; for those who struggle with economic and political realities; and for all those whose needs are known to God alone.

For those who have died

Theron Bruce Jeffery, son of Bonnie Curnow and brother of Phil Jeffery, 12/9/25

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS (And Next Sunday!)

Note: Trinity Church Events in **Bold**. We share our building!

8 AM	Sun	Dec 14	3rd Sunday of Advent, HE Rite I
10 AM	Sun	Dec 14	3rd Sunday of Advent, HE Rite II
11 AM	Sun	Dec 14	Vestry Meeting
12:30 PM	Sun	Dec 14	3rd Sunday of Advent, African Anglican-Episcopal Service
10 AM	Mon	Dec 15	AA Group #496 (St. Hilda Room)
7 PM	Mon	Dec 15	Boy Scout Troop #763 (St. Hilda Room, Parish Hall, Reception Area)
7 PM	Tue	Dec 16	NA (Narcotics Anonymous) (Parish Hall)
10 AM	Wed	Dec 17	Bible Study
10 AM	Wed	Dec 17	AA (<i>This Is the Solution</i>) (Parish Hall)
6:30 PM	Wed	Dec 17	Choir Practice
7:30 PM	Wed	Dec 17	CODA (Co-Dependents Anonymous) (Library, St. Hilda Room)
7 PM	Thu	Dec 18	Al-Anon (St. Hilda Room/Parish Hall)
10:30AM	Fri	Dec 19	AA Group #228 (St. Hilda Room)
6 PM	Fri	Dec 19	AA Group #1118 (Parish Hall)
8 AM	Sun	Dec 21	4th Sunday of Advent, HE Rite I
10 AM	Sun	Dec 21	4th Sunday of Advent, HE Rite II
12:30 PM	Sun	Dec 21	4th Sunday of Advent, African Anglican-Episcopal Service



**THE MISSIONAL COMMUNITY
OF ST MONICA
(AN AFRICAN ANGLICAN-
EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY)**



Host
The Rev. Dr. Martin P. Muhia

Officiant
Carolyne Muhia

Preacher
The Rev. Mercy Maina

Joy

 14TH December from 12:30 p.m. to 02:00 p.m.

 Trinity Episcopal Church 318 South Duchesne Drive St. Charles, Missouri 63301

 Third service at Trinity Episcopal Church

 www.trinity-stcharles.org

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT



Contact Rev. Dr. Martin P. Muhia: 636-949-0160



Altar Flowers

are offered today by

The Aehle and Kupka families

In honor and memory of

Nancy Aehle

Altar Flowers

ADVENT WORD

As of last Sunday, on the Trinity Facebook page, we are “following along” with Forward Movement’s

ADVENT WORD

Every day there will be a new “prompt” word , with reflections, prayers, psalms, or pictures that represent that word.

Join us on our Advent Journey



Dec 21: “Hanging of the greens” with potluck lunch

Dec 24:
Christmas Eve
4:00 PM
9:30 PM Festival Eucharist

Dec 25: NO Christmas Day service

Dec 28: Lessons & Carols



Parishioners wishing to honor/remember loved ones for the Christmas season may do so by signing upon the bulletin board in the reception area.

Donations for the poinsettias may be placed in the collection plate or church office. Please mark your donation Christmas Flowers for accurate accounting. Flowers can be taken home, and/or will be distributed to shut-ins, nursing home residents, and hospital patients after Christmas.

DECEMBER FISH WISH LIST

- Pears
- Cranberry Sauce
- Can Potatoes
- Can Pasta
- Can Chicken
- Broth/Gravy
- Can Chili
- Rice Sides
- Condiments (dressing, mayo, mustard, ketchup)

