



TRINITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
December 6, 2020 - 10:30am

**Inspired by Christ, Trinity Episcopal Church strives to
love our neighbors, do justice and walk humbly with God.**

**Prelude, *Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele*, BWV 654
(Deck Thyself with Joy and Gladness)**

J. S. BACH

∞ Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant continues

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.

People **Amen.**

Trisagion

BRUCE FORD

Sung three times.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One.
Have mercy upon us.**

∞ 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. *People* **Amen.**

The Word of God

∞ The First Reading

ISAIAH 40:1-11

The People sit.

Comfort, O comfort my people,” says your God. “Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.”

A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!” See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

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

∞ The Gradual, Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

CHANT BY PAUL WEBER

**You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.**

**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.**

**I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.**

**Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

**Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.**

**Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

**The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.**

**Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.**

∞ The Second Reading

2 PETER 3:8-15A

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

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

Please stand for the Holy Gospel.

Sequence Hymn, *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People Claude Goudimel (1514-1572)*

ARR. PAUL WEBER

Comfort, comfort ye my people,
speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness
mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
tell her that her sins I cover and the warfare now is over.

Hark, the voice of one that crieth
in the desert far and near;
calling us to new repentance
since the kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God away;
let the valleys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to meet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked,
make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits his holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;
and all flesh shall see the token that the word is never broken.

∞ The Holy Gospel

MARK 1:1-8

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’ ”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist,

and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

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

∞ The Sermon

THE REVEREND JOHN M. PITZER

∞ The Nicene Creed

All stand and say together

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

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
 With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
 He has spoken through the Prophets.
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

∞ The Prayers of the People, Form IV

The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Leader Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.
 Lord, in your mercy . . .

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.
 Lord, in your mercy . . .

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.
 Lord, in your mercy . . .

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.
 Lord, in your mercy . . .

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or Spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy . . .

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal Kingdom. Lord, in your mercy . . .

People **Hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

∞ The Confession of Sin

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

Celebrant and People

The People stand or kneel.

**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.**

∞ The Peace

∞ Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory, *Prepare the Way, O Zion, Swedish Psalm Book, 1697,*

ARR. PAUL WEBER

Prepare the way, O Zion,
your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley
a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory,
foretold in sacred story.
Oh blest is Christ that came
in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion;
he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom,
and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding,
for grace and joy abounding.
Oh blest is Christ that came
in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion;
your Savior's rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation
proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him,
their voices will adore him.
Oh blest is Christ that came
in God's most holy name.

∞ The Great Thanksgiving (PRAYER B)

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	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, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

The Celebrant proceeds with the Proper Preface.

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

SUNG BY THE SCHOLA

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The People stand or kneel.

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,

Celebrant and People

**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 your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

∞ The Lord's Prayer

**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.

Celebrant Alleulia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleulia!**

∞ A Prayer of Spiritual Communion

Celebrant In communion with those who are participating online, and cannot physically receive the Sacrament, we pray:

O my Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

∞ The Invitation

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died and was raised for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

∞ The Communion of the People

Please note that communion distribution will be very different for the foreseeable future. As you approach the altar area, everyone must use the hand sanitizer station before receiving communion. The consecrated hosts will be in a paper cup on the altar. As you approach the altar, please take one paper cup. Once you have consumed the communion, you will place the paper cup in the receptacle located near the altar.

Communion Anthem

O God We Praise Thee and Confess, Thomas Ravenscroft (c.1592-c.1635),

ARR. PAUL WEBER

O God, we praise thee, and confess that thou the only Lord
and everlasting Father art, by all the earth adored.

Thou art the King of glory, Christ, the everlasting Son;
humbly thou cam'st to set us free, nor Virgin womb didst shun.

When thou shalt come to be our judge, bring us whom thou has bought
to dwell on high with all thy saints in joy surpassing thought.

∞ The Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

All stand.

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

∞ The Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude, *Improvisation on 'Prepare the Way, O Zion'*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Sunday at Trinity

Faith and Fiction meets at 9:00am on Zoom each Sunday. Contact Merry Toups at merryparis@yahoo.com to learn more.

12 Steps Are for Everyone meets at 9:15am on Zoom. Check member emails or contact Karen Taylor at taylorks@aol.com for Zoom access.

Waiting, Accepting, Journeying, Birthing: A Four Week Devotional begins today at 9:15am in the Moore Library. (Read more below.)

Godly Play Outside meets in the Parish House Courtyard at 10:30am. Contact Ashley Bond at abond@trinitynola.com to learn more or sign up for next week!

Stewardship at Trinity Church

With the end of 2020 fast approaching (thank goodness!), we hope you will consider giving to Trinity Church this year. Several changes to the tax law, thanks to the CARES Act, may offer significant incentives for your charitable giving. Contact Raina O'Neil at roneil@trinitynola.com or (504) 670-2537 with any questions.

The 2021 Board of Stewards have been diligently calling our members and newcomers to check-in as this has been such a trying year for so many. Throughout all of these difficult months one thing remains clear, our strength lies in our community.

Trinity Church is HERE, is active, and despite not being able to worship together in the way we all would like, we are reaching out to people in new and creative ways. We will be here when you are all able to be back, worshipping together in person. Your prayers and your financial support have been essential to this.

Please support Trinity Church with a 2021 Stewardship Giving Estimate or Pledge, or a gift through online giving at trinitynola.com/giving-form.

Thank you for being an essential part of this church community and for your continued support. We are grateful!

Advent Formation Opportunities

Advent Walking Meditation - As an Advent formation offering for both parishioners and the local community, Trinity has launched a walking meditation experience along Jackson Avenue, featuring a large-scale version of the Godly Play Story *The Mystery of Christmas: The Incarnation*. This story is based on Giotto di Bondone's 14th-century frescoes adorning the Scrovegni Chapel in northern Italy and Madeleine L'Engle's book *The Glorious Impossible* (Simon & Schuster, 1990). Additional content corresponding to each panel will be featured on the church website. It's a playlist you can experience in person!

Advent Playlist - Prepare the way! Check out Trinity's Advent playlist at <https://trinitynola.com/formation/playlists/advent-playlist> for content and opportunities to read, listen, watch, participate, pray and reflect during this season of Advent.

Waiting, Accepting, Journeying, Birthing: A Four Week Devotional by Sarah Bessey and facilitated by Debby Poitevent. This devotional is guided by the Carmelite themes of Waiting, Accepting, Journeying, and Birthing. Each week's devotional consists of an Opening Prayer and lighting of a candle, readings from Scripture, an essay meditating on the theme, and a few discussion questions before the Closing Prayer. This group will meet in-person for four weeks beginning Sunday, December 6 at 9:15am in the Moore Library. Visit the church website or email abond@trinitynola.com to register.

Advent for Children, Youth and Families

Advent@Home - To support your family through the season of Advent, please pick up your **complimentary Advent@Home bags at Trinity Treasures**. Included in your bag are activities and resources that nurture your family's faith journey and help you create sacred moments at home.

Outdoor Godly Play - The season of Advent helps children anticipate the Mystery of Christmas. School-age children (PK-5th) are invited to join us for an in-person Godly Play community classes today, **December 6 and December 13 at 10:30am**. Class will take place OUTSIDE in the Parish House courtyard. The same COVID safety precautions that the children are familiar with at school will be in place. Parents escort their children to the courtyard gate located to the right of the circle drive for temperature checks and sign-in. Parents pick up their children during announcements for communion. Masks are required. We are limited to how many children we can have so please visit the church website to register, or contact abond@trinitynola.com.

The **Children's Christmas Liturgy and Celebration** will take place on Sunday, December 20 at 5:00 pm. After the service, families are invited to the circle drive to enjoy a little Christmas cheer and a special surprise. There will be twinkle lights and catered hot cocoa. Please RSVP to attend this service at <https://trinitynola.com/christmas/>, as space is limited.

Wednesday Worship in Advent

Advent Evening Prayer - Join us Wednesday evenings during Advent in our beautiful sanctuary for a simple evening prayer service at 6:00pm where clergy will share their reflections on the themes of Advent: December 9 (Hope) and December 16 (Joy). Please pre-register on the Trinity Church website or call the church front desk at (504) 522-0276 for registration assistance.

Christmas Memorial Flowers

Help adorn the church for Christmas and honor or remember a loved one by giving to the Christmas Memorial Flowers and Music fund. All gifts, great and small, are appreciated. You can give online at <https://trinitynola.com/christmas-memorials/> or via mail. Please send the names and your donation to the church office, attention: Ashley Eastham, (or by email to aeastham@trinitynola.com) and indicate whether your dedication is intended for Christmas Flowers or Christmas Music. The dedications will be printed in the bulletins for Christmas Eve services and listed on the church website. While there is no deadline for giving, **the deadline to submit dedications is December 9** for printing purposes.

Christmas Giving Opportunities

Trinity's Mission Commission has organized several Christmas giving opportunities that respect COVID protocols. Please visit trinitynola.com/christmas for a description of each and how to participate. Opportunities include . . . 1) "Essentials Envelopes" for families in need; 2) Gifts for Adult Day Care at Kingsley House; 3) Item donations to support Eden House; 4) Christmas Ministry Cards and more!

Christmas Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 20

Children's Christmas Liturgy and Celebration at 5:00pm

Monday, December 21

A Light in the Darkness Christmas Liturgy at 6:00pm

Wednesday, December 23 - Eve of Christmas Eve

Rite II Eucharist at 7:00pm

Rite II Eucharist at 9:00pm

Thursday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

Rite II Eucharist at 4:00pm

Rite II Eucharist at 7:00pm

Rite II Eucharist at 9:00pm

Friday, December 25 - Christmas Day

Rite I Eucharist at 10:30am

In an effort to accommodate as many folks as possible, and allow space for all who wish to worship in person in celebration of Christmas, we have drastically expanded our Christmas service offerings, as each service has a limited capacity of attendees.

IT IS REQUIRED that those who plan to attend pre-register all individuals in their party.

We can welcome up to 125 attendees and services are expected to fill to capacity.

TO REGISTER ONLINE, visit www.trinitynola.com/christmas

TO REGISTER BY PHONE call the church offices at (504) 522-0276 for assistance.

Now Accepting Vestry Nominations

The Vestry Nominating Committee invites our congregation to nominate future church leaders. A Vestry term is four years and begins on June 1. Heather Lonian and Ellinor Howard are co-chairs for the committee which includes Philip Gordillo, Alice Parkerson, Will French, Debby Poitevent, Keith Crawford, Amory Levert, and Curt Flournoy. The committee will review all nominations and recommend a slate of four candidates for a vote at the annual meeting in the Spring.

Please send your nomination(s) to any of the following committee members:

Heather Lonian	hlonian@stonepigman.com	or	(617) 460-1015
Ellinor Howard	ellinor@bellsouth.com	or	(504) 231-3001
Philip Gordillo	philip_gordillo@yahoo.com	or	(504) 319-2620
Alice Parkerson	abparkerson@gmail.com	or	(504) 292-5467
Debby Poitevent	dpoitev@aol.com	or	(504) 451-0465
Keith Crawford	klc@loftingroup.com	or	(504) 717-3821
Amory Levert	amorycw@gmail.com	or	(504) 218-9071
Curt Flournoy	flournoycd@gmail.com	or	(318) 751-2062
Will French	wfrench@filmproductioncapital.com	or	(504) 905-4143

Candidates must have been a member of the church for one year, be over age 21 and have been confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church by a bishop of the church. Nominations must also have provided financial support, as confirmed by the Church's stewardship records, within six months prior to the Annual Meeting to be held in the Spring.

Expectations and responsibilities of Vestry members include:

- Regular Sunday worship
- Attendance at forums, special events and programs of the church
- Active involvement in committees and programs of the church
- Service on Vestry committees (such as finance/budget, stewardship, endowment, buildings and grounds, youth/adult education and community ministry)
- Providing leadership in stewardship activities, including an annual personal pledge
- Participation in annual budget development and review
- Support of the ministry of the Rector and staff in carrying out the mission of the church
- Attendance at monthly Vestry meetings and annual Vestry retreat
- Participate (or have participated in) anti-racism training
- Active involvement in hospitality and welcoming activities

We welcome your input in identifying parishioners who are able to serve and who are committed to advancing Trinity's mission: "Inspired by Christ, Trinity Episcopal Church strives to love our neighbors, do justice, and walk humbly with God." Thank you.

Trinity Treasures

Canvas prints (8x10 and 11x14) of a marvelous new Tim Trapolin painting of Madonna and child are now available in Trinity Treasures. The original painting (21x29) is available by auction with a starting bid of \$900, and a value of \$1800. Email Linda Stone at lindastone801@gmail.com to make a bid! Auction closes at 6:00pm on December 10.

Trinity Treasures is now open Monday to Friday, 8:30am - 3:30pm and Sundays before and after 10:30am worship. Shop online at trinitytreasuresnola.com. Please remember that Trinity Treasures' profits go to Trinity ministries and community projects through WOTC grants.



1329 Jackson Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130
www.trinitynola.com • (504) 522-0276