



# The Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

8:30 Contemplative Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Eucharist with Music

---

## *Trinity Memorial Church*

*An Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Central New York, and a Jubilee Ministry Center*

***All are welcome!***

The Church is **handicapped accessible**: enter through the glass doors on Oak Street.

A **lift** to the sanctuary level is available in the far corner of the gym.

**Restrooms** are in the Hoyt Room, through the double doors on the right of the sanctuary.

**Hearing assistive devices & large print bulletins** are available from an usher.

**Parents** are welcome to use the Children's Corner in the Hoyt Room, or the toybasket at the back of the church.

**Visitors:** please sign our guest book in the Hoyt Room.

**Coffee Hour:** Please join us in the Hoyt Room after service.

*Text in bold italics is said by all; hymns are found in the blue Hymnal 1982.*

*"Service Music" (indicated by S-) is found in the beginning of the hymnal.*

---

**Prelude** From heaven on high to earth I come

Johann Pachelbel

### **Welcome and Announcements**

**Hymn 59 Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding**

*Merton*

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

The Dement Family

Today we light the first, second and third candles of the Advent Wreath. The first candle stands for HOPE, the second candle symbolizes PEACE, the candle we light today signifies JOY. Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

***Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.***

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

***Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. (Philippians 4:1,4-8)***

### **Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity**

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

***And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. 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 S-88**

McNeil Robinson

***Kyrie eleison (repeat); Christe eleison (repeat); Kyrie eleison (repeat)***

### **The Collect of the Day**

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

### **The First Lesson 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.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**Canticle**

**The Magnificat**

George Thalben-Ball



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. **Refrain**  
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. **Refrain**  
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. **Refrain**  
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. **Refrain**

## **The Epistle                    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.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

## **Hymn 272                    The great forerunner of the morn      *The truth from above***

## **The Holy Gospel                    Matthew 11:2-11**

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

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

**Sermon**

The Rev. Kit Tobin

**The Nicene Creed**

*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.*

## **Prayers of the People**

Form VI, p. 392

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; Dede our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

*For all who serve God in his Church.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation;

We pray for Nancy Campbell, Shawn Kaiser, Jon Walz Koeppel, Terry Burke, Drieux Koeppel, Masha Britten, Chucky Corse, Jason Munn, Jeffrey Weyant, Alice Delvilano, Andy and Dorothy Pierce, Jessica, Ted, Karen, John, Sandra, Cate Hough, Barbara Manzo, Carolyn, Nelson and Regina, Vicky M., Bruce Keen, Andrew, Glenn, Naomi, Kristen, Melinda Wells, Kit Tobin, Ted, Christopher, Bill, Mike, Robert S. Croston, Sr., Barry, Ed Kincer, Deana Guido and Donald Polhemus.

*The people may add their own petitions.*

We pray for those in military service: Kurt Albaugh, Darlene Croston, Colin Davis, Joshua Loch, Ben Sherwood Evans, Seth Thomas, Raidyn Ford, Evan Hesco, Aaron Brady.

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

Gracious and loving God, You have guided our church through seasons of joy and challenge. As we seek the priest You are preparing for us, fill our hearts with patience, hope, and trust in Your timing. Grant wisdom to those discerning, unity among us as a congregation, and openness to the one You are sending. Bless the priest who is even now being called to walk with us, that together we may serve You faithfully and proclaim Christ's love. ***Amen.***

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We rejoice with those celebrating birthdays: Jim Albert.

*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. We remember today **Mary Gaffney; Carrie Miller Gaffney; Miller Gaffney; Ray Miller Gaffney; Mary Schlager Gaffney; Adelaide Smith Gaffney** in whose loving memory the greens are given on the Altar today.

*The People may add their own petitions*

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

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

*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 an absolution.*

## **The Peace**

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

## **The Holy Communion**

### **The Offertory Sentence**

**Anthem**      O Thou that tellest good tidings (*Messiah*)      G. F. Handel  
*Jess Dugatkin, alto*

*O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain:*

*O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength;*

*lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold you God!*

*Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee*

### **Presentation Hymn 56, st. stanza 6**

*Veni Emmanuel*

*O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*(Supplemental Eucharistic Prayer 2)*

The Lord be with you;

*And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts;

*We lift them to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God;

*It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.  
From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and

every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a shepherd cares for its sheep, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

## **Sanctus S-127**

Calvin Hampton

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, 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.***

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.



Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

***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**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us

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

### **Ministration of Communion**

*Priest*      The Gifts of God for the People of God.

**All are welcome to receive Communion.**

*Please feel free to receive the bread and/or wine either at the crossing in front of the Chancel steps or at the Altar Rail, as you so choose. If you wish to intinct (dip) your bread, please dip it in the small chalices offered, or drink from the larger chalice.*

**Hymn 75    There's a Voice in the Wilderness**

*Ascension*

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

***Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.***

### **The Benediction**

**Hymn 76      On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry**

*Winchester New*

### **The Dismissal**

The people respond *Thanks be to God.*

**Postlude**

Savior of the nations, come

Hugo Distler

---

**SERVING TODAY**

The Rev. Kit Tobin, *Celebrant and Preacher*

Timothy E. Smith, *Organist & Music Director*

Barbara Howell, *Lector* John Chaffee, *Worship Leader*

Phyllis Amenda, *Acolyte* Louise Akel, Bruce Parmelee, *Ushers*

*Altar Guild for December*, Roxe-Anne & John Lynn

John Chaffee, Rayleen Kie, Bill Palmer, Deb Parmelee, Bob Peterson  
*Eucharistic Ministers*

Carl Betcher, *Digital Minister*

Masha Britten, *Coffee Hour*

**PRAYER LIST (in addition to those listed in the service)**

**Pray for our parish:** Fr. Richard and Rev. Kit our Supply Priests; our Vestry, Wardens, and Staff.

**Pray for our diocese:** We pray for the people of Trinity Episcopal Church in Fayetteville and their priest, the Very Rev. Dr. Renée Tembeckjian, and the people of All Saints' Episcopal Church in Fulton and their priest, the Rev. Dr. Leon Mozeliak, Jr..

**Pray for the Episcopal Church:** In the Episcopal Church, we pray for the people of the Diocese of Colorado and their bishop, the Rt. Rev. Kym Lucas.

**Pray for the Anglican Communion:** In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the people of the Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil and their primate, the Most Rev. Martinez Rosa dos Santos Bassotto.

**CANTEEN, December 14**

St. Patrick's & Port Dickinson Baptist, *cooking*

Christopher Hanes, *manager* Susan Hanes, *host*

*Last week: 60 guests served, 85 dinners served*

## CALENDAR

<b>Today</b>	12:00 pm–Canteen (Dining) 11:30 am–Forum (DR)
<b>December 15</b>	10 am–Recorders (upstairs)
<b>December 16</b>	11 am–Tuesday Group (Common Room) 3:30-5:30pm–CARES (gym, DR)
<b>December 17</b>	5:30 pm–Ringers 6:30 pm–Trinity Choir
<b>December 18</b>	3:30 pm–CARES (gym) 6:30 pm–N/A (Common) 7:00 pm: Pickleball (Gym)
<b>December 19</b>	3:30 pm–CARES (gym) 4:30 pm–CARES (DR)
<b>December 20</b>	9:30 am–N/A (Dining)
<b>December 21, Advent IV</b>	8:30 am–Contemplative Eucharist 10:00 am–Holy Eucharist, with Music, followed by coffee hour; 11:30 am: Greening of the Church (Come help the elves!) 12:00 pm: Canteen (DR)

**Poinsettia for our Christmas celebrations.** Envelopes are in the bulletin and the Hoyt Room; please place it in the collection plate. Deadline for listings is TODAY, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Suggested donation: \$20.00.

**Generosity Report (as of 12/11):** Required weekly contributions: \$4001; Last week's contributions: \$9888; Required year to date contributions: \$196,038; Contributions received year to date: \$200,270; Year to Date Difference: \$4232.

**CHOW Food Bank 12/9:** 110 patrons.

**Last call?** If sending in that pledge is still on your “to-do” list, you are encouraged to check it off today. Cards are available in the Hoyt Room. If your pledge has already found its way to the church office, you have our *most sincere* gratitude.

**Mark your calendars:** *A Festival of Lessons & Carols for Epiphany* with Tim Smith and our wonderful choir. Sunday, January 4, 4:00 pm

If you would prefer to lend your financial support to Trinity via electronic means, here is our QR code.



**For the Forum today**, Louise Donohue will be reading her Christmas story from the anthology entitled *A Winter Romance*. Louise is a best-selling Amazon author with over twenty novels to her credit, most of them, like this story, Historical Romances set in London in the Regency period (1800-1830). Louise's stories are light and humorous: just right for putting you in the Christmas spirit! Please join her at 11:30 in the Common Room (or 20 minutes after service ends, whichever is later.)

**Tuesday Group** is selling the recently re-discovered little blue glass dishes that were commissioned in 1987 for the centenary of Trinity Memorial Church. They have been in the back of a cupboard for nearly forty years! We are selling them for \$5.00. Cash please! They will be available today (Sunday December 14) in the gym after the 10.00 AM service.

The **Kopernik Observatory & Science Center** will be offering "STAR OF BETHLEHEM REVEALED" at 698 Underwood Rd, Vestal, on Friday, Dec. 19. The Star of Bethlehem unlocks the mystery of what the Wise Men saw in the night sky by relating scientific knowledge about astronomy and historical clues from the Bible. Doors open at 6:30pm and the program begins at 7pm. Admission \$6 Adult, \$4 Seniors/Students, \$20 family max. This includes telescope viewing after the movie—if clear. Call 607-748-3685 for more information.

### **CHRISTMAS EVE at TRINITY**

**5:00 p.m.** The Creche, Carols and Communion

**7:30 p.m.** Christmas highlights from Handel's *Messiah*

**8:00 p.m.** Candlelight Carols and Communion: The Trinity Choir

### **TRINITY MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**Mission:** *To serve Christ passionately through self, family, parish and community.*

**Identity:** *A diverse people responding to God through worship and music, friendship and formation, generosity and service.*

44 Main Street, Binghamton, New York 13905

Phone: 607-723-3593 \* E-mail: [trinity@trinitymemorial.org](mailto:trinity@trinitymemorial.org) \* [www.trinitymemorial.org](http://www.trinitymemorial.org)