

# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

DECEMBER 24, 2023

5:30 PM ~ 11:00 PM

A tithe (10%) of this evening's offering is designated for the ***Appalachian Regional Ministry***, a partnership between Trinity and the leaders and people of Graham County in serving children, their families and others. The *Appalachian Regional Ministry* seeks to help us serve a local community that has deep needs.



Your generous participation is welcome. The envelope in the pew will allow your contribution to be recorded as a gift and it also allows you to give by debit or credit card.

Make a Donation

## WELCOME TO TRINITY CHURCH

### VISITOR CARDS

If you are visiting Trinity today, welcome! We are honored by your presence. If you have any questions before the service our ushers are glad to help. There are visitor cards in the pews. You may place one in the offering plate so that we may get to know you better. We also have a "visitor card" at our website: [trinityasheville.org](http://trinityasheville.org) or scan this qr code.



### WORSHIP

Please note that the few minutes prior to the start of the service are normally a time of prayer and reflection. Everything you need for this service is printed in the bulletin you are holding. Just in case, there are two books in the pew racks that hold the same information. The red book is the Book of Common Prayer and the blue book is The Hymnal which contains our hymns for this service.

If you are unsure whether to sit, stand, or kneel, simply follow the lead of the choir or others around you. It is more important to enjoy your time in the presence of God than worry about what to do when. Traditionally, we kneel for prayer but it is acceptable to stand or sit if that is more comfortable for you.

### COMMUNION

All those who come in faith are welcome to receive the consecrated bread and wine at communion. If you prefer not to receive the bread and wine we still invite you to come forward with everyone else and hold your hands across your chest so that we may offer a prayer of blessing. We don't want anyone to leave this church without knowing of God's love and care for them.

We do have gluten free communion bread. When the priest approaches you feel free to ask them, "gluten free please."

## PRELUDE

Anthem

Joy to the World!

arr. Henry Lebedinsky

*Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns;  
Let earth her songs employ;  
Let fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*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,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as, the curse is found.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.  
Amen!*

Hymn 115

What child is this, who, laid to rest

Greensleeves

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?

*Refrain*

*This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary.*

2 Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.

*Refrain*

3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
come, peasant, king, to own him;  
the King of kings salvation brings,  
let loving hearts enthrone him.

*Refrain*

Anthem

Gloria (I. Gloria in excelsis)

Antonio Vivaldi

*Glory to God in the highest.*

Brass

In dulci jubilo

arr. David Giardinieri

Anthem

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

John Gardner

*Tomorrow shall be my dancing day;  
I would my true love did so chance  
To see the legend of my play,  
To call my true love to my dance;*

Chorus (sung after each verse)

*Sing, oh! my love,  
oh! my love, my love, my love,  
This have I done for my true love.*

*Then was I born of a virgin pure,  
Of her I took fleshly substance  
Thus was I knit to man's nature  
To call my true love to my dance.*

*In a manger laid, and wrapped I was  
So very poor, this was my chance  
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass  
To call my true love to my dance.*

*Then afterwards baptized I was;  
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,  
My Father's voice heard from above,  
To call my true love to my dance.*

## Solo

## O Holy Night

## Adolphe Adams

*O Holy night!  
The stars are brightly shining,  
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth;  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
'Til He appear'd and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.  
Fall on your knees; O hear the angel voices,  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born  
O night, O night, O night divine!*

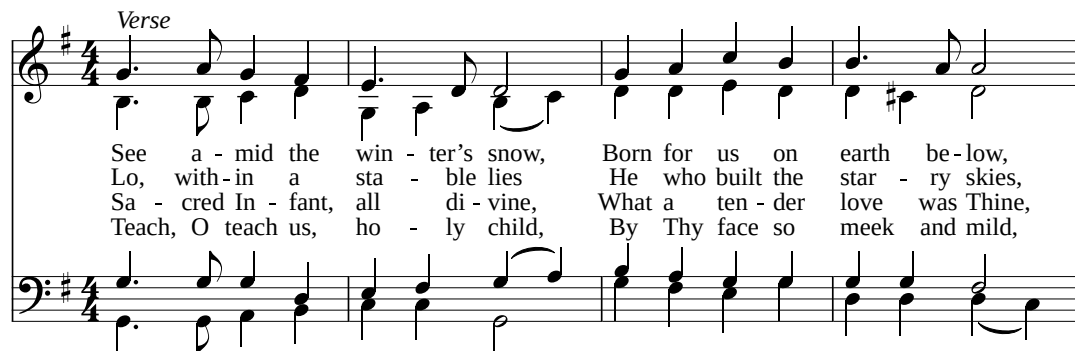
*Truly He taught us to love one another;  
His law is love and His gospel is peace.  
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our  
brother,  
And in His name, all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,  
Let all within us praise His Holy name.  
Fall on your knees; O hear the angel voices,  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born  
O night, O night, O night divine!*

## Hymn

## See amid the winter's snow

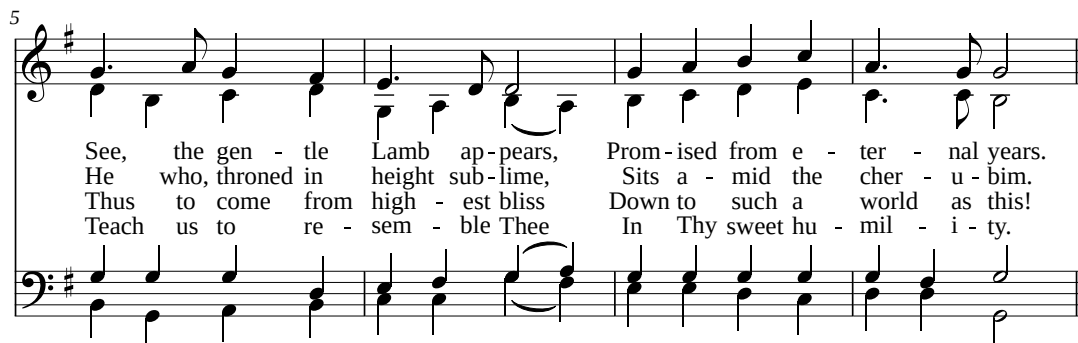
## Humility

*Verse*



See a - mid the win - ter's snow, Born for us on earth be - low,  
Lo, with - in a sta - ble lies, He who built the star - ry skies,  
Sa - cred In - fant, all di - vine, What a ten - der love was Thine,  
Teach, O teach us, ho - ly child, By Thy face so meek and mild,

5



See, the gen - tle Lamb ap - pears, Prom - ised from e - ter - nal years.  
He who, throned in height sub - lime, Sits a - mid the cher - u - bim.  
Thus to come from high - est bliss Down to such a world as this!  
Teach us to re - sem - ble Thee In Thy sweet hu - mil - i - ty.

*Refrain*

9



Hail, O ev - er - bless - ed morn! Hail, re - demp - tion's hap - py dawn!

13



Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem: "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"



**Anthem****Shepherds, Guarding Your Flocks****Alan Bullard**

Shepherds, guarding your flocks as the darkness steals around,  
*Hark, what melody divine floods the sky with wondrous sound.*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Lift your eyes to Heav'n, see the angels gathered there,  
*In the solemn midnight hour, through the stillness of the air.*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Stay not on the bleak hillside:*  
*Shepherds haste today*  
*To adore yon infant child: Angels lead the way.*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*With the ox and ass lies the babe*  
*in a cattle stall,*  
*You to greet and you to bless with*  
*hands so small.*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Kneel down, shepherds,*  
*bow your heads to the child who brings us love;*  
*He is God and Man,*  
*here on earth and in heav'n above.*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

**Instrumental****Christmas Concerto (Pastorale)****Arcangelo Corelli****THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST****THE ENTRANCE****Hymn 83****O come, all ye faithful****Adeste fideles, arr. David Willcocks**

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
 O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
 Come and behold him born the King of angels;

*Refrain:*

*O come let us adore him,*  
*O come let us adore him,*  
*O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

2 God of God, Light of Light,  
 Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
 Very God, Begotten not created:  
*Refrain*

3 See how the shepherds,  
     summoned to his cradle  
 Leaving their flocks,  
     draw nigh with lowly fear;  
 We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps:  
*Refrain*

4 Lo! Star-led chieftains, Magi, Christ adoring,  
 Offer him incense, gold and myrrh;  
 We to the Christ Child  
     bring our hearts' oblations:  
*Refrain*

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

6 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
 Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
 Glory to God in the highest;  
*Refrain*

7 Yea, Lord we greet thee,  
     born this happy morning,  
 Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;  
 Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:  
*Refrain*

**Station at the Christmas Crèche**

*Officiant*      The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us:  
*People*        **And we beheld his glory.**

*The Christ child is placed in the crèche*

*Let us pray.*    Almighty and everliving God, you have given us a new revelation of your loving providence in the coming of your son Jesus Christ to be born of the virgin Mary: Grant that as he shared our mortality, so we may share his eternity in the glory of your kingdom; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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.

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*

*Officant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Officant* 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 WORD OF GOD

### THE LESSONS

#### The First Reading

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.

#### Carol 110

#### The snow lay on the ground

#### Venite adoremus

1 The snow lay on the ground,  
the stars shone bright,  
when Christ our Lord was born  
On Christmas night.

*Venite adoremus Dominum.*

*Venite adoremus Dominum.*

*Venite adoremus Dominum.*

*Venite adoremus Dominum.*

2 'Twas Mary, daughter pure of holy Anne,  
that brought into this world  
the God made man.  
She laid him in a stall at Bethlehem;  
the ass and oxen shared  
the roof with them.

*Venite adoremus Dominum.*

*Venite adoremus Dominum.*

3 Saint Joseph, too, was by  
to tend the child;  
to guard him, and protect  
his mother mild;  
the angels hovered round,  
and sang this song,  
*Venite adoremus Dominum.*  
*Venite adoremus Dominum.*  
*Venite adoremus Dominum.*

4 And thus that manger poor  
became a throne;  
for he whom Mary bore was God the Son.  
O come, then, let us join  
the heavenly host,  
to praise the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
*Venite adoremus Dominum.*  
*Venite adoremus Dominum.*

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.

## Hymn 81

## Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

*Es ist ein Ros*

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming  
as seers of old have sung.  
It came, a blossom bright,  
amid the cold of winter,  
when half spent was the night.

2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
the Rose I have in mind,  
with Mary we behold it,  
the Virgin Mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
she bore to us a Savior,  
when half spent was the night.

3 O Flower, whose fragrance tender  
with sweetness fills the air,  
dispel in glorious splendor  
the darkness everywhere;  
true man, yet very God,  
from sin and death now save us,  
and share our every load.

## 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 Sermon

## The Rev. Dr. R. Scott White

## 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

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."  
For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let  
us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer-cy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of  
all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and José, our Bishop; the clergy and staff of this parish;  
the Church of the Advocate, for all clergy and people let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, Joe, and governor, Roy, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in  
authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.



For this city of Asheville, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

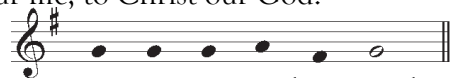
For all those in whose honor and memory our flowers and decorations have been given this evening, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.



To you, O Lord our God.

### Concluding Collect

O heavenly Father, who has filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### The Offertory

*Offertory*

*Glory to God from Messiah*

*G F Handel*

*Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth,  
Good will toward men.*

1 In the bleak midwinter,  
frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron,  
water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter,  
long ago.

2 Our God, heaven cannot hold him,  
nor earth sustain;  
heaven and earth shall flee away  
when he comes to reign:  
in the bleak midwinter  
a stable-place sufficed  
the Lord God incarnate,  
Jesus Christ.

3 Angels and archangels  
may have gathered there,  
cherubim and seraphim  
thronged the air;  
but his mother only,  
in her maiden bliss,  
worshiped the beloved  
with a kiss.

4 What can I give him,  
poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man,  
I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him—  
give my heart.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant*      *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

*Celebrant*      *People*  
Lift up your hearts. 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.

### *Celebrant*

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 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:

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.

*Celebrant*

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;**

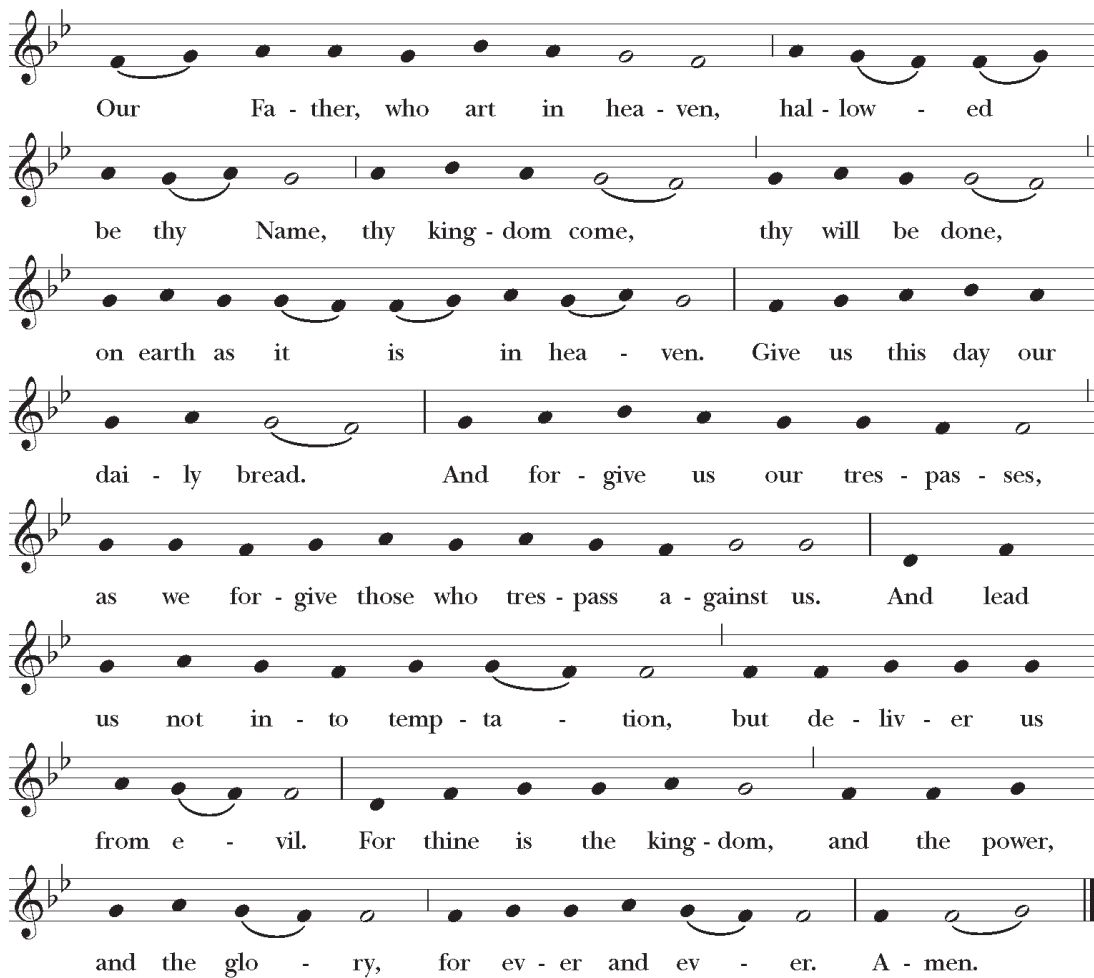
*Celebrant*

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 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. **Amen.**

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



Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed  
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our  
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,  
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead  
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us  
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,  
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## The Breaking of the Bread

Hymn 83

O come all ye faithful vs. 2

Adeste Fideles

God from God, Light from Light eternal, lo! he abhors not the virgin's womb;  
only begotten Son of the Father; O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him Christ, the Lord.

### *Celebrant*

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.

*All who come in faith are invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.*

*If you would like communion brought to your pew, let an usher know.*

**MUSIC DURING COMMUNION**  
(the congregation is encouraged to sing the hymns)

**Instrumental**                      **What child is this, who, laid to rest**                      *Greensleeves*

**Hymn 107**                      **Good Christian friends, rejoice**                      *In dulci jubilo*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Good Christian friends, rejoice<br/>with heart and soul and voice;<br/>give ye heed to what we say:<br/>Jesus Christ is born today;<br/>ox and ass before him bow,<br/>and he is in the manger now.<br/>Christ is born today!</p>                | <p>2 Good Christian friends, rejoice<br/>with heart and soul and voice;<br/>now ye hear of endless bliss;<br/>Jesus Christ was born for this!<br/>He hath opened heaven's door,<br/>and we are blest for evermore.<br/>Christ was born for this!</p> |
| <p>3 Good Christian friends, rejoice<br/>with heart and soul and voice;<br/>now ye need not fear the grave:<br/>Jesus Christ was born to save!<br/>Calls you one and calls you all<br/>to gain his everlasting hall.<br/>Christ was born to save!</p> |  |

**Anthem**                      **Away in a Manger**                      **arr. David Willcocks**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,<br/>The little lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.<br/>The stars in the bright sky looked down<br/>    where he lay,<br/>The little lord Jesus asleep on the hay.</p> | <p>The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,<br/>But little lord Jesus no crying he makes.<br/>I love thee, lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,<br/>And stay by my side until morning is nigh.</p> |
| <p>Be near me, lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay<br/>Close by me for ever and love me, I pray.<br/>Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,<br/>And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.</p>         |  |

**Hymn 93**                      **Angels from the realms of glory**                      *Regent Square*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Angels, from the realms of glory,<br/>wing your flight o'er all the earth;<br/>ye, who sang creation's story,<br/>now proclaim Messiah's birth:<br/><i>come and worship, come and worship,<br/>worship Christ, the newborn King.</i></p> | <p>3 Sages, leave your contemplations;<br/>brighter visions beam afar:<br/>seek the great Desire of nations;<br/>ye have seen his natal star:<br/><i>Refrain</i></p> |
| <p>2 Shepherds in the field abiding,<br/>watching o'er your flocks by night,<br/>God with you is now residing;<br/>yonder shines the infant Light:<br/><i>Refrain</i></p>   | <p>4 Saints before the altar bending,<br/>watching long in hope and fear,<br/>suddenly the Lord, descending,<br/>in his temple shall appear:<br/><i>Refrain</i></p>  |

**Hymn 109**                      **The first Nowell the angel did say**                      *The First Nowell*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1 The first Nowell the angel did say<br/>was to certain poor shepherds in<br/>fields as they lay;<br/>in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,<br/>on a cold winter's night that was so deep.<br/><br/><i>'Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,<br/>'born is the King of Israel</i></p> | <p>2 They looked up and saw a star<br/>    shining in the east beyond them far,<br/>and to the earth it gave great light,<br/>and so it continued both day and night.<br/><i>Refrain</i></p> |
|--|--|

(cont. next page)



3 And by the light of that same star  
three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went.  
*Refrain*

4 This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
and there it did both stop and stay  
right over the place where Jesus lay.  
*Refrain*

5 Then entered in those wise men three  
full reverently upon their knee,  
and offered there in his presence  
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.  
*Refrain*

6 Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
and with his blood our life hath bought.  
*Refrain*

### Postcommunion Prayer

#### *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.

### Hymn 111

#### Silent night, holy night (*kneeling*)

#### *Stille Nacht*

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 Christmas Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the gospel. **Amen**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## Hymn

## Hark! the herald angels sing

Mendelssohn  
arr. David Willcocks

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 th'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 th'incarnate Deity.  
Pleased as man with man to dwell;  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

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

3 Hail the heav'-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings;  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
born to give them second birth.

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

## The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

## Postlude

## In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

J.S. Bach

## MUSIC

Sharon Carleton Boone, *Choirmaster* | James Taulbee, *Accompanist* | Leslie Welker, *Asst. Director*

## CHANCEL CHOIR

*Soprano:* Joanna Agnew (11:00), Annabelle Cresenzo, Beverly Congdon, Custis Covington,  
Emily Dake (11:00), Erwin Gunnels, Joyce Guyer, Cassia Imholz, Pamela Miller,  
Byron Ellen Shaw, Leslie Welker, Becky Work

*Alto:* Claudia Caveney, Nana Hosmer Griffin, Carol MacRae, Gail McWithey,  
Debbie Williams, Connie Wilson

*Tenor:* Andrew Davis, Robert Thorpe, Tom Griffin

*Bass:* Steve Bennett, Dean Caveney, Rusty Saylor, Fred Speier, James Taulbee,  
Ken Wilson. David Woodard

## INSTRUMENTALISTS

Trumpets: Nick Baker, Joseph DeLage

Trombone: Michael Hosford, JaQuan Wiley

Strings (11:00): Karen Pommerich, Maria Potapova

Flute: Leslie Welker

The anthem *Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day* was given in memory of Cecil Pless.

## MINISTERS OF THE SERVICE

5:30 PM

Celebrant..... The Rev. Dr. R. Scott White  
Assisting Clergy .... The Rev. Amy Peterson, The Rev. Dennis Fotinos  
Deacon .....The Rev. Bob Zito  
Lectors .....George Ahrens, Heather Cooper  
Chalices, Altar Rail ..... Dillon Manly, Chris Dismukes  
Intinction, Altar Rail ..... Ralph Simpson, Jane Exner  
Chalice, Standing Station .....Pete Austin  
Intinction, Standing Station ..... Tina McGuire  
Crucifer .....Ruby Anderson  
Front Torches .....Adelaide McClure, Claude Evert  
Clergy Cross .....Mary Anderson  
Gospel Book.....Ainsley McClure  
Ushers ..... Michael Andry, Palmer Gaillard,  
Rich Boulter, Art Garst, Fred Groce  
Altar Guild .....Ada Jo Foley, Jane Exner, Bill Brackney  
Linen Guild..... Margie Waddell, Nancy Dexter  
Church Decoration .....Flower Guild, Altar Guild

11:00 PM

Celebrant..... The Rev. Amy Peterson  
Assisting Priest ..... The Rev. Dr. R. Scott White  
Deacon .....The Rev. Bob Zito  
Lectors .....Leslie Welker, Andrew Craig  
Chalices Altar Rail ..... Susan Edwards, Barbara Matthews  
Intinction Altar Rail ..... Graeme Browning, Lee McAuliffe Rambo  
Crucifer .....Frida Vassallo  
Thurifer ..... Harrison White  
Front Torches .....Rosie Peterson, Owen Pearson  
Clergy Cross .....Maya Langford  
Gospel Book..... Oly Vassallo  
Banner .....Siena Gentry  
Ushers .....Joe Sechler, John Fleming, Bill Morrissey,  
Catharine Guicheney, David Pheil, Steve Woody  
Altar Guild .....Jane Exner, Ada Jo Foley, Bill Brackney  
Linen Guild..... Margie Waddell, Nancy Dexter  
Church Decoration .....Flower Guild, Altar Guild

GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS THANKSGIVINGS & MEMORIALS  
GIVEN FOR THE ADORNMENT OF THE CHURCH AND FOR MUSIC OFFERINGS

IN MEMORY OF . . .

H. Donald Holman by Mr. & Mrs. George M. Ahrens  
Joe Alexander by Gale Alexander  
Robley & Grace Allison by Nancy Allison  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Lamar Bennett by Steve Bennett  
Cecil Pless by Charlotte Berry  
Dr. Karl F. Bitter by Mary Gladys (MG) and family  
Dr. Kearney Smith and Judith Boulter by Rich & Elizabeth Boulter  
Professor David Beatty Parsell and Sharon Youngblood Parsell by Rev. Justin G. G. Kahn, Sr.  
Ed Thornhill, Maude Thornhill, Chet Thornhill, Ray & Christine Brooks, and Ray Brooks Jr by Nancy Brooks  
Timothy Shane O'Neill by Graeme Browning and Lowry Adams  
Jack Buchanan by Margaret Buchanan  
Grady, Greg, Christopher, Phillip Byrd, and Jackie Kulzer by Peggy Byrd  
Buck Cannon and Ann Cannon Smith by The Cannon Family  
Charlie McCullough by Leslie McCullough Casse and Daniel, Will & Ellie Casse.  
Eileen Kaiser Dalier and Kathy Clay Ehrlicher by Very Clay  
my parents Marie Jaquelin Watters Colton & Henry Elliott Colton, Melene Patchel, Ernestine Rich Tuton &  
Rev. John W. Tuton, and Douglas Huber by Elizabeth Colton  
Samuel Jerome Crow by Rosemary Crow  
Harryette Coxe and Bob Adams by Mary Culbertson  
Michael & Joann Daddona by Mark Daddona  
Yvonne Day and my parents James & Helen Day by Mack Day  
Dr. P. Clark and Dorothea Mitterway by Aldo & Barbara Delpino  
my father, Jim Burgess by Kary Deuel  
The Reverend John Henry Diehl III by Lynne Diehl  
Blair Forman Dismukes by Chris and Paul Dismukes  
Helen & Bill Dockendorf, Jaye Jean Stewart & Kenneth Colwell, and Richard Dockendorf by Jan & Bill Dockendorf  
Joaquin Santana Duque, Maria Benigna de Duque, Victor Hugo Duque by Ramon Duque  
My father Claude Quarterman Freeman Jr, Jimbo & Sam Joyner, Claude & Betsy Freeman, and  
John Freeman by Peyton Evert  
David Coleman Bailey by Cathey Bailey, Lisa and George Francisco  
Dr. Cecil A. Pless, Jr. and Yvonne E. Day by Lisa and George Francisco  
Jeanne & Marcus Galyean, Ruth Hampton, Anita Lenssen by Nancy Galyean  
my grandparents Thomas & Melvin Gentry and Jack & Eileen Travis and my parents Bill & Kathie Gentry  
by Will Gentry  
Ardis E. Gilbert, Bernell & Marjorie Gilbert by Curtiss Gilbert  
my precious late husband William T. Greer Jr by Fann Greer  
Robin Groce Fulk by Fred and Cindy Groce  
Judy Paige White by Catharine Guicheney  
Edwin J. Gunn by Jim Gunn  
Caney Brown Shuford and John Franklin Shuford by Nene & Jim Gunn  
John Wittman by the Guzy Family  
Jean & Douglas Haldane by Susan Haldane  
my mother, Virginia B. Hall by Randy Hall  
Jonah Rice Jr, father of Karen Hardy, Charles D. Hardy Jr, and Laura Lane Pappas, father and sister of Chad Hardy.  
by Chad & Karen Hardy  
Mr. & Mrs. John W. Thompson Sr, Mr. John W. Thompson Jr., Robert Thompson, Linda Thompson Koury,  
Beulah Hilton Vestal, Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Hilton Sr., Mr. Rodney Hilton Jr. by Jerry & Melissa Harrelson  
Anna Cay Henry Hawes, Charles Morris Hawes III, Mimi and Bud Hawes by Peter Wortham Hawes  
David Walker McCullough by Ann McCullough and family  
loved ones by George Hellyer  
Helen Louise Hensley, Karen Akin and Amy Hampton Knight Cadwell. by Katherine and Dave Hensley  
my Dad, Alan D. Brown by Bobbi Holland  
Jack & Martha Hoskins, Chic & Jean Webb, and Cecil Pless by John Hoskins  
our anniversary and our children and grandchildren by Margaret & Van Joffrion  
Molly and Eddie Wilmot and Pamela Jones by Michael and Marcia Jones  
our parents A.W. Kamm and Al & June Madigan by Kris & Annette Kamm  
Dell Kistler Hollstein by Karen Kistler  
Harry Lawrence by his family  
John Benjamin Lewis by Becky and Ben Lewis

Allan Lunn by Elen Lunn  
 Gordon & Adele MacRae by Carol MacRae  
 our parents by David & Dillon Manly  
 John and Bertie McCann, Carol Costenbader, Skip Costenbader by Bill and Kay McCann  
 Wallie & Jane Schutt, Grady & Ethel McCorkle by Ken and Nancy McCorkle  
 James Edward McGee, III and James Edward McGee, IV by Mary McGee  
 John O. McGuire, Sr. and Malcolm B. McGuire by the families of John Jr. & Peter McGuire  
 Brandon Fletcher Miller, Dale and Annabelle Austin, Hub and Lily Miller, Buzzy Miller, Cecil Pless,  
 and Yvonne Day. by Hezzy and Sharon Miller  
 my mom & dad Mary Lyne & Thomas H. Morrissey Sr. by Bill Morrissey and Thomas (Jr.) & Suzy Morrissey  
 Earl & Ruth Etta Niccum by Dan Niccum  
 Gary Kent Paben by Cheryl Paben  
 the Very Reverend & Mrs. Roland J. Whitmire, Jr. by Anne Whitmire Parker  
 Harrison, Maxwell & Dexter Paynich, Nancy Dickerson-our "Gige", and Daniel Paynich-"Papa"  
 by Hilary & Josh Paynich  
 Clarence & Eleanor Pheil, Robert & Carol Bergquist by David & Carlyn Pheil  
 Cecil A. Pless Jr by his family  
 Mary Latta Lee by Beth Putnam  
 Smith & Katherine Pridgen and Bob & Jean Putnam by Elizabeth Pridgen Putnam "Beth"  
 Venetia McAuliffe Rambo (d. 12.29.96) by Lee McAuliffe Rambo  
 Byrd Rawlings by Sandra Rawlings  
 Peggy Anne Hull Clemens by Katherine Ray  
 Helen and Bill Roberts by Holly Roberts  
 Sara & Lewis Goode, Frances & James Saylor, and J. Stuart Goode by Rusty & Liz Saylor  
 Martha Valz by The Schneider Family  
 Virginia and Joe Sechler, Elizabeth Sechler, Frances & Lee Stone, and Susan Stone by Frances and Joe Sechler  
 Kaydon, Preston and Alexandra Sellers by Sandy and Danny Sellers  
 Janet Yarborough Kelly by Mary Sheridan  
 Dr. James Allison Shivers by Candy Shivers  
 Henry Hawes Bostic by Ralph Simpson  
 Dianne Weaver by Ann Skoglund  
 family members by Fred Speier Jr  
 MSB, TCS, JKS, FMC, REC by Jill & Dan Stevenson  
 Anthony Stranges by Maggie Stranges  
 Darren Tanner and Don & Ann Holt by Karen Tanner-Holt  
 Carole Martin Clarke, Nancy Mayne Martin, and William Jules Martin by Julie Taylor  
 Dr Elizabeth Pomeroy by the Togar family  
 Joyce & Billy Weaver and Jim Collins by Cheri & Mike Weaver  
 Kyle Andrew Weeks by Lorrie & Craig Weeks  
 Kendall Alexander Wernet by Bob, Helen & Kaitlin Wernet  
 Bill Whisenhunt by Nancy Whisenhunt  
 Evelyn Elizabeth Bailey by Jason, Anna, William, and Elizabeth Whisnant  
 Stephen C. and Helen S. Barker, Manual R. and Gilda S. White  
 the Very Reverend & Mrs. Roland J. Whitmire, Jr. by Anne Whitmire Parker  
 Wilburn Williams and Norman Toland by Scott & Lisa Williams  
 Jim & Karen Campbell and Mary Scott Guest by the Yarborough family  
 Rev. Jack Weaver by Cheryl Yurko

## IN THANKSGIVING FOR . . .

family & friends by Beverly & Carter Bagley  
 Trinity Parish by Gus and Sharon Boone  
 our children, Isaac and Rachel Boulter by Rich and Elizabeth Boulter  
 Sharon Carleton Boone and all of Trinity's talented musicians by Cynthia Bright  
 Trinity's Pastoral Care Ministries by Nancy Brooks  
 our family and friends by Peggy Byrd  
 for the birth of my grandson Luka James Cannon by Kay Cannon  
 Luka James Cannon by The Cannon Family  
 all of our many blessings by Jan & John Cantrell  
 our friends and family by John Carter & Scott Haberkorn  
 Shirley Anne McCullough by Leslie McCullough Casse, Daniel, Will and Ellie Casse.  
 our many blessings by Russ & Heather Cooper



our parents Jane & Jeff Covington and Alice & George Ahrens, as well as our children,  
 Remson, Thomas and Jasmine Covington by Jeff and Susan Covington  
 Roseanne Daddona by Mark Daddona  
 the Davis family and the Minks family by Shelley Davis  
 our Dexter/Paynich Family, Trinity clergy, staff and parishioners by Nancy and Roger Dexter  
 my son Walter C.C. Diehl by Lynne Diehl  
 Elizabeth & Stuart Pattillo by Chris and Paul Dismukes  
 our son Jay by Jan & Bill Dockendorf  
 our children, grandchildren, and friends at Trinity by Wendy & Tom Dowden  
 my granddaughter Addy Donnell by Karen Edward  
 Grace Pless by her daughters  
 family and friends by Barbara & Dennis Fotinos  
 our friends, family, and many blessings by Lisa & George Francisco  
 Will, Susie, William, and Tommy Heinitch, and Palmer Gaillard by Monte Gaillard  
 Monte P. Gaillard by Palmer Gaillard  
 for the gift of our three daughters: Robin, Lindsey, and Ginger and for our grandchildren:  
 Cate, Sam, Annie, Janie, Charlie, and Hunter by Fred and Cindy Groce  
 my sister Kathy Haldane Grenier & her family Stephen, Ian, Matthew, and Hattie by Susan Haldane  
 for 31 years of marriage and for Mary Helen, Hardy and Caroline Grace Hardy by Chad & Karen Hardy  
 Bart & Graham Smalley, Bobby & Avery Jones, Thompson & William Jones by Jerry & Melissa Harrelson  
 James Boyce Helms, Hatley Helms, Brinkley Helms by Tim & Mimi Helms  
 our beautiful children, Caroline, Benjamin, Brooks, Anna Claire, and Elizabeth by Mark and Kelly Hemphill  
 our beautiful children Elliott, Lizzy and Alice along with the Clergy and Staff of Trinity Episcopal AVL  
 by Katherine and Dave Hensley  
 my amazing mom Jo, and the blessing of my children Henry and Lucie by Bobbi Holland  
 Laura Webb, Grace Pless, the Staff of Trinity Church by John Hoskins  
 our parents and our daughters by Jeff & Anne Imes  
 Carol Kamm and Cornelia Brown by Kris & Annette Kamm  
 our children, their spouses, and our grandchildren by David & Dillon Manly  
 Liam and Emma Kate McCann by Bill and Kay McCann  
 our children and grandchildren by Ken and Nancy McCorkle  
 Charlie, Katie, Mariella, and Graham McGee by Mary McGee  
 Tina McGuire and Peter Hawes by The Families of John Jr. & Peter McGuire  
 all of the McGuire children and grandchildren by Tina McGuire  
 Sharon Boone and the music program by Robert & Gail Mcwithey  
 Brother, Meredith, Carter and Austin Rutter. The whole Trinity Family. All our extended family  
 by Hezzy and Sharon Miller  
 the clergy and staff of Trinity Church. by Kathie and Tim Owings  
 Snowlilly & Jacob Paben by Cheryl Paben  
 the Paynich Children , "Nonna" & "Granddaddy"- Nancy & Roger Dexter, and Bonnie Paynich-"Nana"  
 by Hilary & Josh Paynich  
 our grandchildren Lela, Miles, Charlie, Caroline, Ben, Henry, Annie, Asa, and Edie by Ben & Jeanne Powell  
 the Clergy and Staff of Trinity by Beth Putnam  
 Lynne Hinson Rambo (b. 12.15.59) by Lee McAuliffe Rambo  
 Virginia by Rusty & Liz Saylor  
 Laura and Joe Sechler, Jodie and Caroline, Kate and Tim Phillips, Ellie and Emma by Frances and Joe Sechler  
 Morgan, Jessie, Emerson, Mary Margaret & Olivia Sellers by Sandy and Danny Sellers  
 Bailey and Cora our loving granddaughters by Byron Ellen and Max Shaw  
 Bobby, Avery, William, and Thompson Jones by Ann & Rody Sherrill  
 my children and grandchildren by Candy Shivers  
 our many blessings by Janet & Jay Stingel  
 family & friends by Maggie Stranges  
 Gay Symmes by Will & Louise Symmes  
 Wayne Holt, Jerry & Irma Tanner, Mark & Donna Tanner, Staci, Trace & Hayden Blackmore by Karen Tanner-Holt  
 Teddy Togar by the Togar family  
 our family and friends by Charlie and Margie Waddell  
 for the beloved people, staff, and clergy of Trinity by Linda Watt & Leo Duncan  
 Ruth Collins by Cheri & Mike Weaver  
 Logan James Weeks by Lorrie & Craig Weeks  
 Sharon Boone by Leslie Welker  
 Mark Whitney by Janet Whitworth  
 for our family, our friends, and Trinity Church by Mary Bruce & Stephen Woody  
 our baby grand daughter, Ellie, born 7/29/23 by Becky and Jack Work

**December 25, 2023  
Christmas Day**

Holy Eucharist with Carols at 10:00

**December 31, 2023  
First Sunday after Christmas**

8:00 am Holy Eucharist - Rite I  
10:45 am Holy Eucharist - Rite II  
5:30 pm Celtic Evening Eucharist

*No Education/Formation Classes on December 31*

**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

60 CHURCH STREET  
ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA 28801

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A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina

The Right Reverend José A. McLoughlin, Bishop

All the People of Trinity.....Ministers  
The Reverend Dr. R. Scott White .....Rector  
The Reverend Amy Peterson.....Associate Rector  
The Reverend Bob Zito ..... Deacon  
Sharon Carleton Boone ..... Music Ministry  
Beth Chestnut..... Children & Family Ministries  
Glenn Childes.....Sexton  
Debbie Cox .....Fellowship & Youth Ministries  
Jan Hildebrand..... Director of Financial Ministries  
Robyn McNeal..... Financial Assistant  
Nanette Popa..... Assistant for Youth Ministries  
Jo Rice ..... Administrative Assistant to the Rector and Programs  
Mariah Richardson .....Parish Administrator  
Ken Wilson ..... Communication and Administrative Ministries

**VESTRY**

**Class of 2023**

David Hensley  
Katherine Ray  
Doug Scothorn  
Cissie Stevens  
Linda Watt

**Class of 2024**

Nancy Dexter  
Jennifer Pearson  
Matt Sharpe  
Ralph Simpson  
Constance Wilson

**Class of 2025**

Steve Bennett  
Graeme Browning  
Stuart Camblos  
Sharon Lechner  
Tom Williams

Senior Warden ..... Katherine Ray  
Junior Warden ..... David Hensley  
Clerk..... Katie Chappell  
Treasurer..... Jennifer Weidemann

**Explore Faith • Embrace Community • Expect a Difference**