



A Service of Holy Communion
December 24, 2024
Christmas Eve

Merry Christmas! Welcome to Trinity!

We are together on-site and online!

The people of Trinity Church gather around a table piled high with spiritual food, and there is a place for you and everyone at the table, whatever your religious practice may be. If you are at Trinity in person, know that this congregation supports anyone who wears a mask to reduce risk of infection. Please feel free to receive communion and participate in the service as fully as you want. If you are watching the Facebook Live Stream, you may add comments, likes, etc. to the comment section at any time. If you are on-site, you can use your mobile device to join the Facebook Live Stream to connect with other worshippers in the comment section. Just make sure your volume is all the way down! WiFi internet access is publicly available. Use the "Trinity Open" network with the password "Welcome!"

Trinity Church is a metropolitan house of prayer, a community of worship and spiritual inquiry, welcoming all people. Recognizing our common brokenness, yet rejoicing in the reconciling love of God through Jesus Christ, we nurture one another in our spiritual life together. If you are not on-site, rest assured that your presence online is felt and valued.

At this Christmas Eve service, of course, children are expected to participate and to behave like children! For any children who do not come in a costume, prior to the service, feel free to take them to the Chapel (through the door by the baptismal font) to **borrow a costume**, so when they are called up front during the children's homily, they will know they are a part of the Christmas story. You may also take advantage of the **Kids' Corners in the back of the side pews**. They are enclosed and safe spaces for small children (attended by their parents) to play quietly on the floor while staying in church. Additionally, there is a room in the back left corner of the church that has a **rocking chair and changing table** where you can attend to your child.

PRELUDE

"CHRISTMASTIME IS HERE" BY VINCE GUARALDI

INTROIT

"DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR" LYRICS BY NOËL REGNEY AND MUSIC BY GLORIA SHAYNE

Verse 4. (All sing) Said the king to the people everywhere

Listen to what I say!

Pray for peace, people, everywhere

Listen to what I say!

The Child, the Child sleeping in the night

He will bring us goodness and light

He will bring us goodness and light

CENTERING PRAYER

Light looked down and beheld darkness.

There will I go, said Light.

Peace looked down and beheld war.

There will I go, said Peace.

Love looked down and beheld hate.

There will I go, said Love.

So Light came, and shone.

So Peace came, and gave rest.

So Love came, and gave life.

And the Word was made flesh,
and dwelt among us.

Amen.

If you would like to receive more information about Trinity Church, please sign our guest book, located near the entrance. Everyone is welcome to enjoy refreshments and conversation after worship. Trinity Church is an Episcopal Church and a member parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York of the Episcopal Church in the United States, and is a part of the Anglican Communion, which is based in England, but found worldwide.

Performed by family choir and combined choir. Congregation joins in on verse 4.

The Centering Prayer was written by Laurence Housman.

OPENING HYMN

**O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him,
born the King of angels;**

**Refrain: O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.**

**God from God,
Light from Light eternal,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
only-begotten
Son of the Father;
Refrain**

**Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God,
glory in the highest;
Refrain**

BIDDING PRAYER

God of all people and creatures of every description, of the living and the dead,
God of all places and planets, stars and galaxies,
God of the beginning and end of time, of all time, even this moment,
We gather to hear the sacred story of your love for us and all whom you have made.
To open our hearts to the hope of renewal and restoration,
we lay before you our worries and grief, our fears and regrets,
and the hopes and commitments that are not bold enough stir us to live with the justice and love that are your will for the world.

Hear us, we pray.

Dear People of God,
I invite you to entrust to God your deepest concerns and most hesitant hopes.
I bid you pray for the sick and the dying, and for those who dignify the lives of the sick by caring for them.
I bid you pray for those whose work is so basic to life that they are overlooked rather than honored.
I bid you pray for the the poor and the destitute, and for those who are prevented by misfortune or injustice from being able to meet their own needs or achieve their dreams.
I bid you pray for the broken hearted, for those who have lost hope, and those who have lost loved ones.

“O come, all ye faithful”

**See how the shepherds,
summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks,
draw nigh to gaze;
we too will thither
bend our joyful footsteps;
Refrain**

**Child, for us sinners
poor and in the manger,
we would embrace thee,
with love and awe;
who would not love thee,
loving us so dearly?
Refrain**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be
glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;
Refrain**

*In spirit or in body,
the congregation
stands to sing
hymns.*

I bid you pray for victims of war and oppression. As we celebrate this night God's promise of peace brought to life in human form,

I bid you pray for the people whose heritage goes back to Jesus' time, in the places where Jesus lived.

I bid you pray for those who have the power to command violence to find the wisdom, the will and the hope to turn away from violence and make room for peace.

Lay open your hearts, and with confidence, lay down your burdens before God. For there is good news of great joy. Woven throughout the history of human life is the story of creativity, generosity, self-offering, acceptance and love. Resounding throughout history are the echoes of the story of God in the world. Open your hearts to the story of God coming into the world through the birth of Jesus of Nazareth.

Hear us, we pray. Amen.

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 9:2,6-7

The Bible reading is taken from The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation by Priests for Equality.

Nobody set out to write The Bible. The Hebrew Scriptures were created over many centuries by many people to record the Jewish People's experience of God. The same is true of the Christian Scriptures, some of which were letters written to a specific audience in response to specific needs—and were then found to be helpful to the faithful even after fulfilling their original purpose.

The people walking in darkness are seeing a brilliant light— upon those who dwell in a land of deep shadows

light is shining!

For a child is born to us,

an heir is given us,

upon whose shoulders

dominion will rest.

This One shall be called

Wonderful Counselor, the Strength of God,

Eternal Protector, Champion of Peace.

This dominion, and this peace,

will grow without end,

with David's throne and realm

sustained with justice and fairness,

now and forever.

The zeal of God Omnipotent

will accomplish it!"

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

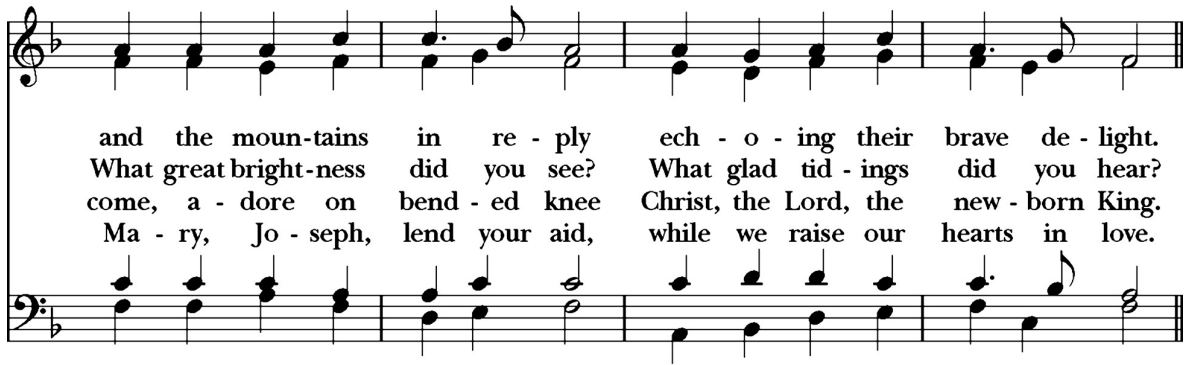
Thanks be to God.

HYMN

"Angels we have heard on high"

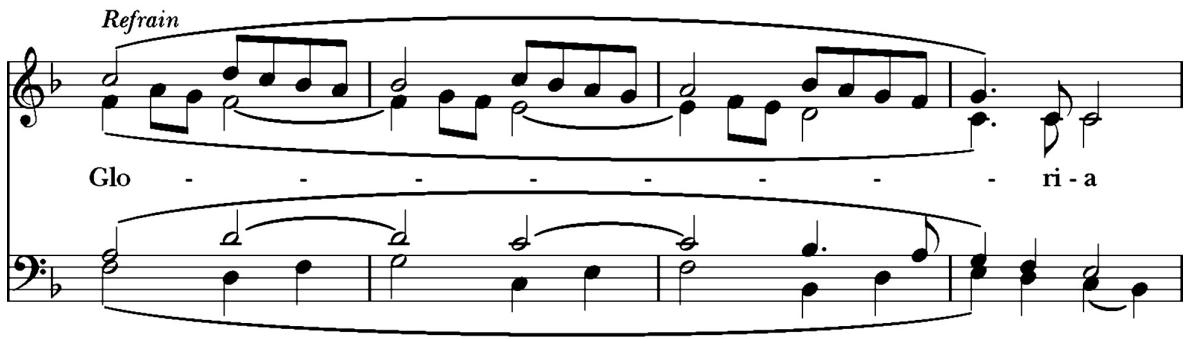
In spirit or in body, the congregation stands to sing hymns.

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

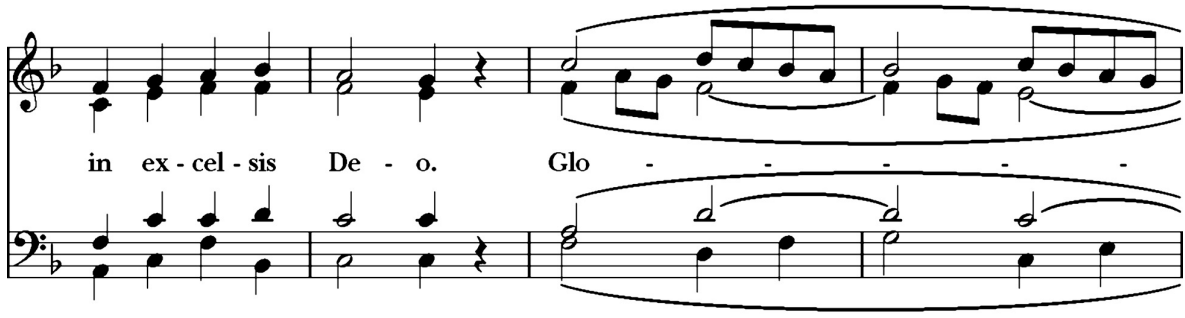


and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
 What great bright-ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

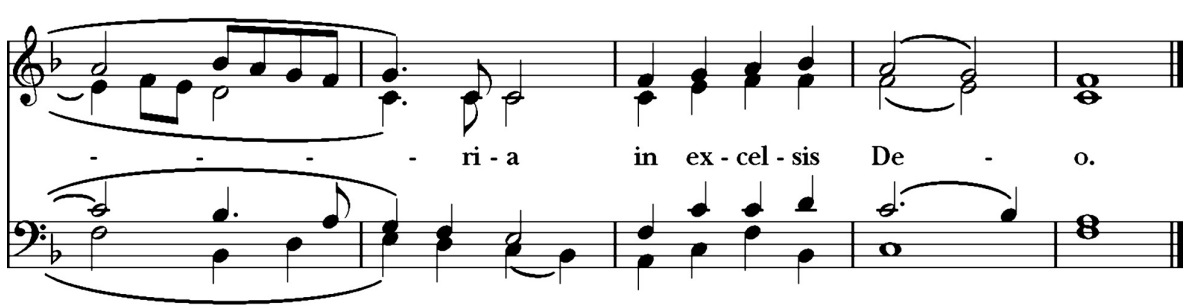
Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Copyright © by permission of Fleming H. Revell Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958)

MIDDLE READING

“INTO THE DARKEST HOUR” BY MADELEINE L’ENGLE

It was a time like this,
 War & tumult of war,
 a horror in the air.
 Hungry yawned the abyss —
 and yet there came the star
 and the child most wonderfully there.

Continued on next page

The Middle Reading fills the role of a Bible reading, but it doesn't come from the Bible. It is our way of trying to listen for God's ongoing word as it is spoken outside the limits of the Bible. Most often, we turn to contemporary poets for this reading.

Madeleine L'Engle (1918–2007) was an American writer of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and young adult fiction, including A Wrinkle in Time and its sequels. Her books for adults include The Irrational Season and The Summer of the Great-grandmother. Her writings reflect both her Christian faith and her strong interest in modern science.

It was time like this
of fear & lust for power,
license & greed and blight —
and yet the Prince of bliss
came into the darkest hour
in quiet & silent light.

And in a time like this
how celebrate his birth
when all things fall apart?
Ah! Wonderful it is
with no room on the earth
the stable is our heart.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN

“O little town of Bethlehem”

*In spirit or in body,
the congregation
stands to sing
hymns.*

**1. O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.**

**2. For Christ is born of Mary;
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.**

**3. How silently, how silently,
the wondrous Gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him,
still
the dear Christ enters in.**

**5. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!**

PAGEANT - “A CHRISTMAS PAGEANT”

Narrator: Welcome to Bethlehem! In the birth of Jesus, God has come close to us on earth so that we can be close to him who is in heaven. And this is where heaven and earth meet. This afternoon, we will tell the story – and the children will walk through the story – of that meeting.

Once upon a time, a long, long time ago, Life was hard. Some people had a hard time getting enough to eat, or warm enough clothes to keep out the winter cold. Other people were cruel and selfish. They pushed people around to get what they wanted, and they didn't care if the others got hurt along the way. It seemed like everybody had enemies who were trying to hurt them, and people couldn't trust more than a few friends to help them. But then, an amazing thing happened! Jesus was born so that God could be with us as one of us. Let me tell you the story about the birth of Jesus. In those days a decree went out from Emperor

*Arranged in 2013
by the Rev. Matthew
Kozlowski for St.
Mary's Episcopal
Church in Stuart,
FL; modified by
Colleen O'Neill and
Matt Lincoln.*

Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and all went to their own towns to be registered.

Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

And the angel said to them, Do not be afraid; for I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people! To you is born this day in the city of David a savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord! And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

When the angels had left them, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

There's more to the story! The angels certainly wanted the shepherds to know about Jesus. The shepherds were poor and had a hard life. The angels were sent to tell the shepherds that God cared about them and would always be with them. God wanted other people, all over the world to know about Jesus, too. So God put a new star in the sky that would show people how to find Jesus even if they were coming from far away. Here's how that part of the story goes:

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of King Herod, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East and have come to worship him."

When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

And after all the visitors had left, Mary and Joseph thought about all that they had seen and heard.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

THE REV. MATT LINCOLN

HYMN

"Away in a manger"

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

*In spirit or in body,
the congregation
stands to sing
hymns.*

Continued on next page

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me for ever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Now would be a great time to add a comment to the Live Stream!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Hail the blessed morn, see the great mediator
Down from the regions of glory descend!
Shepherds go worship the babe in the manger,
Lo, for His guard the bright angels attend.*

*Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thy aid.
Star in the east, the horizons adorning,
Guide where our infant redeemer is laid.*

"BRIGHTEST AND BEST" ARRANGED BY SHAWN KIRCHNER

*Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining,
Low lies his bed with the beasts of the stall.
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.*

*Shall we not yield him, in costly devotion,
Odours of Edom and offerings divine,
Gems of the mountains and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?*

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

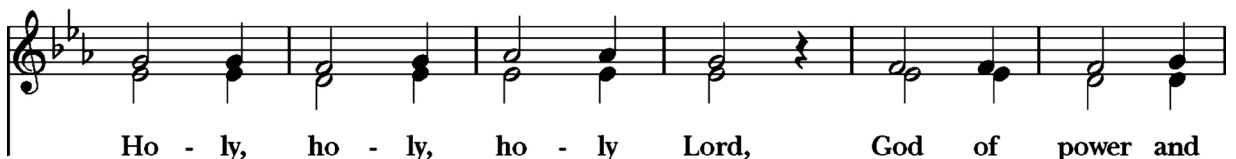
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We thank you loving God, for you did not abandon us or stand far off but came in awful nearness with the urgency of love. In creation's dawn, you gave birth to all that is; to the people of Israel you revealed yourself and shared the human story.

Now we praise you for the Word made flesh born of Mary's body, nurtured in her womb, cradled in her arms, greeted by her song. The fullness of God dwells in his flesh, a touch of welcome for the one thrown aside, good news of bread for the hungry and poor, a shepherd to find those who are lost.

Now we are caught up, body and soul resound with the glory of music divine, echoing through the hallowed earth:



Your financial support is not only a practical necessity. It can also be a very meaningful symbolic gesture, expressing your gratitude for the blessings in your life and your hope for health in the world. You can place cash or a check in the big blue urn at the head of the aisle or donate online [here](#), or initiate an online donation by texting TRINITYBUFFALO to 73256 or using this QR code:



This Eucharistic Prayer is adapted from Steven Shakespeare's Prayers For An Inclusive Church.

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'd is the one who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*From
 Deutsche Messe
 by F. P.
 Schubert*

We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon us and upon these gifts that they may be to us the body and blood of our lord and brother, Jesus Christ; who, on the night that he was betrayed, gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.

Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: **“This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.”**

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: **“This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.”**

Therefore we proclaim him as creation’s host, transforming poverty into plenty in the reckless generosity of love.

Continued on next page

We are following a pattern of using an alternative interpretation of the Lord's Prayer for a few weeks and then using the traditional Prayer Book version for a week or two, and then going to a different interpretation for a few weeks, then the Prayer Book version for a week or two, etc.

This version of the Lord's Prayer is what many of us grew up learning. It is also the version shared at the end of many 12 Step meetings. Although it is important to stay fresh and engaged by the words of our prayers, it is also important to be reminded that we as individuals are part of a great cloud of witnesses who have been inspired to turn to God in prayer throughout the ages.

**Jesus revealed a new, personal sense of relationship with God by addressing God as something like "Papa." Always feel free to use your most meaningful name for God in saying the Lord's Prayer.*

Inspire us with the hope that one day death and greed will be no more and people without number will come from east and west, north and south to share the kingdom meal. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom and in whom in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory are yours, Author of blessings, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Now, as Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**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,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous Gift is given!

**So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.**

No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, **still
the dear Christ enters in.**

RECEIVING COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive communion, regardless of religious background or affiliation. For those of you online, you are invited to have a morsel of bread and a sip of wine (or any substitutes you choose) during the time that communion is being shared.

For those in the building, you are invited to come forward to receive communion at the head of the aisle, where you will be offered a morsel of bread dipped in wine. Please let the ministers of communion know if you prefer not to have your bread dipped in the wine. Also, let them know if you need a gluten-free wafer instead of wheat bread.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

"BELIEVE" BY BALLARD/SILVESTRI
TENOR SOLOIST: JOHN CLAYTON

"IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER/STILL, STILL, STILL" ARRANGED BY KRISTA SEDDON

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray:

**Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and remembering the body of Christ,
which has been broken for the life of the world.
Now give us grace to trust that we are
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed.
Give us the courage to proclaim your love to the world,
and to continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

THE LIGHTING OF CANDLES

Symbolizing the deep and abiding truth that even one small flame can enlighten the gravest darkness, we light our hand candles as we share a beloved carol. If you are nearest an aisle candle, please light your hand candle and pass the flame to those next to you.

HYMN

**Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,**

“SILENT NIGHT”

**heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love’s pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

BLESSING

May the kindness of the animals, the joy of the angels, and the amazement of the shepherds be yours this Christmas, and the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us, and who animates and guides us be with you now and always. **Amen.**

The Prayer of Thanksgiving is by Steven Shakespeare from his book Prayers for an Inclusive Church.

It is customary (not required) to kneel to sing Silent Night here on Christmas Eve.

*In spirit or in body,
the congregation
stands to sing
hymns.*

HYMN

"JOY TO THE WORLD"

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 3 far as the curse is found, far
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

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Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Antioch*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

DISMISSAL

Take your leave, trusting that we are made one in Christ, to shine in the world with God's light.
Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

*Our spiritual
practice is renewed
as we leave here
and begin again to
work the promises
of the covenant.*

POSTLUDE

“CAROL OF THE BELLS” ARRANGED BY JOHN DIXON

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

Kristine Caughell Sue & Kevin Doherty	in memory of Gabriel Caughell and John Patinka
Arlene Grasso Ginx Graves	in memory of Lawrence and Margaret Aroneseno in memory of Gerrie Graves
Sharon & Walther Hirsch Gretchen Lodick	in loving memory of Michael
Bruce & Phoebe McKay Jess & Paul Poleon	in memory of our parents in honor of all our loved ones
Abigail & Stephen Ruggles Steve & Judy Shanley	in honor of our children and grandchildren
Missy Stolfi Jane Kearns	In memory of Scout, Franklin, and Clover in memory of John, Bob, Shirley, and Orie
Gary Koeppl Celeste Miller	in memory of Scout
Susie Green Connie Ervin	in memory of Barrett and Green families in memory of the Ervin family

WE REMEMBER THOSE FOR WHOM OUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ASKED:

Joe Silvestri- recovering from a stroke
Paul Werner- recovering from a stroke
Louis Bordanaro - fell off ladder
End to world hunger
John Michael Hulme
Mark & Dave Gerard
Richard Kay
Gary & Lisa Panek- recovering from head-on motor vehicle accident
Shirley Ruske - diagnosed with cancer
Ross DiLoro
Cassandra and Michael
Jack Giardina
Karen Smallen
Jeff Watson, John and Catherine Gillespie's son-in-law
Dale Worwa
Ed and Sherry Czechowski - recovering from a serious motor vehicle accident
Abby Laettner
Adam Kreutinger
Alphonso and Marcia O'Neil-White
Jessica De Oliveira E Silva (Quinn) - battling stage 4 breast cancer
Margaret (Peggy) Rizzo - suffers from Alzheimer's
Kathy Jerzewski - a return of lymphoma
Betsy and Peter Curtis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Season Worship Schedule

Please join:

As usual, there will be no services held on Christmas Day, including the weekly Wednesday noon service.

Thursday, December 26 7:00pm service - 12 Steps@Trinity based on 12-step spirituality

Sunday, December 29 10:30 service

Thursday, January 2 7:00pm service - 12 Steps@Trinity based on 12-step spirituality

Please note that on Sunday, December 29, there will be no nursery services or Creator Quest during the 10:30 service.

Sunday, Dec 29: NO Trinity @7. Trinity @7 will resume January 5.

There is no Wednesday at noon service on December 25 or January 1.

"Adoration of the Magi" candlelight celebration @7pm, Friday, Jan. 3

An age-old celebration of Epiphany marking the arrival of the Magi at the birth of the Christ Child will be offered by the Jung Center of Buffalo from 7-9 pm, Friday, January 3 in Christ Chapel. The event is free and open to the public; members of Trinity are encouraged to participate with offerings of poetry or stories on an epiphany theme. Please contact the Jung Center at Lavoie888@gmail.com to participate — read a poem, tell a story or offer comments about the adoration of the Magi.

The lovely candlelight Epiphany celebration will feature music by Sedanta, an Irish trio, and storytelling about the Magi and the "Fourth Wiseman" by Franklin LaVoie, president of the Jung Center. Additional poetry readings and musical solos will be included. "This holiday event will be a great way to gather and celebrate as a community this time of joy and hope," LaVoie said, adding, "It is a community party to celebrate the spirit of the Magi who journeyed to see the Christ Child." Holiday food will be served.

Altar Volunteers Needed

We are looking for a couple of volunteers interested in assisting with maintaining and preparing the materials for the altar and communion. Duties can include any combination of the following you are comfortable with: preparing communion elements, washing dishes from communion, laundering altar linens, coordinating altar decorating for special services. You can contact Tim Lane t.w.lane@outlook.com for more details.

Worship Helpers Needed

If you are planning to attend the 10:30am Sunday service in person and would like to be involved with reading from the altar or greeting people at the door and helping direct them with what to expect, please sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c4fafa629a3f58-trinity2> If you are interested in being more involved but aren't interested in either of these roles, you can also plan on helping during services by bringing a device to connect to Facebook viewers and respond to comments during the service.

Visiting Trinity

The church is open by appointment for private prayer or meditation. Contact our parish administrator, Colleen O'Neill, at coneill@trinitybuffalo.org to schedule an appointment.

Explore Buffalo

Learn more about Trinity's windows and the impact they have had on American art history. Share this Buffalo treasure with your friends! Explore Buffalo leads tours of Trinity's windows as part of its Sacred Spaces series. Check the website listed below or scan the QR code for the schedule.
<https://explorebuffalo.org/sacred-spaces/trinity-episcopal-church/>



Comfort and Care Team

The Comfort and Care Team is here to help and support you or someone you know experiencing health or other life challenges. Email any one of us to request prayers, a caring phone call, notes, information on resources, a friendly visit, or arranging meals.

Phoebe McKay, phoebemckay@gmail.com

Marie Keane, MNMKKeane@gmail.com

Susie Green, susie432@gmail.com

Sara Merritt, smerritt172@gmail.com

Patti Nisbet, tudorspace@aol.com

Coldest Night of the Year

It's Year 4 of the Coldest Night of the Year Walk in Buffalo, supporting our friends at Compass House! This year's walk will take place on **Saturday, February 22**, kicking off at the Parkside Lodge. This all-ages fundraising walk raises funds and awareness for the mission of Compass House, supporting homeless and runaway youth and young adults in the Buffalo area.

Visit cnoy.com/buffalo and search Team Trinity to join us at Delaware Park or to support with a donation to Compass House! Email Missy Stolfi at missy.stolfi@gmail.com with any questions.

Parking at Trinity's Franklin Street Lot

When you come to a church service, you can park in Trinity's Franklin Street lot for free. Neither will the parking fees be enforced during Trinity events. But you can use the lot any other time you are in the neighborhood, too! Park in your church's lot any time you would have to pay for parking in the neighborhood so that Trinity gets the parking fee! Use your smartphone to pay.



Volunteer Opportunities With One of our Partners

Creative Restorations is seeking dedicated volunteers to assist with the operation of our food pantry, which serves those in need in our community. We are looking for help on **Mondays** from **9am-Noon**, **Wednesdays** from **12-3pm**, and **Fridays** from **3-6pm**. If you are interested in lending a hand and making a difference, please reach out to Chris Harzynski at 716-553-4886. Your support would be greatly appreciated!

Hamlin Park School Monthly Community Event

Each event has a theme and is open to all. They are always looking for volunteers. The times and dates are:

Saturday Academy 10am-1pm: February 1, March 8, April 5, May 3

Evening 4:30-6pm: January 30, April 3

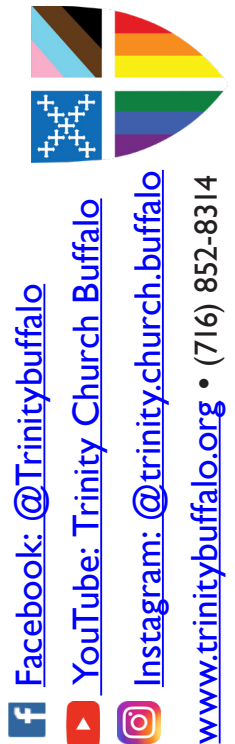
Trinity members are welcome to any of these. For more information, contact the Say Yes To Education coordinator Nikki Cocerez at ncocerez@sayyesbuffalo.org or (716)388-1572.

Computer Ministry Opportunity

We are looking for a couple computer savvy volunteers who would be interested in volunteering as cyber sacristan to help with the livestream for the Sunday morning service and/or the Trinity @7 service. One only needs to be comfortable with using a computer and computer programs; the rest are easily learnable skills. If you'd like to know more or are interested in this volunteer ministry, please contact Jeffrey Tooke at jeffreytooke@outlook.com



Trinity is an Episcopal Church in the Diocesan Partnership of Western New York and Northwest Pennsylvania.



Facebook: @Trinitybuffalo

YouTube: Trinity Church Buffalo

Instagram: @trinity.church.buffalo

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STAFF

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Krista Seddon, Director of Ensembles; Pianist
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www.kristaseddon.com

Paul Cena, Organist and Choir Director
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The Rev. Deacon Jeffrey Tooke, Curate

The Rev. William Roberts, Assisting Priest

Colleen O'Neill, Parish Administrator and Director of Children's Ministries
coneill@trinitybuffalo.org
(716) 852-8314 ext. 1

Jennifer Frey, Office Volunteer
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Rich Mpelezos, Facility Manager
rmpelezos@trinitybuffalo.org

Denise Lanzilotta, Caretaker

Jay Mpelezos, Caretaker

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Voice of Trinity: Julie Keller-Rizzo

Cyber Sacristans: Christian Eshelman, Barbara Hall-Griesmann

Greeters: Erickson Contreras, Susie Green

Readers: Missy Stolfi, Leslie Charlier

Prayers: Kristine Caughell

Announcements: Connie Ervin

Communion Ministers: Missy Stolfi, Clint Brown, Ed Fries, The Rev. Jeffrey Tooke, The Rev. William Roberts

Guest Musicians: Claire Fisher, violin; Nancy Baun, cello; Tim Clarke, trumpet; John Hasselback, III, trumpet

Counters: Connie Ervin, Tim Lane

All services are in person AND online:

Sunday @10:30am

In-person worship while live streaming on Facebook and YouTube. The Sunday online Live Stream service remains accessible as a video recording on Trinity's [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages after the service is over.

Sunday @7:00pm

Featuring poetry and jazz, in person in the Chapel and on Zoom. We will not meet on December 29. See you again on January 5, 2025.

Wednesday @Noon Thursday @7pm

Prayer and holy conversation, in person and on Zoom
The wisdom and fellowship of 12-Step recovery, in person and on Zoom

Email your request for a [link to the Zoom worship services here](#).

VESTRY

John Alduino, Senior Warden
Erickson Contreras, Junior Warden
Bing Sherrill, Treasurer
Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick, Clerk
Clint Brown
Emily Carlin
Chris Cuccia
Sue Doherty
Connie Ervin
Tim Lane
Megan McElfresh
Missy Stolfi

CHOIR MEMBERS

John Clayton, Section Leader
Sue Doherty
Christina Kinney
Tim Lane, Section Leader
Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick
Laura Munson, Section Leader
Tom Owen
Jennifer Ross
Laura Schleicher, Section Leader
Chris Schmigel
Steve Shanley
Jamie Toenniessen
Jocelyn Toenniessen, Section Leader
Ignacio Villa