

# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A PLACE OF WELCOME, HOPE & HEALING

DECEMBER 7, 2025

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:00 AM



120 Sigourney Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06105-2796  
860.527.8133 [www.trinityhartford.org](http://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**

If you are new to Trinity, we hope you will introduce yourself and sign one of the guest books at either entrance to the Church. Restrooms are 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.

**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 *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 tradition, for prayer.

**NAMETAGS**

We are delighted to welcome you at Trinity. 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, please use the stickers and markers available 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. We will make every effort to have your nametag ready for you on the following Sunday.

**KIDS IN CHURCH**

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 service. There is no childcare attendant, so all children must be accompanied 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 service. Additionally, there are Prayer Jars at each entrance to the Sanctuary where you can share prayer requests that will be prayed over for the next month.

**HEARING ASSISTANCE**

Our church offers assistive listening devices for individuals with hearing difficulties. These devices allow them to receive amplified sound directly through their compatible hearing aids. If you need assistance using an assistive listening device, please see a church usher.

PRELUDE

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

*Please stand.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

God is Working His Purpose Out

1982 Hymnal #534

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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.

KYRIE

1982 Hymnal S-96

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, -

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People** And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated for the reading of Holy Scripture.*

## THE FIRST READING

**Isaiah 11:1-10**

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;

for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader        The Word of the Lord.

People        **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19** *Deus, iudicium*

**BCP P. 685**



- 1 Give the King your / justice, O / God, \*  
and your / righteousness to the / King's / Son;
- 2 That he may rule your / people / righteously \*  
– / and the / poor with / justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring pros/perity to the / people, \*  
and the / little / hills bring / righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy a/mong the / people; \*  
he shall rescue the / poor and / crush the op/pressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and / moon en/dure, \*  
from one gene/ration / to an/other.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the / mown / field, \*  
like / showers that / water the / earth.



*Sung to the second half of the chant:*

- 7 In his time shall the / righteous / flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the / moon shall / be no / more.
- 18 Blessèd be the LORD God, the / God of / Israel, \*  
who a/lone does / wondrous / deeds!
- 19 And blessèd be his glorious / Name for / ever! \*  
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.  
/ Amen. / A/men.

## THE SECOND READING

**Romans 15:4-13**

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised-on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,  
and sing praises to your name”;

and again he says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”;

and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples praise him”;

and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,  
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him the Gentiles shall hope.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader        The Word of the Lord.  
People        **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN**

**Prepare The Way, O Zion**

**1982 Hymnal #65**

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

**THE GOSPEL**

**Matthew 3:1-12**

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

    "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
    'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
    make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

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

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

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

*Please be seated.*

**THE SERMON**

**The Rt. Rev. Andrew Smith**

*Silence for reflection.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## THE NICENE CREED

From Enriching Our Worship\*

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.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM VI

BCP P. 392

*The Leader and People pray responsively.*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.  
*Silence.*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;  
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

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\*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 "and the Son" was added a few hundred years later by a regional synod and was never adopted by Eastern Orthodox Churches.)

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Jeff and Laura, our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;  
**For all who serve God in the Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.  
*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

Hear us, Lord;  
**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.  
*Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.  
*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**

### **PRAYER FOR TRANSITION**

Gracious God, we thank you for the many blessings you bestow on Trinity Church. We ask you to keep us centered on You as we await a new Rector. We are grateful to be surrounded always by Your love, and we pray this love will be the foundation of every interaction with each other. We are stronger when we are together in actions, mission and purpose. We are blessed to be on this spiritual journey together. Amen.

Church of the Holy Spirit, Harleysville, PA (adapted)

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

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.

*The Celebrant concludes with the absolution:*

Celebrant    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. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

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 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blessing of the Advent Giving Tree Gifts

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

City Called Heaven

Josephine Poelinitz

I am a pilgrim, a pilgrim of sorrow.  
I'm left in this wide world, this wide world alone!  
I ain't got no hope, got no hope for tomorrow.  
I'm trying to make it, make heaven my home.

Sometimes I'm tossed and I'm driven, Lord.  
Sometimes I just don't know which way to turn.  
I heard of a city, a city called heaven.  
I'm trying to make it, make heaven my home.

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.  
*People* And of thine own have we given thee.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP P. 367

*Please stand or adopt another posture of prayer.*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also 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.

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

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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

1982 Hymnal #S-130

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

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The music is written in a simple, homophonic style.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

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,

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

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 all 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. **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant We now pray in the language of our hearts, as our Savior Christ has taught us,

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

## FRACTION ANTHEM

1982 Hymnal #S-164

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:



Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All are invited to stand or kneel at the altar rail. 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 do not wish to receive wine, receiving only Bread imparts the full benefit of the Sacrament. If you are unable to come to the front, please let an usher know and the Sacrament will be brought to you.*

*Please be seated.*

### COMMUNION ANTHEM

I Wonder as I Wander John Jacob Niles (1892-1980)

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,  
 How Jesus the Savior did come for to die.  
 For poor on'ry people like you and like I;  
 I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall,  
 With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.  
 But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,  
 And the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing  
 A star in the sky or a bird on the wing,  
 Or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing,  
 He surely could have had it, 'cause he was the King.

*Please stand as you are able.*

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP P. 366

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## THE BLESSING

Celebrant The blessing of God Almighty, the One Holy and Undivided Trinity, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

*People* Amen.

## Recessional Hymn

## Behold Your God

## LEVAS #2 (Sung 2 times)

## Choral Benediction

Prepare the Way of the Lord  
Text reference: Lift Every Voice and Sing #11

## THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** Lo, How a Rose Ee'r Blooming - 15th -16th century German traditional,  
arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming,  
As men of old have sung.  
It came, a flower bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
The Rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it,  
The Virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
She bore to men a Savior,  
When half-spent was the night.

+ ASSISTING AT WORSHIP +

**Celebrant:** The Rt. Rev. Andrew Smith

**Director of Music:** Markus Centola

**Trinity Choir & Choristers**

**Lay Readers:** Walton Brown-Foster, Janet Wilkinson

**Intercessor:** Susan Post

**Intercessory Prayer Team:** Jon Reik

**Acolytes:** Elizabeth Rousseau, Matthew Thomas

**Ministers of Communion:** Jacqueline Lucier, Marcus Clark

**Godly Play Storyteller & Door Person:** Nancy Crandall, Cathy Rowe

**Ushers:** Neill Derick, William A. Kofalk, Sonia Watson, Marc Wiest

**Virtual Vergers:** Mark MacGougan, Casey Rousseau, Elizabeth Rousseau, Jake Troiano

**Altar Guild:** Marcus Clark, Kitty Peterson, Mary Register, Cathy Rowe, Cecelia Timothy

**Flower Guild:**

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

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**Cover Art:** We are grateful to The Rev. George Chien (UMC, MCC) for creating the artwork on the cover.

## LET US PRAY

**In our Parish Cycle of Prayer** we pray for Janet Wilkinson, Amy Williams, and Shakeem Williams.

**In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer** we pray for Christ Church, Bathany; St. Thomas', Bethel; Old St. Andrew's, Bloomfield; Ministries for the Unhoused, and parishes that offer temporary or permanent shelter, and the Homeless & Housing Ministry Network.

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer** we pray for the Church of Bangladesh.

### We pray for:

Austin Mogor

Markus Centola & Family

Mike Amanek

Edith Navarro

Bruce Wazorko

Suliman Foster

Jasmine Drake

Louisa Cummings

Clane Nickols

Irina Mamata & Family

Charles Lewis

Bowens Family

Cathy Rowe and Family

of Daniel Negrelli esp. Karen &

Keira

Francis Sken

George Beach

Cheryl

Lennox

The Lugo and Torres Families

Daryl Todd

The Wentgertzman Family

The Swiatek Family

Bp. Michael Curry

Saydie Eggleston

Viola Cleo Bradshaw

Faye, Elizabeth and

Hannah Aliene & their children

## **Adult Christian Formation Open Forum - after the Service today.**

### **SURVIVING THESE TROUBLING TIMES**

Many of us are confused and challenged by the turmoil pervading our nation with respect to such issues as immigration, the fate of democracy, the future of the economy, the provision of vital social services, and our own participation in the political life of our various communities. We often do not know what our religious faith is leading us to do in these fraught and troubling times, especially when we find ourselves in disagreement with others over how to sustain our deepest values without breaking the bonds of fellowship.

The ACF team would like to invite you to share your personal concerns and questions, hopes and fears, in a mutually supportive informal gathering as we listen respectfully to the different ways we have found to respond to the divisions in our society. There is no agenda other than a willingness to share our feelings openly with fellow members of our faith community. Our discussion will be facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Frank Kirkpatrick.

### **SAVE THE DATE - December 21, 2025 -Adult Christian Formation BIBLE STUDY**

Please plan to join us for this month's informal discussion of the Bible readings of the day, led by Rev. George Chien. Those who have attended find these relaxed conversations help them think more deeply about the day's lessons. We hear the same readings year after year. Exploring the lessons with other people often sheds new light on what we thought was an old story. Give yourself an early Christmas gift - join us for Bible Study after the service on **December 21**.

### **2026 Stewardship Campaign Continues**

Though we had an ingathering of pledge cards on November 9, please know that Trinity's annual stewardship campaign continues. Everyone is invited and encouraged to make a pledge of financial support, to help anchor the future of our parish.

We would like to have as many pledges as possible as soon as possible, so that the Vestry can look ahead to Trinity's financial commitments for 2026. If you do not have a pledge card and would like one, there are pledge packets on the tables next to the Sunday bulletins, or you may contact the church office to be sent one - 860-527-8133 x 204. You may return the pledge cards in the offering plates or mail them to the office.

You may also make your pledge directly on our **website**: [www.trinityhartford.org/giving/](http://www.trinityhartford.org/giving/).

### **Trinity Church Parish Directory**

Remember to stop by the table in Goodwin Hall to update or provide your contact information! You can choose to give just one way to contact you, such as a mailing address, or give multiple methods. Why are we asking you to do this? Because we're a community of people, and we want to be able to communicate with one another!

### **Can You Hear Me Clearly Now?**

Our sound contractor made some changes to our existing system that will hopefully improve the quality of the sound in the sanctuary. Do you notice a change? Is the clarity better? Can you understand the readers and preacher? Vinnie Pacileo, our Facilities Manager, would love to hear your feedback. You can speak to Vinnie after service on Sunday or contact him at [vpacileo@trinityhartford.org](mailto:vpacileo@trinityhartford.org)

## **Thanksgiving and Christmas Offerings 2025**

The Vestry has designated that all loose-plate offerings and special-envelope contributions from Thanksgiving and Christmas will be directed to CT's Caribbean Disaster Relief Coalition in support of Hurricane Melissa relief efforts. On October 28, 2025, the Category 5 hurricane made landfall in Jamaica, bringing nearly 30 inches of rain and causing catastrophic flooding and landslides. The storm resulted in extensive technological, agricultural, and infrastructure damage, with many towns in western Jamaica experiencing near-total destruction from flooding and extreme wind gusts. Overall, Jamaica's estimated losses are approaching \$10 billion.

**May your Spirit breathe peace over the land and hope for the new creation, and may your love restore what storms have taken away.**

## **Trinity's Book Group**

The Book Group starts off the new year with *James* by Percival Everett, a brilliant, action-packed reimagining of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, told from the enslaved Jim's point of view. The meeting will be on Friday, **January 23**, from 7:00 to 8:30ish pm, and everyone's welcome to attend. Steve Zhitnik will host at his West Hartford home; please let him know if you plan to attend at 860-989-8394 (text or call). Come enjoy some goodies, fellowship, and an interesting discussion!

## **Prayers in the Chapel**

Every Sunday after our service we invite you to the chapel to pray for those guiding us through the search for a new rector. We are a small prayer team that has volunteered for this exercise. We also have found that this is a prayer time for our own needs and those of others. Please join us for this short time together, for about 10-15 minutes. All are welcome!

## **COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED**

In these times of transition, it seems more important than ever that we nourish the bonds we have with each other as members of Trinity Church. We gain strength from each other in difficult times. Coffee hour following the Sunday Service provides time and space for relaxed conversation and fellowship.

Please consider signing up to host coffee hour in the coming weeks and months. If you feel uncomfortable taking on the task all by yourself, ask a friend or two to join you. Refreshments need not be elaborate - a few plates of cookies or fruit will do. There are copies of a "How-to Guide for Coffee Hour" on the tables next to the bulletins. If you have questions, talk to Martha Freimuth or Linda MacGougan. They would be glad to share their experience of participating in this important ministry!

## **Godly Play: A typical Sunday in our Godly Play Sacred Space**

9:45 Doors open, welcoming

10:00 Church calendar

Story: a parable, story from the Old Testament, New Testament, Saint or people of color who inspire, or a Liturgical story.

10:15 Feast; a time to share and have a small snack

10:20 Work time with choice of a craft, paints, clay, puzzles. working with one of the stories

10:40 Gathering to pass the peace, then rejoining our families in the sanctuary

We have a lively multi-aged class welcoming all children ages 3 - 18 with two adults leading.

# Weekly Calendar

## **Sunday, December 7**

- 9:45 A.M. Godly Play (Education Wing)
- 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist - Rite II (Church) Second Sunday of Advent
- 11:30 A.M. ACF Open Forum (Library)
- 6:00 P.M. NA Group Meeting (Huntington Hall)

## **Tuesday, December 9**

- 6:00 P.M. Choir School Rehearsal (Choir Room)

## **Wednesday, December 10**

- 7:00 P.M. Property Meeting (Zoom Call)

## **Thursday, December 11**

- 6:00 P.M. Choir School Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 7:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

## **Friday, December 12**

- 7:30 P.M. NA Group Meeting (Huntington Hall)

## **Sunday, December 14**

- 9:45 A.M. Godly Play (Education Wing)
- 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist - Rite II (Church) Third Sunday of Advent
- 11:30 A.M. Carols, Crafts & Cookies Event (Goodwin Hall)
- 6:00 P.M. NA Group Meeting (Huntington Hall)

### **Trinity Office Staff**

Markus Centola, Director of Music \* Vinnie Pacileo, Facilities Manager  
Mary Rojas, Parish Administrator \* Tom Villano, Finance Manager

### **Vestry of Trinity Church**

Jacqueline Lucier, Warden  
Alan Rice, Warden  
Kitty Peterson, Clerk  
Jake Troiano, Interim Treasurer  
Amy Arlin \* Penny Pearson \* Casey Rousseau  
Cathy Rowe \* Sonia Watson \* Kathie Wilson



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