

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

472 N. Main St./PO Box 1043

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

**The Epiphany
January 7, 2024**

If you are visiting, please fill out a Visitor Card and put it in the offering plate or hand it to a greeter. Restrooms are located downstairs.

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 # 7 (standing as you are able)

1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,

Christ, the true, the only Light,

Sun of Righteousness, arise!

Triumph o'er the shades of night:

Dayspring from on high, be near;

Daystar, in my heart appear.

2 Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

3 Visit then this soul of mine!
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!
Fill me, radiancy divine;
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

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.

Gloria S-278

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

(kneel or stand as you are able)

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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

The First Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;

but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;

your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

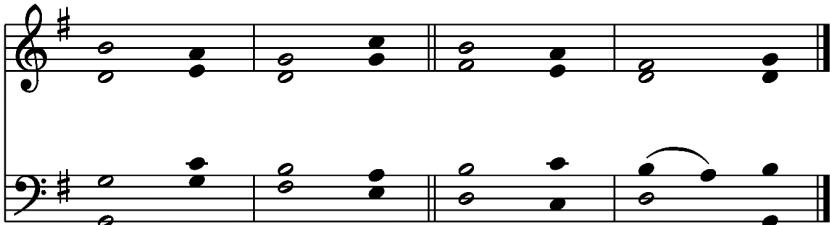
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

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

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

- 1 Give the King your justice, O **God**, *
and your righteousness to the King's **Son**;
- 2 That he may rule your people **righteously** *
and the poor with **justice**;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the
people, *
and the little hills bring **righteousness**.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the **people**; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the o-
ppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon
endure, *
from one generation to a-**nother**.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown
field, *
like showers that water the **earth**.

- 7 In his time shall the righteous **flourish**; *
 there shall be abundance of peace till the moon
 shall be no **more**.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay
 tribute, *
 and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer **gifts**.
- 11 All kings shall bow down **be-fore him**, *
 and all the nations do him **service**.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in
 di-stress, *
 and the oppressed who has no **helper**.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and **poor**; *
 he shall preserve the lives of the **needy**.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and
 violence, *
 and dear shall their blood be in his **sight**.

The Second Lesson: Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn # 128 (*standing as you are able*)

1 We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain,
moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

*O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading,
still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!*

- 2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
 King for ever,
 ceasing never
over us all to reign.

Refrain

- 3 Frankincense to offer have I:
incense owns a Deity nigh;
 prayer and praising,
 gladly raising,
worship him, God Most High.

Refrain

- 4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
 sorrowing, sighing,
 bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Refrain

- 5 Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
heaven sings alleluia:
alleluia the earth replies.

Refrain

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 (*stand as you are able*)

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Very Rev. Sarah Carper Morris

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.

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 III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and
Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

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

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

Announcements

(8:30 service only)

Offertory

Celebrant

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

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer A

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.

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:

Celebrant and People

The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord: *Sanctus*

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music, #128

The musical notation consists of five staves of music in common time, treble clef, and key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are integrated into the music as follows:

- Staff 1: Ho - ly, ho - ly,
- Staff 2: ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
- Staff 3: heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
- Staff 4: high - est. Bless - ed is he who
- Staff 5: comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

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.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.*

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.

Fraction Anthem: WLP # 761

All who hunger gather gladly;
 holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wand'ring.
 Here in truth we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness,
 all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
 Taste and see that God is good.

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 # 119

- 1 As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore be led to thee.
- 2 As with joyful steps they sped
to that lowly manger-bed;
there to bend the knee before
him whom heaven and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet
ever seek the mercy-seat.
- 3 As they offered gifts most rare
at that manger rude and bare;
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ! to thee, our heavenly King.
- 4 Holy Jesus! every day
keep us in the narrow way;
and, when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds thy glory hide.

5 In the heavenly country bright,
need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown,
thou its sun which goes not down:
there for ever may we sing
alleluias to our King.

Communion Meditation WLP # 764

*Taste and see. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord
O taste and see. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord
of the Lord.*

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

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 # 124 (*standing as you are able*)

- 1 What star is this, with beams so bright,
more beauteous than the noonday light?
It shines to herald forth the King,
and Gentiles to his crib to bring.
- 2 True spake the prophet from afar
who told the rise of Jacob's star;
and eastern sages with amaze
upon the wondrous token gaze.
- 3 The guiding star above is bright;
within them shines a clearer light,
and leads them on with power benign
to seek the Giver of the sign.
- 4 O Jesus, while the star of grace
impels us on to seek thy face,
let not our slothful hearts refuse
the guidance of thy light to use.

5 To God the Father, heavenly Light,
to Christ, revealed in earthly night,
to God the Holy Ghost we raise
our equal and unceasing praise.

Dismissal

Go in peace,
to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS AND REMEMBRANCES OF THE WEEK

Immediate Needs:

Emily
Mary
Charlie Allen
Martha Allen
Erin Apperson
Cindy Blackwell
Bobbie Bledsoe
Bert Bond, Jr.
Tina Brown
Marie Carl
Mazie Chilton
Ripley Cottrell
Anne Cox
Bishop Michael Curry
Sarah Springthorpe-
Denmark
Pam Dickenson
Liz Dilley
Debbie Dockery
Carmen Eldridge
Carol Ford
Marcus Ford
Gus Galloway
Angie Golding
Polly Hall
Steve Hines
Melissa Hopkins
Max Hunter
Sandy Hutchens
Fred Johnson
Joy King
Gus Lewis

Judy Liner
Kay MacAllen
Kitty Martin
Arba Montgomery
Craig New
Wade Nichols
Bill R. Pendleton
Clara Powell
Lorene Ramsey
Kerry Reagan
Stephanie Serika
Emily Jarvis Simmons
Angela Shur
Eva Smith
Wade Smith
Rose Mary Smoot
Tammy Springthorpe
Sharon Sutphin
Arlis Thomas
Celeste Tsaklis
Carroll Vick
Henrietta Williams
Betty Wright
Long Term Needs:
Jean Amburn
*Anonymous
Beatrice Attuah &
Lailaity
Tina Brown
Jane Carper
Ann Cochrane
Kat Cook
Mary Couture

Melissa Roth Culver
Roger Danley
Paul Derrick
Ron Doerschug
Linda Doerschug
Mark Donnell
Barbara Embry
Donna Fargo
Johnnie Gunter
Betty Hooven
Kelly Jarvis
Carrie Krahm
David Kroupa
Angelia Lawrence
Rebecca McNabb
John Moore
Michael Morgan
Angie Nolfo
Bill Pendleton
Sylia Poggi
Beverly Putynkowski
Victoria Rogelin
Candace Sammons
Evedene Schafer
Susan Slate
Sid Spencer, Jr.
Levana Tillotson
Betty Town
Vicky Town
John Townsend
Stacey Turnmire
Jack Woltz

TRINITY FAMILY IN THE ARMED SERVICES OF OUR COUNTRY

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

DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

Church of the Ascension at Fork, Advance
Christ Church, Albemarle
Good Shepherd, Asheboro

BIRTHDAYS

January 1st Margie Martin, 5th Jay Vaughn, 6th Richard Stiefel
7th Tom Fawcett

ANNIVERSARIES

January 1st Tom & Pam Dickenson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The loose offering on the first Sunday of each month is designated for the **Rector's Discretionary Fund**. This offering helps the Rector provide pastoral care, medicines, utilities, rent and other assistance.

First Sunday Pot Luck Lunch is today! Join us for good food and fellowship in the Parish Hall for a potluck lunch after the 10:30 service, approximately 12:00 p.m.

If you purchased poinsettias, please take them home with you today.

Trinity's 2024 **Stewardship Campaign** is off to a great start. To date we have received 42 pledge cards for \$161,970. We have 11 parishioners representing \$30,650 who pledged last year but have not done so yet this year. 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.**

Our **Caregiver/Grief Support** group meets on January 11th at 4:00 p.m.

What happens to us after death? What do Christians believe about the afterlife? Please join the **Theology Group** to discuss Christian beliefs about heaven and hell on Thursday, January 11th at 5:30 in the Parish Hall. Supper will be served. Some copies of the articles for the next Theology meeting can be found in the narthex.

Sunday school resumes on January 14th at 9:30 a.m.

Book group will resume on Wednesday, January 17th at 10:30 a.m. We will begin a new book, *Freeing Jesus* by Diane Butler Bass. If you have any questions, please contact Wendy Tatman.

If you would like to give **altar flowers** in honor or in memory of a loved one, the flower chart for 2024 is now posted in the back of the sanctuary.

If you have articles, announcements, pictures, etc. for the newsletter, please submit them to the church office as soon as possible.

FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for my family and in celebration of our grandson Michael's first birthday
by Sarah & Robert Morris.

MINISTERS FOR THE 8:30 SERVICE

Today	Ministry	Next Sunday
Vicky Town	LECTOR	Nancy Dixon
Jim Couture	CHALICE BEARER	Mike Wilson
Pat Sanderson	GREETER	Bruce Strohl
Jim Couture	ACOLYTE	Mike Wilson

MINISTERS FOR THE 10:30 SERVICE

This Sunday	Ministry	Next Sunday
Wendy Tatman	LECTOR	Jesse Slate
Karen N. & Wendy T.	CHALICE BEARERS	Roxann & Jesse
Margie & Martha	GREETERS	Gloria & Larry
Pat Gallagher	ALTAR GUILD	St. Elizabeth's Guild
Ann Vaughn	VESTRY	Lee Wilsonwithers
Wyatt & Jesse	ACOLYTE	Nehemiah & Jeremiah

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Today	8:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
	12:00 noon	First Sunday Potluck
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Medical Loan Closet
	3:00 p.m.	Youth Group
	6:00 p.m.	Vestry Meeting
Wednesday	5:30 p.m.	Holy Eucharist
Thursday	8:30 a.m.	Staples
	1:00 p.m.	Knit One, Pray Too
	1:00 p.m.	Medical Loan Closet
	3:00 p.m.	Caregiver/Grief Support
Saturday	5:00 p.m.	AA Meeting
Next Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist

TRINITY VESTRY

Ross Borders, Roxann Moore, Jessica Simandle,
Wendy 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*