

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 31, 2023

10:00 A.M.

A PLACE OF WELCOME, HOPE & HEALING



120 Sigourney Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06105-2796
860.527.8133 www.trinityhartford.org

Good Morning!

Whether this is your first time at Trinity, your first time in a long time, or if you're here every Sunday, we are delighted that you are worshipping with us this morning.

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS If you are new to Trinity, we hope that you will introduce yourself and sign one of the guest books at either entrance to the Church. Restrooms are located in two places. Exit through the rear doors of the Sanctuary and go to your right. The white doors on your left are the restrooms. Restrooms can also be found if you exit the door at the front right of the Sanctuary and go down the hall toward the exit to the parking lot. The restrooms are on your right once you pass the fireplace.

NAMETAGS In order to make it easier for us to get to know each other, we ask everyone to wear a nametag. If you do not have a reusable nametag, there are stickers and markers at each entrance. If you would like to have a reusable nametag made for you, please print your name on the clipboard next to the trays of reusable nametags.

KIDS IN CHURCH Copies of 'The Sunday Paper Junior' coloring sheets and crayons are available at each Sanctuary entrance. Each week the coloring sheet will highlight an aspect of the Scripture for the day and includes notes to help parents talk to their kids about the theme. Please feel free to let your kids color and otherwise be themselves during the worship service. All are welcome as they are, including kids!

If you need to step out of the service with your infant or toddler and are in search of a quiet space to spend a few moments, the parent room (at the end of the North Narthex past the door to the Memorial Garden) is open during the 10 AM service. There is no child care attendant so all children must be accompanied at all times by their parent / guardian.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER Private intercessory prayer is available with members of our Intercessory Prayer team in the side aisle while Communion is being distributed at the 10:00 AM service. Additionally, there are Prayer Jars at each entrance to the Sanctuary where you can share prayers requests that will be prayed over for the next month.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP Most of the worship service is printed in this leaflet. Music that is not printed in the leaflet can be found in *The Hymnal 1982* (the red book on the shelf under the chair in front of you) or in *Lift Every Voice and Sing II* (the red, black, and green book found on a cart at each entrance). We stand, if able, for the hymns and stand or kneel, according to one's personal tradition, for prayer.

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

DECEMBER 31, 2023

10:00 A.M.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Chuck Marohnic

Please stand.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

Hymnal 1982 #96

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.

Presider
People

Blessed be the one, holy and living God.
Glory to God for ever and ever.

All

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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.

Presider God of peace, we pray for the people of Palestine and Israel in these perilous and dangerous times. Gracious God,

People Hear our prayer.

Presider For all who are fearful for the safety of their loved ones and themselves, we pray that the assurance of unfailing love, even in the midst of danger, settles upon them. Shelter them from despair and protect them from harm. Gracious God,

People Hear our prayer.

Presider For all who are wounded, we pray they find healing. Gracious God,

People Hear our prayer.

Presider For all who have died, we pray they find rest. Gracious God,

People Hear our prayer.

Presider For all who grieve, we pray they find comfort. Gracious God,

People Hear our prayer.

Presider For leaders on all sides, we pray for a renewed will to lay down arms, for the strength to put the grievances and wrongs suffered by their people to rest, and for the conviction to embrace a path of reconciliation and peace that preserves the rights and dignity of all of your children. Gracious God,

People Hear our prayer.

Presider God of mercy, help us to remember there is no border that can separate us from your great love and protection, no stone that can sound the well of your deep mercy. Gracious God,

People Hear our prayer.

Presider God of justice, we pray with hopeful hearts that your beloved children of the Holy Land will be spared a future of sustained violence and unrest and that a recognition of the humanity of all people will prevail. Gracious God,

People Hear our prayer.

Presider Look with pity, O heavenly Father, upon the people in Gaza who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Strengthen those who spend their lives establishing equal protection of the law and equal opportunities for all. And grant that all may enjoy a fair portion of the riches of your world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (adapted from Prayer for the Oppressed BCP 826)

People Amen.

1. Glo - ry to you, Lord
 God of our fa - thers; you are wor - thy of praise;
 glo - ry to you. 2. Glo - ry to you
 for the ra - diance of your ho - ly Name; we will
 praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.
 3. Glo - ry to you in the splen - dor of your
 tem - ple; on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to
 you. 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -
 ween the Cher - u - bim; we will praise you and
 high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

Descant

5. Glo - ry to you, be -
 5. Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the

hold-ing the depths; in the high vault of
 depths; in the high vault of hea-ven, glo - ry to
 hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you,
 you. 6. Glo - ry to you, Fa - ther,
 — Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will
 Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will praise you and
 high-ly ex - alt you Glo-ry to you!
 high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People *Amen.*

Please sit.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
 my whole being shall exult in my God;
 for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
 he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
 as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
 and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
 For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
 and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
 so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
 to spring up before all the nations.
 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
 and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
 until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
 and her salvation like a burning torch.
 The nations shall see your vindication,
 and all the kings your glory;
 and you shall be called by a new name
 that the mouth of the LORD will give.
 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
 and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

Please stand.

PSALM 147

BCP 804

- 1 **Hallelujah!**
 How good it is to sing praises to our God! *
 how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!
- 2 **The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; ***
 he gathers the exiles of Israel.
- 3 **He heals the brokenhearted ***
 and binds up their wounds.
- 4 **He counts the number of the stars ***
 and calls them all by their names.
- 5 **Great is our LORD and mighty in power; ***
 there is no limit to his wisdom.
- 6 **The LORD lifts up the lowly, ***
 but casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 **Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; ***
 make music to our God upon the harp.
- 8 **He covers the heavens with clouds ***
 and prepares rain for the earth;

- 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains *
and green plants to serve mankind.
- 10 He provides food for flocks and herds *
and for the young ravens when they cry.
- 11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; *
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
- 12 But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, *
in those who await his gracious favor.]
- 13 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.
- 17 He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Hallelujah!

Please sit.

THE SECOND READING

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

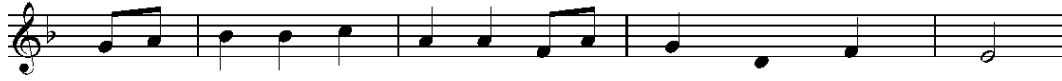
But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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

Please stand.



1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
 *3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.
 close by me for ev - er, and love me I pray.



The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
 and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

THE GOSPEL

John 1:1-18

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
 People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
 People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Please sit.

SERMON

Kate Byroade Rousseau

Silence for reflection.

Please stand.

THE NICENE CREED

From Enriching Our Worship*

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,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
 and became truly human.
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,
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who 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.

*This version of the Nicene Creed is from one of the sources that has been approved for use by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church. The most significant difference is that this version changes 'who proceeds from the Father and the Son' to 'who proceeds from the Father.' This change restores the Creed to the version that was originally accepted by both Western and Eastern Orthodox Churches. (The phrase 'of the Son' was added a few hundred years later by a regional synod and was never adopted by Eastern Orthodox Churches).

In the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Intercessor I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence. The People may add their thanksgivings and petitions silently or aloud.

Intercessor I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. We pray especially for the people of the Holy Land and the people of Ukraine. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence. The People may add their thanksgivings and petitions silently or aloud.

Intercessor I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence. The People may add their thanksgivings and petitions silently or aloud.

Intercessor I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

Silence. The People may add their thanksgivings and petitions silently or aloud.

Intercessor I ask your prayers for the departed, and those killed by gun violence in the past week. Pray for those who have died.

Silence. The People may add their thanksgivings and petitions silently or aloud.

Intercessor Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence. The People may add their thanksgivings and petitions silently or aloud.

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

BCP 359

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence may be kept.

All Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People Amen.

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

THE GATHERING OF THE PEACE

“I’ve got peace like a river, I’ve got peace like a river. I’ve got peace like a river in my soul.”

Please sit.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY MUSIC A New Year Carol Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)
John Michael Walker, soloist

Presider All things come of thee O Lord.
People And of thine own have we given thee.

Please stand or adopt another posture of prayer.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP 367

Presider 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 God thanks and praise.

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God 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:

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.

Presider 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,

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

Presider 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 children; 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.

People AMEN.

Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray in the language of our hearts,
All

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM

1982 Hymnal #S164

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.

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

At the time of the administration of Communion, if you would like to have a blessing instead of receiving Communion, please cross your arms over your chest. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available on request. Please remember that if you wish not to receive wine, receiving Bread only imparts the full benefit of the Sacrament.

Please sit.

COMMUNION HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

BCP #79

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
*4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.
5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Please stand.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

Presider Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Presider May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

People Amen.

Presider May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior’s birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

People Amen.

Presider May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

People Amen.

Presider And the blessing of God Almighty, the Eternal Majesty, the Incarnate Word, and the Ever-Abiding Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

People Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Hymnal 1982 #107

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Let bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Variations on “In Dulci Jubilo”

Denis Bedard (b. 1950)

You may choose to stay for the postlude (and express a spoken “amen” afterward if you’d like), but it is never expected! You may leave after the final hymn if you’d rather. Please feel comfortable to make whatever choice is best for you.



+ ASSISTING AT WORSHIP +

**The Rev. Horace Johnson – Presider
Kate Byroade Rousseau – Preacher**

Readers

Jon Widing, Cathy Rowe

Intercessor

Ministers of Communion
Jacqui Lucier, Kate Byroade
Cathy Rowe

Intercessory Prayer

Kitty Peterson

Virtual Vergers

Casey Rousseau, Jake Troiano

Director of Music

Michelle Horsley

Altar Guild

Mary Register, Kitty Peterson

The words of the service are taken from *The Book of Common Prayer*.

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LET US PRAY

In our Parish Cycle of Prayer we pray for Amy Williams; Pam Williams; and Percy Williamson.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Mark's, Bridgewater; Good Shepherd, Bristol/Plainville; St. Paul's, Brookfield; Trinity, Brooklyn and for soup kitchens and food pantries, and all ministries that feed those who go without.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda.

We pray for

Tony Little

Preeman-Faniel Family

Viola Cleo Bradshaw

Jane Wilson (sister-in-law of
Kathie Wilson)

Faye, Elizabeth and

Hannah Aliene & their children

Glady's Irizarry

Elizabeth Pierce

Bishop Michael Curry

Fred Margeson

Isabella Gevarra

Cassandra Watson

Sonia Watson

Krystal Reid and

Adrian MacLeach

The Wallace Family

Nancy Miller

Phillip Andrews (brother of
Dianne Bowens-Waller)

Carol Walter

Dianne Lewis

Margaret Daniel

Tony Charron Vreeland

(son of Peter Vreeland)

Cheryl Russo

Winifred Costa

Jacqui Lucier

John E. Robinson

Grace Crooks

Philip Green (son of Peter &
Anne Green)

Nora Baldwin

Stephanie Holland (niece of
Kitty Peterson)

Elizabeth Mackie

Sandy Cone Foley

J.B. Parke

Jennifer Stephens

Laurie Lavoie

Paulette McCurdy

Rhonda McKenzie

Carmen Belgrave

Kate Smith

Katie Reynolds

Tori and Trevor Henry

Louise Krippenstapel

Carlene Lewis

Judy Miller

Valentina Moore

Lindsey Tengtenga

Richard Green (brother of
Peter Green)

Donald Bowens (son of

Dianne Bowens-Waller)

Peter Vreeland



January Events

Sunday, January 7th

One service at 10:00 am

Adult Christian Formation: What does Epiphany mean?

Sunday, January 14th

Contemplative Prayer – ½ hour in chapel after 10:00 service.

Sunday, January 21st

One service at 10:00 am

Bishop Laura visits Trinity Church.

Sunday, January 28th

Parish Finances Meeting (will be recorded)
after the 10:00 am service.



Office of Public Affairs

**Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's Christmas Message 2023:
'A sign for you'**

The following is a transcript of Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's recorded Christmas message for 2023.

Hello to my family of faith in The Episcopal Church, and to all of our ecumenical and interfaith friends, and to all people of love and goodwill.

I want to first thank you all for your prayers and well wishes this year as I have weathered some health issues. Please know that I'm doing well, following the doctor's orders.

I'm also ever more aware of the power of the messages of Advent to watch, to wait, and to listen to the pregnant voice of silence, as one version of the Bible says. And out of that watching, waiting, and listening, following the way of Jesus of Nazareth and his way of love, the Spirit of God being our helper.

So please allow me to offer a reading from the Gospel according to Luke. You know it well. The deep truth embedded in it, simple story of the birth of a baby. That deep truth has long given me strength for these 70 years, strength that I often did not have on my own. For some, it may seem fanciful, but in its own way, it points to what the Bible calls hope beyond hope. It reads:

While Mary and Joseph were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to deliver her child. She gave birth to her firstborn son, wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger because there was no place for them in the guest room. Now in that same 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. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, 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 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, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

The message of the angel is as scandalous and striking now as it was then. For in it is embedded God's message in the death and resurrection of Jesus: to trust and believe in the invincibility of the good in spite of the titanic reality of evil, because God is good all the time. To trust and believe in the enduring power of love, of truth, of the good, and of justice when the reality of the opposite seems so prodigious.

To trust and believe in the enduring power of love, justice, kindness, and compassion, all because God is love and the author of all that is true, noble, and just. “Do not be afraid,” the Scripture says, “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. And this will be a sign for you: You will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

Lord, we pray, give us this sign anew. Give us the lowly, the tired, those of high estate and low, and those of no estate. Church folk, those who haven't stepped through the red doors for years or ever, give us all a sign. Give us the working, the watching, the weeping. Give us that sign anew; as you did in the first century, so now in the 21st. Give us the expected, the faithful, the passionate, the undeserving; give us a sign.

“The angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid, for see, 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.’”

On behalf of the entire Episcopal Church, we wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a joyous new year.

God love you. God bless you. May God hold us all in those almighty hands of love. Merry Christmas.

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry
Presiding Bishop and Primate
The Episcopal Church

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For more info contact:
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Public Affairs Officer, The Episcopal Church
askofstad@episcopalchurch.org



THE 2023 CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND FLOWERS
HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD
AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF:



Joan & Joel Blancaflor
Michelle Blancaflor
H. Mae Brown
Edie & Bob Brunelle
Bill Butler
Karen Ransahoff Butterfield
Dudley & Kitty Duncan
Renatus & Daisy Duncan
Beaumont & Lloyd Felton
Vernal Forbes
Mary Ellen Hadden
Ruth H. Holston
Roberta Jackson
Elizabeth Johnson
Fay Johnson
Ellen Kennedy
Helen Kitzman

Lou Loomis
Susanne Mantel
Helen Ann McLendon
Mary & Bob Morton
Beatrice & Augustus Nelson
Walter & Shirley Nelson
Andrew Onderdonk
Alfredina Parks
Hector Phelps
Esther Pritchett
Henry Randall
Ethel Holsten Randall
Henry Randall III
Frances Neail Randall

William S. Rogers
Alice & Victor Romanik
William A. & Lillian C. Sandford
Steve Smith
Peter Tyler Steinwedell
Ronald & Elizabeth Steven
Sarah J. Trafford
Bernard W. Trafford, Jr.
Alice Turcotte
Susan Wilkinson
Bruce L. & Kathleen K. Wilson
Raymond B. Wilson
The parents of Anne Rapkin and Steve Zhitnik

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, December 31st	The First Sunday after Christmas No 8:00 AM Service 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist (Church) 6:00 P.M. NA Group Meeting (Huntington Hall)
Monday, January 1st	The Office and Buildings are closed in observance of New Year's Day
Thursday, January 4th	12:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist – Rite II (Chapel) 6:00 P.M. Choir School Rehearsal (Church)
Friday, January 5th	7:30 P.M. NA Group Meeting (Huntington Hall)
Sunday, January 7th	The First Sunday after Epiphany No 8:00 AM Service 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist – Rite II (Church) 11:30 A.M. Adult Christian Formation (Library) - What does Epiphany mean? 6:00 P.M. NA Group Meeting (Huntington Hall)

Vestry of Trinity Church

Leslyn Clark, Warden * Jacqueline Lucier, Warden * Kitty Peterson, Clerk
Casey Rousseau, Treasurer * Jake Troiano, Assistant Treasurer
Heather Kramer * Marsha McCurdy Adell
Suzanne Blancaflor * Valerie Pogue * Jennifer Stephens
Casandra Joseph * Timothy Watt



Make a Pledge



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