

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A PLACE OF WELCOME, HOPE & HEALING

DECEMBER 14, 2025

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:00 AM



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

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

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
French Carol, 17th. Century, Arr. James Gilbert

Please stand.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding

1982 Hymnal #59

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

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) in a two-part setting. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has the lyrics: "Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy." The second system has the lyrics: "Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy." The music is in a major key with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The vocal lines are simple and homophonic, with the bass line providing a steady accompaniment.

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

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the reading of Holy Scripture.

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
 the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
 like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
 and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
 the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
 the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

Anglican Chant: John Camidge II



- 4 Happy are they who have the God of / Jacob for their / help! *
whose / hope is in the / LORD their / God;
- 5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and / all that is / in them; *
who / keeps his / promise for / ever;
- 6 Who gives justice to / those who are op/pressed, *
and / food to / those who / hunger.
- 7 The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the / eyes of the / blind; *
the LORD lifts up / those who are / bowed / down;
- 8 The LORD loves the righteous;
the LORD / cares for the / stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but / frustrates the / way of the / wicked.
- 9 The LORD shall / reign for / ever, *
your God, O Zion, throughout all gene/rations. /
Halle/lujah!

THE SECOND READING

James 5:7-10

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

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

Please stand as you are able.

SEQUENCE HYMN

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

1982 Hymnal #68

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

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. George Chien

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.

*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 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.

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Paul Manz (1919 -2009)

Peace be to you and grace from him
Who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood
That we might savèd be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord,
The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come;
Sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon,
For Christ is coming soon!

E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come,
And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
For Christ will be their All!

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 (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (bass clef). The key signature is 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 features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and ties.

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:

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.', 'Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.', and '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

Ave Verum Corpus

Gabriel Fauré

Ave verum corpus natum
de Maria Virgine;
vere passum, immolatum
in cruce pro homine;
cuius latus perforatum
unda fluxit sanguine.
Esto nobis praegustatum
mortis in examine.

Hail, true Body,
born of the Virgin Mary;
who truly suffered and was sacrificed
on the cross for humankind;
whose pierced side
flowed with water and blood.
Be for us a foretaste
in the trial of death.

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.

Processional Hymn **There's a voice in the wilderness crying** **1982 Hymnal #75**

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Wayfarin' Stanger Southern American Folk

***At this time, all are invited to join in Goodwin Hall for Carols, Crafts, and Cookies!
A celebration for Trinity!***



Please Welcome The Rev. Cecil Tengtenga

Trinity is delighted to welcome the Rev. Tengtenga as today's presider. Rev. Cecil Tengtenga is a trained educator with over a decade of teaching in public schools and running public health program for local and federal government. Rev. Tengtenga is also a health systems scientist whose research and pastoral clinical work focuses on addressing the complex implementation of health programs across multiple systems and providing bioethical consultation on health equity matters. Cecil is a cradle Episcopalian raised in the Anglican Church in Malawi and Zimbabwe. Cecil trained for ministry at Yale Divinity School and was ordained to the priesthood in January 2024. Rev. Tengtenga lives in New Haven with their partner Lindsey, daughters Sekai and Shamiso, and pets.

+ ASSISTING AT WORSHIP +

Celebrant: The Rev. Cecil Tengtenga

Preacher: The Rev. George Chien

Director of Music: Markus Centola

Trinity Choir & Choristers

Lay Readers: Walton Brown-Foster, George Chien

Intercessor: Kate Smith

Intercessory Prayer Team: Kitty Peterson

Acolytes: Elizabeth Rousseau, Matthew Thomas

Ministers of Communion: Marcus Clark, Cathy Rowe

Godly Play Storyteller & Door Person: Nancy Crandall, Jannel Thomas

Ushers: Neill Derick, William A. Kofalk, Sonia Watson, Marc Wiest, Dianne Bowens-Waller

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 Kristen Williams-Garcia, Lexi Williams-Garcia, Percy Williamson

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Stephen's, Bloomfield; St George's, Bolton; and Trinity, Branford; for those who advocate at the local, state, national, or global level for the poor, the lonely and the oppressed, and for Swords to Plowshares.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brazil.

We pray for:

Austin Mogor

Markus Centola & Family

Mike Amanek

Edith Navarro

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

Church by the Pond - December 20

Trinity's next opportunity to participate in this ministry led by Christ Church Cathedral is next Saturday, December 20.

- We'll meet in the Trinity kitchen at 12:30 to prepare bag lunches, entering through the outside door to the kitchen.
- At 1:45 we'll bring those lunches to Bushnell Park, where we'll participate in the worship service near the pond.
- We'll offer our lunches and personal care items following the service, and finish around 3:00.

All parishioners, friends and families are encouraged to participate!

Please contact Penny Pearson (pennypearson@comcast.net) or Percy Williamson (percywilliamson@yahoo.com) if you have questions, or to note that you are planning to participate.

SAVE THE DATE - December 21, 2025

GREENING OF THE CHURCH

In a long-standing Trinity Church tradition, we will take time following the service on the last Sunday of Advent to decorate the sanctuary for the festival celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord. Members of the Altar Flower Team will be available to guide you as we hang ribbons, wrap garlands, and arrange flowering plants. Please plan to help if you can; it's a big space to decorate, and many hands make light work!

We will resume our monthly Bible Study on January 18.

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/.

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!

Outreach Contributes to Ahli Hospital 2025

Over the past 20 years, Trinity Church has given Outreach dollars to AFEDJ (American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.) Our Holy Land Giving Tree has not been operational since the beginning of the Gaza war, but our hearts are with our destitute friends there. The Bishop of the Diocese of Jerusalem distributes whatever we donate, and this is so greatly appreciated. The vestry voted in November to give \$500 to AFEDJ for the Ahli Hospital. This came from Outreach funds already on hand. Advent and Christmas have always been a time when we remember those in need in Palestine. If you would like to give a personal gift at this time, please visit the AFEDJ website: www.AFEDJ.org

Also, for that special person for whom you don't know what to buy, give them a donation to AFEDJ in their honor. It is a lasting gift.

– Kate Smith: AFEDJ Missioner

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!

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 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)

Tuesday, December 16

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

Thursday, December 18

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

Friday, December 19

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

Saturday, December 20

- 12:30 P.M. Church By the Pond (Trinity Kitchen 12:30 & Bushnell Park 1:45 P.M.)

Sunday, December 21

- 9:45 A.M. Godly Play (Education Wing)
- 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist - Rite II (Church) Fourth Sunday of Advent
- 11:30 A.M. Greening of the Church
- 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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