

CHRISTMAS AT TRINITY CHURCH

December 24, 2025 \ 11pm

THEY SHALL NAME
HIM EMMANUEL,

WHICH MEANS
GOD IS WITH US



Trinity
Church

A Parish in the
City of New York

Welcome to Trinity Church

We're an Episcopal parish where all are invited to participate in the life of our community. Worship is at the heart of everything we do. It opens us to the wondrous reality of our loving God, gathering and focusing us on what matters.

Together we put our faith into practice. In our homes, at work and school, and in all our civic endeavors, we follow Jesus by serving our neighbors. We believe church at its best is an expression of God's justice-oriented love in the world.

We're glad you're here and hope you will encounter and be transformed by the presence of God in Jesus Christ. Take part in a way that's comfortable for you. If you're new to Trinity, please introduce yourself to a member of the clergy.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

The Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Eve

The celebration of Christ's coming among us at Christmas—the Incarnation—is one of the two highest holy days of the Christian year, along with the celebration of his resurrection on Easter. In the Book of Common Prayer, Christmas Day is one of the seven principal feasts. The Christmas season lasts twelve days: from Christmas Day until January 5, the day before the Epiphany.

Christmas is much more than simply the celebration of Jesus' birth: it reminds us of the central truth that “the Word became flesh and lived among us” (John 1:14), fulfilling the prophecy that “the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel—God is with us” (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23).

Preparation

Prelude

We Shall Walk

Lucy Walker (b. 1998)

We shall walk in the white snow
 In a soundless space;
With footsteps quiet and slow,
 At a tranquil pace,
 Under veils of white lace.

We shall walk through the still town
 In a windless peace;
We shall step upon white down,
 On silver fleece,
 On softer than these.

We shall walk in velvet shoes:
 Wherever we go
Silence will fall like dews
 On white silence below.
 We shall walk in the snow.

—“Velvet Shoes” by Elinor Wylie (1885–1928)

A Hymn to the Virgin

Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)

Of one that is so fair and bright,

Velut maris stella,

Brighter than the day is light,

Parens et puella:

I cry to thee, thou see to me,

Lady, pray thy Son for me,

Tam pia,

That I may come to thee.

Maria!

All this world was forlorn,

Eva peccatrice,

Till our Lord was yborn,

De te genetrice.

With *ave* it went away,

Darkest night, and comes the day

Salutis;

The well springeth out of thee.

Virtutis.

Lady, flow'r of everything,

Rosa sine spina,

Thou bare Jesu, Heaven's King,

Gratia divina:

Of all thou bear'st the prize,

Lady, queen of paradise

Electa:

Maid mild, mother *es effecta*.

Effecta.

—English traditional, c. 1300

Like a star of the sea

Both mother and maiden

So pure

Mary

Because of Eve, a sinner

Through you, his mother

Hail

Of salvation

Of virtue

Rose without thorn

By divine grace

Chosen

You are made

Made

A Spotless Rose

Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

A spotless Rose is blowing,
Sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light
Amid the cold, cold winter,
And in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing,
Whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing
In Mary, purest Maid;
For through our God's great love and might,
The blessed Babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night.

—“Es ist ein Ros entsprungen,” 16th-century German carol; tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878)

On That Holy Night

Franco Prinsloo (b. 1987)

On that holy night,
stars were shining bright;
Wise men came from far
following the star:
Gloria in excelsis.
(*Glory in the highest.*)

Gifts they bring to him:
“Praise the newborn King!”
Angels in the sky
were praising God up high.
Gloria in excelsis.

In that tiny shed,
manger for a bed,
Mary held him tight
on that holy night.
Gloria in excelsis.

—Franco Prinsloo

Opening Acclamation

CW p. 302*

At the sound of the bell, please stand and turn to face the procession.

Celebrant The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us:

People And we beheld his glory.

Opening Hymn

H 83, vv. 1, 3

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,___

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;

come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
glo - ry to God,___ glo - ry in the high - est;

Refrain
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Blessing of the Crèche

TC

Celebrant God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you made manifest your love within our world: when our need for a savior was great, and the fullness of time had come, you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary, bringing to our lives joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love; bless now this crib, we pray you, by which we recall this most wondrous mystery, and grant that our thoughts may be raised to him who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Opening Hymn (continued)

H 83, v. 6

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn-ing; —

Je - sus, to thee be glo - ry giv'n;

Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 212

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

All **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Word of God

The First Reading

Isaiah 9:2–7

Reader A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Psalm 96:1–4, 11–12

BCP p. 725

Sung by the choir.

Choir Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.

Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the LORD when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.

The Second Reading

Titus 2:11–14

Reader A Reading from the Letter to Titus.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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

Sequence Hymn

H115, v.1

Please stand and turn to face the Gospel as it passes.

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to

bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1–20

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Deacon In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 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 bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, 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. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sequence Hymn (continued)

H 115, v. 3

So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to

bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

The Sermon

At the invitation of the Preacher, please be seated.

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

Please stand.

Celebrant Let us stand and profess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

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

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
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 was made man.
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 Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

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

The Prayers of the People

CW:TS p. 81*/BCP p. 393/CW p. 136*

Leader Good and gracious God, in this holy night your Son our Savior was born in human form.
Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.

Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader In this holy night Christians the world over are celebrating his birth. Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.

Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader In this holy night there was no room for your Son in the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty.

Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader In this holy night strangers found the Holy Family and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and all whom we love.

Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader In this holy night heaven is come down to earth and earth is raised to heaven. Keep in safety all those who have died, and receive the worship we offer with all the company of heaven.

Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader In this holy night your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness. Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world, and forgive us for the ways we have contributed to it in thought, word, and deed.

Silence

All **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the Word made flesh, our Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and make you holy to serve him in all the world.

All **Amen.**

The Peace

BCP p. 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome

Please be seated.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

“For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you.” —1 Chronicles 29:14

Offerings at Trinity are applied to the care of our neighbors; particularly to our food assistance ministries Compassion Meals and Compassion Market, and in support of other food banks across lower Manhattan. Last year we were able to provide more than 2.4 million meals for our food insecure neighbors. (TrinityChurchNYC.org/social-justice/food-assistance)

Please place your gift in the basket at the rear of the nave before or after the service, or visit TrinityChurchNYC.org/donate for additional ways to give. Gifts received are blessed immediately after the service with this prayer: Generous God, at your table we present this money, symbol of the work you have given us to do; use it, use us, in the service of your world to the glory of your name. Amen.

Offertory Anthem

Christmas Lullaby

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Clear in the darkness a light shines in Bethlehem:
Angels are singing, their sound fills the air.
Wise men have journeyed to greet their Messiah;
But only a mother and baby lie there.

REFRAIN:

“Ave Maria, ave Maria”:
Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing.
“Ave Maria, ave Maria,
Maiden, and mother of Jesus our King.”

Where are his courtiers, and who are his people?
Why does he bear neither sceptre nor crown?
Shepherds his courtiers, the poor for his people,
With peace as his sceptre and love for his crown.

What though your treasures are not gold or incense?
Lay them before him with hearts full of love.
Praise to the Christ child, and praise to his mother
Who bore us a Saviour by grace from above.

—John Rutter

Censing of the Gifts

Please stand.

Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as incense.

—Psalm 141:2

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP p. 367/p. 378

Celebrant
The Lord be with you.

People
And al - so with you.

Celebrant
Lift up your hearts.

People
We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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:

Sanctus and Benedictus

S130

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

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of five systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The tempo and style are not specified. The lyrics are in Latin and English. The first system is the beginning of the Sanctus. The second system is the beginning of the Benedictus. The third system is the beginning of the Hosanna. The fourth system is the beginning of the Hosanna. The fifth system is the end of the Hosanna.

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.

Please continue standing or kneel.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord 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."

After supper he 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

All 
A-men.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 363

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All **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.

The Fraction and Invitation

BCP p. 364/St. Augustine (1 Corinthians)

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Behold what you are.
People **May we become what we receive.**

Please be seated.

Receiving Communion

Clergy will distribute communion from stations in front of the altar.
If you need communion brought to you, please let an usher or sacristan know.

It is our custom to receive the bread in the upturned palms of our hands, and eat it immediately.
Gluten-free wafers are available; please let the minister know that you need one.

Those who wish to receive wine should partake by sipping directly from the chalice
(intincting, or dipping one's wafer into the wine, is no longer permitted).
Please use your hands to gently assist the server in guiding the chalice to your lips.

If you do not wish to receive communion you are invited to come forward to receive a blessing,
indicating your desire by crossing your arms over your chest.

Communion Anthems

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam (1803–1856), arr. Michael Garrepy (b. 1990)

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining;
it is the night of our dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!

Led by the light of a faith serenely beaming,
with glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
here come the wise men from the Orient land.
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger;
in all our trials born to be our friend.
He knows our need: our weakness is no stranger.
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend!

—Placide Cappeau (1808–1877), tr. John Sullivan Dwight (1813–1893)

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Es ist ein Ros, arr. Michael Praetorius (1571–1621)

Hymn

H 111

Sung by all.

Please kneel for Silent Night through the Post-Communion Prayer and Blessing.

As we sing, we will pass the light from one candle to another.

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
 heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
 birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Post-Communion Prayer

CW p. 380*

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him be glory both now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Blessing

BOS p. 11*

Celebrant May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Please stand.

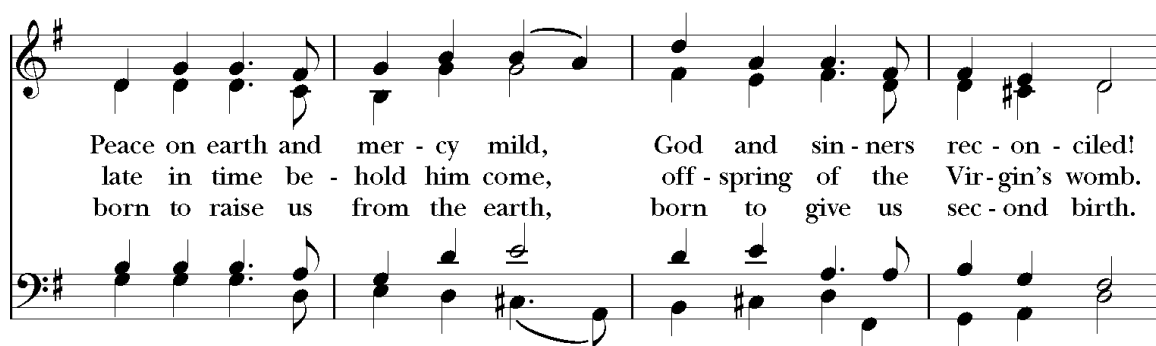
Please turn to face the procession as it passes.

Closing Hymn

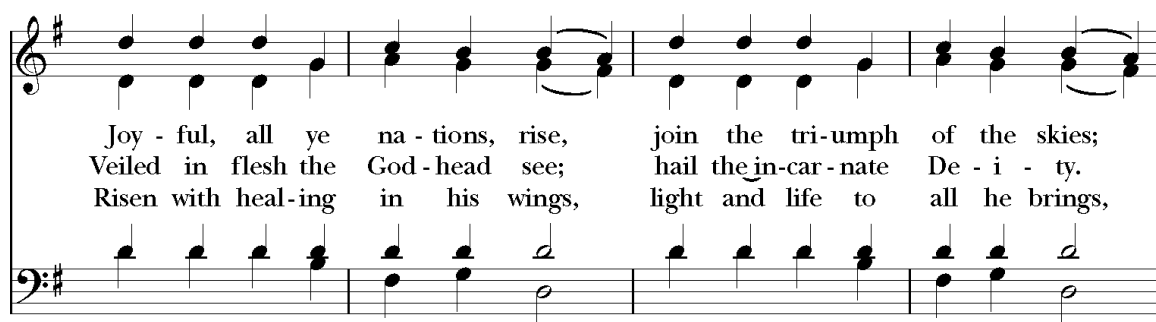
H 87*



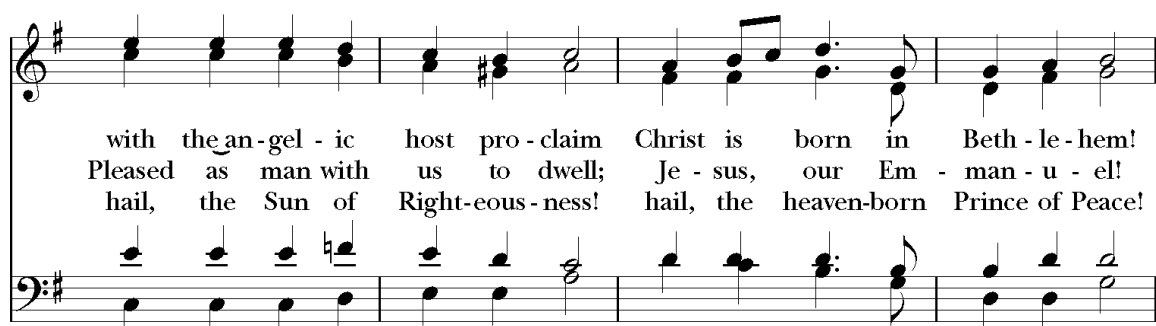
1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate De - i - ty.
 Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,



with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right-eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

Dismissal

BCP p. 366*

Deacon Inspired by the Word made flesh, let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

If you would like to remain in your seat to listen to the Postlude, please do.

Postlude

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Service Music

Opening Hymn (H 83)

Words: John Francis Wade (1711–1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802–1880) and others

Music: *Adeste fideles*, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906;
arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)

Psalm

Music: Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848–1918)

Sequence Hymn (H 115)

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837–1898)

Music: *Greensleeves*, English melody; harm. *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871

Sanctus and Benedictus (S 130)

Music: from *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797–1828); arr. Richard Proulx (1937–2010)

Hymn (H 111)

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792–1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820–1885)

Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787–1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824–1910)

Closing Hymn (H 87)

Words: Charles Wesley (1707–1788), alt.

Music: *Mendelssohn*, Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831–1915);
arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)

ABOUT THE MUSIC

Adapted from Elinor Wylie's "Velvet Shoes," Lucy Walker's anthem "We Shall Walk" brings to mind the serene, almost otherworldly experience of walking alone through freshly fallen snow. Its musical setting mirrors the imagery, featuring a soaring soprano line and a fluid, expressive melody.

Benjamin Britten's "A Hymn to the Virgin," an anthem for mixed voices, has remained a favorite among choirs for almost a century. A graceful melody paired with a mysterious refrain sung by a semi-chorus creates striking dramatic and emotional contrasts. It is extraordinary that such a masterful work was composed when Britten was only sixteen—and during a period of illness.

Composed in 1919, "A Spotless Rose" stands among Howells' most treasured *Three Carol-Anthems*, alongside the equally lyrical "Here Is the Little Door" and "Sing Lullaby." Drawn from a 15th-century anonymous poem, its text tenderly portrays the story of Christ's birth and the immaculate purity of Mary.

Franco Prinsloo, an acclaimed composer from Pretoria, South Africa, is celebrated for his vocal and choral works and serves as Artistic Director of the Vox Chamber Choir. For "On That Holy Night," Prinsloo crafted both the music and text, creating a poignant introduction that sets the stage for the story about to unfold in the evening services.

John Rutter's "Christmas Lullaby," composed to honor the 70th birthday of Sir David Willcocks, pairs Rutter's own text with the timeless "Ave Maria" refrain, resulting in a work of profound beauty.

Michael Gareppy's "O Holy Night," arranged for eight-part choir, offers a stunning new interpretation of the beloved carol, capturing its essence in a vibrant and majestic setting.

Throughout all our services, we join together in singing beloved hymns—enhanced by soaring descants and accompanied by strings and our magnificent new organ. We warmly invite you to lift your voice in song and praise as we celebrate this most holy night.



Christmas Flowers

The Christmas flowers are given by the following donors:

Ann Ajana

In memory of Margaret O'Connor.

Heather Daly

In memory of Robert Daly, Michael Daly, and Maisy Curry.

In honor of my Godmother Stacie Daly.

Dr. Beverly Ffolkes-Bryant

*In memory of Cyril Everard and Esmie May Ffolkes
and all departed members of the Ffolkes/McDonald families.*

*In memory of family and friends departed this year, especially
Alfues Fernando Barnett, Vicki Hoffman, and Lonny Shockley.*

In thanksgiving for all God's blessings given this year.

Oliva George

*In memory of my beloved mother, father, and aunts: Maria Elisa George, Jacinto Ismael George,
Vivian George, and Margarita George-Nuñez, whose cherished memories live on forever in my heart.*

Lily Hunter

*Thank you, God, for another day of life for me, my family, my friends and enemies too.
For getting us all to our destinations safely. For always being there when we are all alone and scared,
and don't know what to do. For morning prayer and the 12:05 and church bells too. For protecting us
during the day and during the night. Thank you for that. I love you, God: much, much, much.*

Kenton Kilmer

In thanksgiving, and with wishes for joy and peace on Earth.

Gwendolyn Pointer

In memory of my father, Lark E. Pointer—Dad, I will love you forever!

Corine Thompson

Xiangning Tian

Yue Yu



Happening at *Trinity*

Worship, community, connection. That's what's on here at Trinity Church. Attend an evening concert, sign up for a class at Trinity Commons, or come back for Sunday worship and learning. We hope to see you.

Every *Week*

WEDNESDAYS

1pm **Catch Your Breath**
Returns January 7
Trinity Church

6pm **Trinity Youth Group**
Returns January 14
Trinity Commons

6:30pm **Contemplative Practice with Poetry**
Returns January 7
Online

THURSDAYS

9:30am– **New Beginnings**
Returns January 15
Trinity Commons

3:30pm **Knit Together**
Returns January 15
Trinity Commons

FRIDAYS

6pm **Book Club**
Returns January 9
Online

Every *Sunday*

9am– **Childcare Returns January 11**
Trinity Commons mezzanine

Childcare for infants and toddlers is offered during the 9am and 11:15am services, as well as the 10am programs. Ask an usher to show you the way. We ask that parents not leave the premises while their child is in our care.

10am **Sunday School Returns January 18**
Meet in Parish Hall

Two-year-olds through fifth graders are invited to learn and play together in peer-grouped classes.

10am **Bible and Bagels Returns January 18**
Meet in Parish Hall

Middle and high schoolers can ask questions and talk about the Bible, Christianity, and The Episcopal Church.

10am **Discovery Returns January 11**
Parish Hall

Join a community discussion where ideas become action. Together, we'll talk about God, the Bible, and how our faith shapes the way we show up in our everyday lives.

11am– **Family Open Gym Returns January 11**
Trinity Commons 4th floor

Join the Trinity community for basketball, volleyball, pickleball, badminton, and more.

Stay and Chat

Linger awhile after service. Everyone is invited to talk with clergy and staff or take an augmented reality tour of the church and grounds. Feel free to ask questions; we're here to answer them.



This *Week*

Trinity Office Closure

*Tuesday, December 23, 1pm–Friday,
December 26*

Trinity offices will be closed in observance
of Christmas.

Christmas Day Holy Eucharist: The Nativity of Our Lord

*Thursday, December 25, 11:15am,
Trinity Church and online*

Festival Eucharist with favorite hymns
and anthems offered by Trinity Choir.

Upcoming

DISCOVERY

A Theology of Giving: Justice, Prosperity, and Philanthropy

*Sundays, January 11–25, 10am,
Trinity Commons and online*

Generosity is central to Christian practice. We give our time, talent, and financial resources because we know our lives are interconnected — one person cannot flourish until everyone has all that they need. In conversations with leaders from the church, faith-based nonprofits, and the fundraising sector, come build a theological framework for giving, on both individual and institutional levels, to work toward our common good. Learn more and register at TrinityChurchNYC.org/discovery.

Being With

New groups begin in January

Explore life and faith together. Being With is a 10-week online small group for New Yorkers searching for something deeper. Whether you feel uncertain or curious, disconnected from or hurt by the church, or open to exploring Christianity for the first time, there's space for you, and your experience, here. The only thing you are asked to do is listen to others' stories — and maybe share your own. Learn more and submit an interest form at TrinityChurchNYC.org/beingwith.

Engage in a Group

Study Scripture, craft and create, work for justice, and meet new people in groups at Trinity Church.

Women in Community

Come together for fellowship and Scripture study, paying particular attention to stories of women in the Bible. To join, email WomenInCommunity@TrinityChurchNYC.org.

First Sundays, 1pm

Trinity Men

Explore what it means to live a life of faith and service in New York City through social gathering and volunteer opportunities. To join, email MensGroup@TrinityChurchNYC.org.

Fourth Thursdays, 6:30pm

Trinity Young Adults

Join a monthly Sunday brunch and Thursday night dinner for adults in their 20s and 30s. To join, email YoungAdults@TrinityChurchNYC.org.

*Second Sundays following
11:15am service*

Third Thursdays, 6:30pm

Trinity Youth Group

Meet weekly for dinner and talk about what's on your heart and mind. Sign up at TrinityChurchNYC.org/youthgroup.

Wednesdays, 6pm

New Beginnings

Trinity's seniors meet weekly for chair yoga and tai chi, Bible study, and lunch. At 12:05pm, we attend the Holy Eucharist service in Trinity Church. To join, email NewBeginnings@TrinityChurchNYC.org.

Thursdays, 9:30am–3pm

ParentSpace

Find encouragement in kinship. Join fellow parents in a supportive conversation about raising children. To join, email ParentSpace@TrinityChurchNYC.org.

Second Sundays, 10am

LGBTQ+ Ministry

Connect, celebrate, and care for one another in a supportive and affirming faith space. Sign up at TrinityChurchNYC.org/groups.

Last Sundays, 1pm

Creation Care

Address environmental concerns through the lens of faith, in connection with efforts of The Episcopal Church and other communities. Sign up at TrinityChurchNYC.org/groups.

Prison Ministry

Support and care for people who have been incarcerated and their families. Sign up at TrinityChurchNYC.org/groups.

First Thursdays, 6pm

Trinity Knitters

Knit and crochet with a welcoming community, whether you've been crafting for years or are ready to start a new hobby. To join, email TrinityKnitters@TrinityChurchNYC.org.

Third Sundays, 12:30pm

Third Mondays, 6:30pm

Knit Together

Craft cold-weather essentials for unhoused LGBTQ+ youth in weekly community knitting sessions hosted by Trinity Youth. All are welcome. Sign up at TrinityChurchNYC.org/groups.

Thursdays, 3:30pm

Poets' Corner

Join a forum for poets and writers to share their works with an encouraging community of fellow artists. To join, email PoetsCorner@TrinityChurchNYC.org.

Third Tuesdays, 7pm

Contemplative Practice with Poetry

Practice guided meditation centered on poetry in weekly online practice. To join, email ChristianFormation@TrinityChurchNYC.org.

Wednesdays, 6:30pm

Trinity Book Club

Explore the mysteries of the Christian faith through the medium of literature in an online discussion group. Sign up at TrinityChurchNYC.org/groups.

Fridays, 6pm

Become a Member

We welcome your participation in Trinity Church's active and vibrant community of faith. If you have questions about membership or want to learn more about Trinity, email Membership@TrinityChurchNYC.org or call 646-216-6484.

Request *Prayer*

We are a community of prayer. Our clergy and Daily Intercessory Prayer Ministry set aside time to pray for members of our parish. To submit a specific request, please email Prayers@TrinityChurchNYC.org. All submissions are confidential.

Please pray with us:

*God of mercy and compassion,
you sent your Son that we might know your power to heal,
to comfort, strengthen, and restore.*

*We thank you for this community of faith and the joy of our life together,
and we pray your presence with those dear to us.*

*We remember those who are vulnerable.
We lift up those who are sick.*

We commend to your protection those who serve in harm's way.

Hold them in your loving embrace, fill them with your grace, and bring them peace.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer

Pray for The Anglican Church of Burundi.

Congregational *Voice*

"Cast your burden on the LORD, and He will sustain you; He will never allow the righteous to be moved" (Psalm 55:22 NIV). I am still thinking of and lifting up the people in Jamaica and all who were impacted by Hurricane Melissa. Even when life feels heavy, God is your strength. He will carry you when you cannot walk and lead you to a place of peace. Have a blessed day.

— MARY SIMPSON MASON

*To submit a brief reflection to be featured in Congregational Voice, please email
Beverly Ffolkes-Bryant at esmiechild@aol.com.*

Food Assistance

Breakfast, every weekday

Lunch, every day

*Dinner, Monday–Wednesday, Friday
Trinity Church*

We offer free Compassion Meals seven days a week to those in need, served right outside Trinity Church. Volunteer opportunities are available. For schedules and more information, please reach out to Volunteer@TrinityChurchNYC.org.

Compassion Market & Space

Tuesdays, 9–11am

Thursdays, 9:30am–1:30pm

Trinity Commons lower level

Our biweekly food pantry at Trinity Commons offers groceries and essential items, including diapers and clothes. Volunteer opportunities are available. For schedules and more information, please reach out to Volunteer@TrinityChurchNYC.org.

Pastoral Care

In case of illness, a death in the family, or other pastoral emergencies, call 917-488-0717 to reach a member of the Pastoral Care team. For other pastoral needs, call 212-602-0800 and leave a detailed message. Someone will reach out as soon as possible.

Resource Line

Monday–Friday, 2–5pm

If you or someone you know needs a helping hand, call 917-594-6300 for our Resource Connections program. Trinity's Outreach team helps guests access housing, legal aid, mental health services, immigration assistance, SNAP benefits, and other services. Learn more at TrinityChurchNYC.org/resourceline.

Our *Leadership*

The Rev. Phillip A. Jackson, *Rector* | The Rev. Michael A. Bird, *Vicar*

TRINITY CHURCH VESTRY

Dr. Sharon J. Hardy, *Church Warden*; John G. Talty, *Church Warden*; Hilary Pennington; Gayle Robinson; Patricia Graue; David Humphreville; Dr. Susan Ward; William H. Wright II; Susan Hinkson-Carling; Joel Motley; Susan K. Jansen; Nathaniel F. Rogers; Wendy Boyce; Ellen Jewett; Sara Queen; Mary Kate Wold; Esther Benjamin; Christian Hylton; John Jacobsson; Leah Johnson; Eric Love; Andrew Phillips

TRINITY CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Saratu Ghartey, *President*; Regina Jacobs, *Vice President*; Allison K. Wyman, *Secretary*; Barrie Arnold; Katherine Conway; Heather Daly; Marie-Florentine Heimann, *Arts Chair*; Jim Hopkins; Beth Johannning, *Community Chair*; Raynelle Mensah, *Faith Formation Chair*; Tina Moya, *Children and Youth Chair*; Marcelo Phillips; Sovannary Tan; Sian Wetherill, *Witness Chair*

Contact the council at CongregationalCouncil@TrinityChurchNYC.org.

FLOWERS

To donate flowers, please email Flowers@TrinityChurchNYC.org.

Source Citations

LITURGICAL SOURCES

BCP *The Book of Common Prayer*
BOS *The Book of Occasional Services 2022*
CW *Common Worship*
CW:TS *Common Worship: Times and Seasons*
EDC *An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church*
EOW *Enriching Our Worship*
NRSV New Revised Standard Version
RCL *Revised Common Lectionary*
TC Trinity Church staff

MUSICAL SOURCES

H *The Hymnal 1982*
LEVAS *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*
S *The Hymnal 1982 Service Music*
WLP *Wonder, Love, and Praise*

An asterisk () denotes that the content has been adapted.*

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

BCP, TC

CONSENT FOR PUBLICITY

To reach a broad audience, Trinity Church livestreams its services and events and records them for broadcast via the internet. Your attendance at a service or event constitutes your consent to be included in any filming, photographing, audio recording, or broadcast and for any other use in whole or in part, including publicity and promotion. If you wish to attend but prefer to avoid being filmed, please sit in the back pews on the side aisles.

Today's Worship *Leaders*

CLERGY

The Rev. Yein Kim
Celebrant

The Rev. Patrick Williams
Preacher

The Rev. Matthew A. Welsch
Deacon

MUSICIANS

Trinity Choir

Melissa Attebury
Avi Stein

NOVUS:

Katie Hyun
Libby Fayette
Violins

Jessica Meyer
Viola

Jules Biber
Cello

 As part of Trinity Church's commitment to responsible stewardship of the earth's resources, this publication is printed on paper that is manufactured with 30% sustainable recycled content.

SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY STAFF



Ellen Andrews
Parish Life



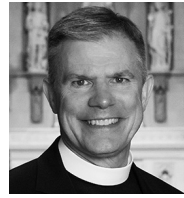
The Rev. Sr.
Promise Atelon,
SSM
Parish Life



Melissa Attebury
Music



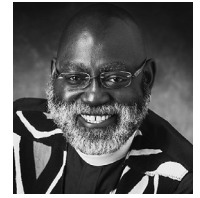
Elena Bater
*Community
Engagement*



The Rev. Michael
A. Bird
Vicar



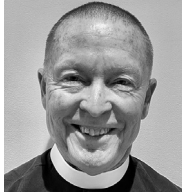
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*Faith Formation &
Education*



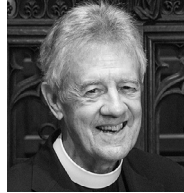
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The Rev. Jennifer
E. Brown
*Children, Youth, &
Family*



The Rev. Mark
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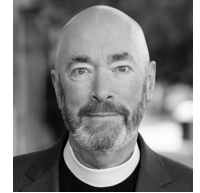
Jennifer Chinn
*Children, Youth, &
Family*



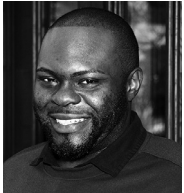
Dr. Alcee Chriss III
Music



SK Doyle
*Children, Youth, &
Family*



The Rev. John F.
Dwyer
Priest Associate



Wayne Edwards
*Children, Youth, &
Family*



Ruth Frey
*Faith Formation &
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Sacramental Life



Helen He
*Community
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Jackson
Rector



The Rev. Yein Kim
*Sacramental Life &
Membership*



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Music



The Rev. C. Alfred
Loua
Pastoral Care



Becky Lui
*Faith Formation &
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Peyton Marion
Music Education



Thomas McCargar
Music



The Rev. Kristin
Kaulbach Miles
Parish Life



Dane Miller
Sacramental Life



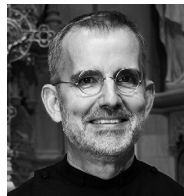
The Rev. Jorge
Ortiz
*Community
Engagement*



Sr. Kethia Jean
Simon, SSM
Parish Life



Emily Smith
Sacramental Life



Scott Smith
Sacramental Life



Summerlee Staten
*Faith Formation &
Education*



Avi Stein
Music



Sheridan Stevens
Music Education



The Rev. Matthew
A. Welsch
*Children, Youth, &
Family*



The Rev. Patrick
Williams
Pastoral Care

THE CLERGY, VESTRY, COUNCIL, AND STAFF OF TRINITY CHURCH
**WISH YOU A BLESSED AND
PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS**



2025-12-24-2300-TC-Bulletin-v10

Holiday Schedule

Christmas Eve

3pm

Family Eucharist and
Christmas Pageant

5pm

Eucaristía de Navidad en familia
(en español)

7pm and 9pm

Holy Eucharist

11pm

Candlelight Eucharist

Christmas Day

11:15am

Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 28

11:15am

Holy Eucharist

Sunday, January 4

8am, 9am, and 11:15am

Holy Eucharist

Offices closed

December 26–January 3

Regular services resume

Sunday, January 4

TrinityChurchNYC.org