

# TRINITY CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF ASBURY PARK, NJ

The First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

## Holy Eucharist at ten o'clock

*At Trinity, we strive to use expansive language in our liturgy to reflect our beliefs that God transcends and includes all genders and that all gender expressions reflect the beauty of God's creation. Sometimes, however, our liturgy, scripture readings, and music use gendered language for God and humanity as part of the common spiritual heritage of Anglicanism and the Christian Church. In congregational responses and hymns, we invite you to use whatever pronouns and titles help you to see the divine in both God and humanity. As the scripture lessons are read, we invite you to consider that the writings contained in the Bible are contextual--reflecting particular times, places, and cultures--but that they can be understood in universal and expansive ways. God is love!*

*Hymn numbers refer to either the Hymnal 1982 or Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS), copies of which are in the pew racks.*

---

**Prelude** *Prelude on Ancient Melody*

Russell Schulz-Widmar

### **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

*All stand, and the Officiant greets the people with these words.*

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Celebrant*

It is not ourselves that we proclaim; we proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your servants, for Jesus' sake. For the same God who said, "Out of darkness let light shine," has caused the light to shine within us, to give the light of revelation—the revelation of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:5-6)

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, the lamp of charity which never fails, that it may burn in us and shed its light on those around us, and that by its brightness we may have a vision of that holy City, where dwells the true and never-failing Light, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Hymn 59** "Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding"

*All who can please stand*  
*Merton*

**Opening Acclamation**

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: most holy, glorious and undivided Trinity.  
*People* **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Collect for Purity**

*Said together*

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 from *Missa Secunda***

Hans Leo Hassler

*(Sung by the choir in Latin); Translation:*

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Collect for the First Sunday of Advent**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Almighty God, **give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Lesson:** A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah (33:14-16)

*Please be seated*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

*At the end of the lesson, the reader says, The Word of the Lord*  
*All Reply, Thanks be to God.*

**Psalm 25:1-9**

William Crotch

*Sung by the choir.*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me. | 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord. |
| 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.                                 | 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; therefore he teaches sinners in his way.   |
| 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.   | 8 He guides the humble in doing right and teaches his way to the lowly.  |
| 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.                | 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.                                |
| 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.  |  |

**The Lesson:** A Reading from the Letter to the Thessalonians (3:9-13)

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*At the end of the lesson, the reader says, The Word of the Lord*  
*All Reply, **Thanks be to God.***

**Hymn 61** "Sleepers, wake!"

*Verses 1-2 are sung before the Gospel and verse 3 is sung after the Gospel.*

*All who can please stand*  
*Wachet auf*

## **The Holy Gospel** Luke (21:25-36)

*All who can please stand*

*At the Announcement, all say* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

*The Reader says, The Gospel of the Lord.*

*All Reply, Praise to you, Lord Christ*

*Verse 3 of the hymn will now be sung.*

*Please be seated*

**Sermon**

The Rev. Geoff Curtiss

## The Nicene Creed

*All who can please stand*

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 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 [and the Son],  
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

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

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop, Sally; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for those oppressed by poverty, injustice, and hunger; those who are sick; and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God.

Pray that they may find and be found by God.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed [especially \_\_\_\_\_].

Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

Thanksgiving, blessing and praise be yours, God of the incarnation; because you care for us and for our prayer. May our love for you and our likeness to you be strengthened every time we pray.

**Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Leader and People*

*All who can, please stand or kneel*

Have mercy upon us, **O merciful God; 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 pronounces absolution.*

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

## The Peace

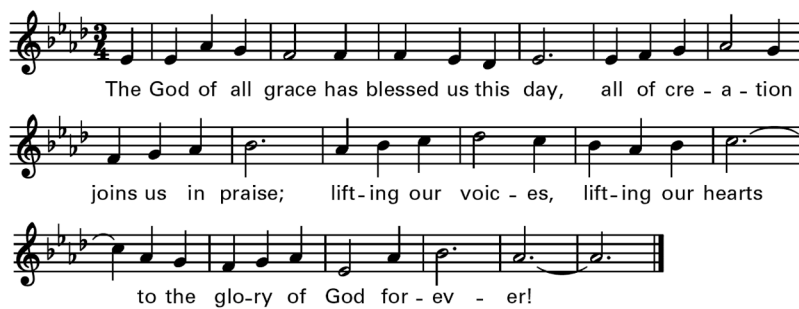
*Greet one another in the name of Christ.*

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

## Welcome and Announcements

*Please be seated*

## Congregational Celebrations and Thanksgivings



The God of all grace has blessed us this day, all of cre - a - tion  
joins us in praise; lift - ing our voic - es, lift - ing our hearts  
to the glo - ry of God for - ev - er!

## The Offering

**Offertory Music** *Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding*

Matheny

Hark, A thrilling voice is sounding!  
Christ is near, we hear the cry.  
Cast away the works of darkness,  
All you children of the day!

See the Lamb, so long expected,  
Come with pardon down from heav'n.  
Let us haste with tears of sorrow,  
One and all, to be forgiv'n;

Startled by the solemn warning,  
Let the earthbound soul arise;  
Christ, it's sun, all sloth dispelling,  
Shines upon the morning skies.

Honor, glory, might, dominion,  
To the Father and to the Son,  
With the everliving Spirit,  
While eternal ages run!

**The Great Thanksgiving**

*All who can please stand*

*Eucharistic Prayer B, Book of Common 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.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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

Proulx

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might. Heav'n\_ and earth\_\_ are full\_\_ of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est. Blest is he who comes in the name\_ of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with some notes tied across measures.

*The Celebrant proceeds* 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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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 God,  
*Celebrant and People*

**We remember Christ's death,  
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,  
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 [ \_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
Our Father (or Mother / Parent), **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.**

### **At the Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

### **The Invitation**

### **At the Communion**



*The sacrament of Holy Communion is a profound and central part of our worship. In it we receive God's promise to set aside all that separates us; we strengthen our union with Christ and one another; and we experience a foretaste of the time when all creation will share the feast God has prepared for us. All who seek a deeper relationship with God in Jesus Christ are invited to join us at the Lord's Table.*

*Follow the usher's direction to communion. Receive the bread in open palm. If you would like a blessing in lieu of communion, indicate so by crossing your arms over your chest. Gluten free wafers are available, please ask the clergy for one if desired. Please let the usher know if you need the Celebrant to come to your pew to administer communion.*



*During communion, those who would like someone to pray with them for themselves or someone else are invited to come to one of our prayer stations for individual prayer. Prayer stations are located at the back of the church (near the entrance doors) where a member of the Trinity Prayer Team will be sitting in a chair, ready to say a prayer with you. See insert for more information.*

**Hymn 454** “Jesus came, adored by angels”

*Lowry*

### **[Blessing of the Lay Eucharistic Visitors**

*Celebrant* Bless you for your ministry and bless those to whom you bring these holy gifts, that they may be united with this community in the holy sacrament of Christ’s body and blood.

*People* **Though we are many, we are all one body because we share in the one bread.]**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

*All who can please stand*

**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 Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

### **Blessing**

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Parent, the Child, and the Spirit of Life, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Hymn 57** “Lo! he comes, with clouds descending”

*Helmsley*

### **Dismissal**

*People’s Response:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** *Helmsley*

Mahlon Balderston

## **Trinity Church Vision Statement**

“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God...For if we love one another, God abides in us, and God’s love will be perfected in us.” (1 John 4:7, 12)

Love is at the very core of Trinity Church. Through our faith and ministry, we seek to share Jesus Christ’s unconditional, revolutionary love for all of God’s creation and people. We demonstrate love in action by respecting the dignity of all, practicing radical hospitality, standing in solidarity with the marginalized, advocating for peace and justice, dismantling structural racism and every system of oppression, embracing inclusivity, maintaining our sacred space as a spiritual and physical sanctuary, and pursuing ecological sustainability. Strengthened by joyful worship, prayer, lifelong spiritual formation, stewardship of resources, pastoral care, and fellowship, we commit to follow Jesus in the Way of Love.

### **TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

503 Asbury Ave., Asbury Park, NJ 07712 ~ Tel: 732-775-5084  
email: [office@trinitynj.com](mailto:office@trinitynj.com) ~ web site: [www.trinitynj.com](http://www.trinitynj.com)