TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

472 N. Main St./PO Box 1043 Mount Airy, NC 27030-1043 336-786-6067

email: info@trinitymtairy.com



The Very Reverend Sarah Carper Morris, Rector The Reverend Bill Pendleton, Deacon Dr. Ryan Whittington, Organist/Choir Director

The Third Sunday of Advent December 17, 2023

Kid's bags are in the narthex. Please return the bags and they will be refilled for next Sunday.

Please remember that many are preparing for worship with prayer before the service.

Hymn in Procession # 72 (standing as you are able)

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long! Let every heart prepare a throne, and every voice a song. 2 He comes the pris'ners to release, in Satan's bondage held; the gates of brass before Him burst, the iron fetters yield.

3 He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure, and with the riches of His grace, to enrich the humbled poor.

4 Our glad Hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome shall proclaim; and heav'n's eternal arches ring, with Thy beloved Name.

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy

Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for

ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

BCP 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*.

(8:30 service only) Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Holy Eucharist II, Lord have mercy: Kyrie

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music, #96



Music: From Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

mer

cy.

have mer - cy, have

Lord,

The Collect

(kneel or stand as you are able)

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*.

Please be seated during the reading of the Lessons and the Psalm.

The First Lesson: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



Psalm 126 In convertendo

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of **Zion**, * then were we like those who **dream**.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with **laughter**, * and our tongue with shouts of **joy**.
- 3 Then they said among the **nations**, *
 "The LORD has done great things for **them**."
- 4 The LORD has done great things for **us**, * and we are glad in-**deed**.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, * like the watercourses of the Ne-gev.
- 6 Those who sowed with **tears** * will reap with songs of **joy**.

(Repeat second half of chant)

7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the **seed**, * will come again with joy, shouldering their **sheaves**.

The Second Lesson: 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.

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

Sequence Hymn # 67 (standing as you are able)

- 1 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 her warfare now is over.
- 2 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 a way; let the valleys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.

3 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.

Celebrant The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28 (stand as you are able)

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.

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

Christmas Pageant "Silent Night" by Vicky Town

A play inspired by the Austrian legend

The Nicene Creed (standing as you are able)

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

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 II

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 Bishops Sam and Jennifer; 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 the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, 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 him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present

I ask your prayers for _____.

I ask your thanksgiving for _____.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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

The Peace BCP 360

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

(8:30 service only)

Offertory

Celebrant **People** All things come of Thee, O Lord. And of thine own have we given Thee.

(10:30 service only)

Offertory and Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer D

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.

PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift 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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing (say),

Celebrant and People

S-130

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.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures.

When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy.

To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with [the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, (with ______) and] all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. *AMEN*.

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

People and Celebrant

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.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #164 The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God: *Agnus Dei*



A period of silence is kept.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

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

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine, please cross your arms across your chest to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available. You may intinct from the small chalice or drink from the chalice. If you need communion brought to you, please let an usher know.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

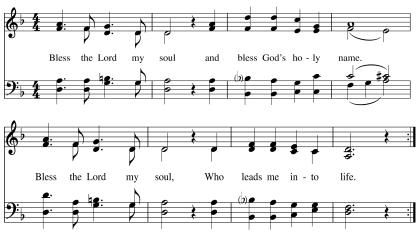
The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. (Amen.) The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. (Amen.)

Music at Communion #69

- What is the crying at Jordan?Who hears, O God, the prophecy?Dark is the season, dark our hearts and shut to mystery.
- 2 Who then shall stir in this darkness, prepare for joy in the winter night? Mortal in darkness we lie down, blind-hearted, seeing no light.
- 3 Lord, give us grace to awake us, to see the branch that begins to bloom; in great humility is hid all heaven in a little room.
- 4 Now comes the day of salvation, in joy and terror the Word is born! God gives himself into our lives; O let salvation dawn!

Communion Meditation Bless the Lord my soul

Wonder Love and Praise, #825



Words: Psalm 103. Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994).

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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 your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing

Celebrant

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

People

Amen.

Hymn in Procession # 59 (standing as you are able)

- 1 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."
- 2 Wakened by the solemn warning, from earth's bondage let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.
- 3 Lo! the Lamb, so long expected, comes with pardon down from heaven; let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all to be forgiven;
- 4 so when next he comes with glory, and the world is wrapped in fear, may he with his mercy shield us, and with words of love draw near.

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

Dismissal

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

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PRAYERS AND REMEMBRANCES OF THE WEEK

Immediate Needs: Gus Lewis Mary Couture Melissa Roth Culver Emily Judy Liner Mary Kay MacAllen Roger Danley Kitty Martin Charlie Allen Paul Derrick Martha Allen Linda McMillian Ron Doerschug Linda Doerschug Erin Apperson Arba Montgomery Cindy Blackwell Mark Donnell Craig New Bobbie Bledsoe Wade Nichols Barbara Embry Bert Bond, Jr. Bill R. Pendleton Donna Fargo Tina Brown Clara Powell Johnnie Gunter Marie Carl Lorene Ramsey Betty Hooven Mazie Chilton Kerry Reagan Kelly Jarvis Ann Cochrane Stephanie Serika Carrie Krahn Emily Jarvis Simmons David Kroupa Ripley Cottrell Angela Shur Angelia Lawrence Anne Cox Eva Smith Bishop Michael Curry Rebecca McNabb Sarah Springthorpe-Wade Smith John Moore Denmark Rose Mary Smoot Michael Morgan Liz Dilley Tammy Springthorpe Angie Nolfo Debbie Dockery Sharon Sutphin Bill Pendleton Carmen Eldridge Arlis Thomas Beverly Putynkowski Carol Ford Celeste Tsaklis Victoria Rogelin Marcus Ford Carroll Vick Candace Sammons Gus Galloway Henrietta Williams Evedene Schafer Angie Golding Betty Wright Susan Slate Polly Hall **Long Term Needs:** Sid Spencer, Jr. Steve Hines Jean Amburn Betty Town Melissa Hopkins *Anonymous Vicky Town Max Hunter Beatrice Attuah & John Townsend Sandy Hutchens Lailaity Stacev Turnmire Adam Jennings Tina Brown Jack Woltz Fred Johnson Jane Carper

TRINITY FAMILY IN THE ARMED SERVICES OF OUR COUNTRY

Kat Cook

Joy King

Amanda Eads, Wesley Frye, Corbin Humphrey, Matt Kroupa, Glenn Lynch, Gordon Lynch, Haley Muething, John Nichols, Christopher Noble, Robert Poole

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Emmanuel Parish, Southern Pines Chapel of the Transfiguration, Southern Pines St. Mary's, Speed

BIRTHDAYS

December 19th Bill Noble, 20th Wendy Tatman, 22nd Angela Lawrence, 22nd Luis Aguilar

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trinity's 2024 **Stewardship Campaign** is off to a great start. To date we have received 32 pledges for \$129,860. Our goal is \$195,000. If you have not pledged yet, please return your pledge card or call Tobi in the office and she will complete a card for you with your permission. **Thank you for continuing to support Trinity Church.**

On December 17 at 1:30 PM our choir will join First Presbyterian Church of Pilot Mountain to sing Part 1 of **Handel's** *Messiah*. The event will take place at First Presbyterian Church in their sanctuary. Please come show your support for Trinity's choir and enjoy this beautiful music.

Caregiver/Grief Support Group will meet on Tuesday, December 19th at 1:00 p.m. at Cross Creek for lunch.

Trinity Book Group- We will continue discussing our new book, The Girl with Seven Names: Escape from North Korea, on Wednesday, December 20th, at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Then we will break until January.

A Blue Christmas Service will be held on Friday, December 22nd at 6:00 p.m. This will be a service of remembrance and hope. Volunteers are needed for this service. Please let us know if you would like to serve as an acolyte, greeter or lector.

There will be <u>one service</u> on Sunday, December 24th Advent IV at 10:30 a.m. Volunteers are needed to serve as lector, greeters, chalice bearer and acolyte.

Our Candlelight Christmas Eve services will be held on Sunday, December 24th at 4:30 p.m. and at 11:00 p.m. Plan to join us and invite a friend! Volunteers are needed to serve as lector, greeters, chalice bearer and acolyte.

MINISTERS FOR THE 8:30 SERVICE

Today	Ministry	Next Sunday
M Di	LECTOD	

Nancy Dixon LECTOR

Mike Wilson CHALICE BEARER

Benny Combs GREETER
Mike Wilson ACOLYTE

MINISTERS FOR THE 10:30 SERVICE

This Sunday	Ministry	Next Sunday
Ann Vaughn	LECTOR	Volunteer Needed
Roxann Moore	CHALICE BEARER	Volunteer Needed
Pat & Morris	GREETERS	Pat Sanderson
Beckie Derrick	ALTAR GUILD	Nancy & Jesse
Ross Borders	VESTRY	Volunteer Needed
Wyatt Fallin	ACOLYTE	Volunteer Needed
Jesse Slate		

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

I HIS WEEK SEVENIS				
Today	8:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist		
·	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School		
	10:30 a.m.	Christmas Pageant		
	1:30 p.m.	Handel's Messiah at First		
	Presbyterian (Church in Pilot Mountain		
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Medical Loan Closet		
·	1:00 p.m.	Caregiver Support Lunch		
	3:00 p.m.	Youth Group		
Wednesday	10:30 a.m.	Book Group		
	5:30 p.m.	Holy Eucharist		
Thursday	8:30 a.m.	Staples		
•	3:00 p.m.	Medical Loan Closet		
Friday	6:00 p.m.	Blue Christmas Service		
Saturday	5:00 p.m.	AA Meeting		
Next	10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist		
	4:30 p.m.	Candlelight Christmas Service		
	11:00 p.m.	Candlelight Christmas Service		

TRINITY VESTRY

Ross Borders, Margie Martin, Roxann Moore, James Tatman, Ann Vaughn, Mike Wilson, Lee Wilsonwithers 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