

5 Child, for us sinners
poor and in the manger,
we would embrace thee, with love and awe;
who would not love thee,
loving us so dearly?

Refrain

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

Celebrant Behold, I bring you good news of great joy: to you is
born a child who is Christ the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**

The Collect for Purity *Book of Common Prayer* p. 355
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.*

Hymn of Praise *Angels we have heard on high* Hymn # 96

1 Angels we have heard on high,
singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
 him whose birth the angels sing;
 come, adore on bended knee
 Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
 Gloria in excelsis Deo.

4 See him in a manger laid
 whom the angels praise above;
 Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
 while we raise our hearts in love.
 Gloria in excelsis Deo.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-- on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96 *Cantate Domino*

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

The Second Lesson: Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn #93 *Angels from the realms of glory*

1 Angels, from the realms of glory,
 wing your flight o'er all the earth;
 ye, who sang creation's story,
 now proclaim Messiah's birth:

*come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

2 Shepherds in the field abiding,
 watching o'er your flocks by night,
 God with you is now residing;
 yonder shines the infant Light:

Refrain

3 Sages, leave your contemplations;
 brighter visions beam afar:
 seek the great Desire of nations;
 ye have seen his natal star:

Refrain

4 Saints before the altar bending,
 watching long in hope and fear,
 suddenly the Lord, descending,
 in his temple shall appear:

Refrain

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Sarah Carper Morris

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.**

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively.

In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying "Holy God, Hear our prayer."

Loving God, on this holy night, your Son our Savior was born of human flesh. Renew your Church as the Body of Christ throughout the world.
Holy God, Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, Mary and Joseph found no room in the inn. Protect with your love those who have no home, those who are hungry, and all who live in poverty.
Holy God, Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, Mary, in the pain of labor, brought your Son to life. Comfort and heal all who are experiencing pain, illness, or distress; and bring them to newness of life.
Holy God, Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, the angels sang, "Peace to God's people on earth." Strengthen us to work for peace and justice in the world, and put an end to all violence and oppression.
Holy God, Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy. Help us, like them, to praise and glorify God, and to preach the gospel of Christ's redeeming love.
Holy God, Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, strangers came to visit the Holy Family, and saw the baby lying in the manger. Bless our homes and families, and be with all whom we love.

Holy God, Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, your Son was born as a light in the darkness. Dispel the darkness in our hearts and forgive all our sins.

Holy God, Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, heaven comes down to earth, and earth is raised to heaven. Hold in your hand all who have passed through death, and fill them with eternal joy and peace.

Holy God, Hear our prayer.

On this holy night, Christians in every place celebrate Christ's birth. Open our hearts, that he might be born in us this night.

Holy God, Hear our prayer.

I invite you to add your prayers of intercession and thanksgiving either silently or aloud.

The Celebrant continues: Almighty God, on this holy night, angels and shepherds worshiped at the manger throne. Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary, Joseph, and all the saints; through him who is your Word made flesh, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

Offertory Hymn # 87 *Hark! The herald angels sing*

1 Hark! the herald angels sing
 glory to the newborn King!
 Peace on earth and mercy mild,
 God and sinners reconciled!
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
 join the triumph of the skies;
 with the angelic host proclaim
 Christ is born in Bethlehem!

*Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!*

- 2 Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with man to dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Refrain

- 3 Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings,
light and life to all he brings,
hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain

The Great Thanksgiving

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 him 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. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin,

and receive the power to become your children. 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:

Celebrant and People

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #129 The Holy Eucharist II,
 Holy, holy, holy Lord: *Sanctus*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary and 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.



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.

The Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

At this time we will all receive together.

Please light your candle now

Hymn # 111

Silent Night

1 Silent night, holy night,
 all is calm, all is bright
 round yon virgin mother and child.
 Holy infant, so tender and mild,
 sleep in heavenly peace.

- 2 Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!
- 3 Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

The Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Procession Out: Hymn # 100 *Joy to the world*

- 1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love.

Dismissal

Celebrant

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit! Alleluia. Alleluia.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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Valid for: 12/16/2020 – 12/15/2021

Ministers of the service

The Rev. Sarah Carper Morris, Rector

Taylor Vines, Intern

Lee Wilsonwithers, Organist

Many thanks to Tom & Pam Dickenson and Margie Martin for changing the Altar hangings and to Beckie Derrick for putting up the Christmas tree. Airmont Florist for the outdoor decorations and the Applers for the outdoor Advent wreath. Our church looks beautiful. Thank you to our choir members and to everyone that helped with the Christmas Eve service and special thanks to Mark Donnell for your video editing.

The Clergy & Staff of Trinity Episcopal Church wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and God's blessings in the New Year!

The Rev. Sarah Carper Morris, Rector

Taylor Vines, Intern

Mrs. Tobi York - Office Assistant/Secretary

Mr. Larry Keesler - Organist/Choirmaster

Mr. Don McMillian-Sexton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us for a service **Lessons and Carols** on Sunday, December 27th at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom. We will also have a special performance by Mark Donnell of Abba Ding.

The church office will be closed from 12/25-1/4. We will still be checking messages and you may reach Sarah at 804-212-7522.

Stewardship Update: We are truly grateful to all of you who continue to support Trinity's mission and ministry through your work, prayers and offerings of time, talent and treasure. If you plan to pledge, but haven't filled out a card yet, we encourage you to do so. So far we have 29 households who have pledged for 2021 totaling \$121,911.00.

ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE is a \$3 million grassroots Church-wide fundraising campaign dedicated to expanding the organization's global programs, improving the lives of children up to age six. Episcopal Relief & Development invites individuals, congregations, and dioceses to join ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE by engaging in acts of love of their own. Click on the link or go to <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/1000daysoflove/share/> for more information.

Kids Zoom will not meet this week.

Trinity Chats continues to meet each Wednesday at 2:00 pm through Zoom. Join us for some great conversations and we stay in touch with each other.

Due to the rise of COVID cases in our county we are now hosting **online services only**. Once the numbers drop and maintain we will be able to resume in-person gatherings. Please join us on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom, Facebook Live at noon Sunday and Wednesday evenings at 5:30 p.m.



*No matter where you come from or where you're going
No matter what you believe or what you doubt
No matter what you feel or just don't feel today
No matter whom you love
You are welcome into this space to be met by a God
Who knows you by name, who knows your heart, who knows
your mind, and...
Who wants to have a relationship with you*

