



TRINITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
December 13, 2020 - 10:30am

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

**Prelude, *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland*, BWV 660
(*Savior of the Nations, Come*)**

J. S. BACH

At the Procession, *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*

MERTON, W. H. MONK (1823-1889), ARR. PAUL WEBER

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding.
“Christ is nigh,” it seems to say;
“Cast away the works of darkness,
O ye children of the day.”

Wakened by the solemn warning,
from earth’s bondage let us rise;
Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.

Honor, glory, might, and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit
while unending ages run.

∞ 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

Sung three times by the schola.

**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.

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. *People* **Amen.**

The Word of God

∞ The First Reading

ISAIAH 61:1-4, 8-11

The People sit.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. 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.

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

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.**

**From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.**

**He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.**

**He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

**He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.**

**He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.**

**He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,**

**The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

∞ The Second Reading

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

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

Please stand for the Holy Gospel.

∞ The Holy Gospel

JOHN 1:6-8,19-28

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

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.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’” as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

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

∞ The Sermon

THE REVEREND ANDREW R. THAYER

∞ 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, *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

PUER NOBIS, ARR. PAUL WEBER

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let each heart prepare a home
where such a mighty guest may come.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
whose advent doth thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit evermore.

∞ The Great Thanksgiving (PRAYER B)

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,
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:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
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, *Creator of the Stars of Night*

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM ARR. PAUL WEBER

Creator of the stars of night,
your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
we pray you hear us when we call.

In sorrow that the ancient curse
should doom to death a universe,
you came, O Savior, to set free
your own in glorious liberty.

When this old world drew on toward night,
you came; but not in splendor bright,
not as a monarch, but the child
of Mary, blameless mother mild.

At your great Name, O Jesus, now
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
all things on earth with one accord,
like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.

Come in your holy might, we pray,
redeem us for eternal day;
defend us while we dwell below
from all assaults of our dread foe.

To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
praise, honor, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally.

∞ 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, *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661*
(Savior of the Nations, Come)

J.S. BACH

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Sunday at Trinity

Faith and Fiction meets at 9:00am on Zoom each Sunday. Contact Merry Touns 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 continues 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 on Sundays at 9:15am in the Moore Library, Dec 6, Dec 13, Dec 20 and Dec 27. Visit the church website or email abond@trinitynola.com to register.

Advent for Children, Youth and Families

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 13 and December 20 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.

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 16 (Joy). Please pre-register on the Trinity Church website or call the church front desk at (504) 522-0276 for registration assistance.

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 (FULL)

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 (FULL)

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.

Trinity Treasures

India Stewart has interpreted Tim Trapolin's Trinity Easter cross painting as a 3" tall gold ornament. A perfect symbol of hope and beauty, and just in time for that special person on your Christmas list.

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.

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. Nominees 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.

Looking Ahead: January

Women's Retreat: What the Light Shines Through - A day of celebration and retreat for women! January 6, 8:30am - 3:30pm at the Audubon Tea Room. Come alone or invite a friend and spend the day to “ponder the practices in which wholeness happens” using Jan Richardson’s poetry, artwork, and guided meditations as our framework. It’s an occasion for spending time together with other women and to do some inner reflecting before diving into the responsibilities of the new year. Contact Maria Elliott a melliott@trinitynola.com for questions or to register.

Dream Group - Our dreams contain messages that can help us in our waking life and in our desire to deepen our spiritual experience. Sr. Mary Ann Culotta is a masterful guide in helping us to understand our dreams and the gifts they have to offer. A dream group will be forming and meeting by Zoom in January. Contact Sister Mary Ann directly at maryannculotta@yahoo.com if you are interested in participating.



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