

# TRINITY CHURCH

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

*December 22, 2024*

*9:30 a.m.*



## WELCOME TO OUR TRINITY CHURCH FAMILY!

*FOLLOWING JESUS. BUILDING COMMUNITY. LOVE THROUGH SERVICE.*

*The Rt. Rev. Dr. Shannon MacVean-Brown, Bishop of the Diocese of Vermont*

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**The Rev. Sarah C. Ginolfi, Rector**

**The Rev. Liz Skaleski, Deacon**

# 9:30a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent – Holy Eucharist

## The Word of the Lord

Prelude

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

*G. Winston Cassler*

Opening Hymn #56

*O come, O come, Emmanuel*

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Fourth Candle · Isaiah 9:6-7

*As all four candles on the wreath are lit, we listen to this reading:*

Reader: 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.

Celebrant: Let us pray. Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who is the Prince of Peace. We who live in discord and strife have found peace in the promise of eternal life, through Jesus Christ. We give you thanks and praise in Jesus' name, because he lives and reigns with you in your glory, and in the unity of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Gradual Hymn #66

*Come, thou long expected Jesus*

Opening Sentences

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People: *You come to your people and set them free.*

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray. Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Lessons of the Day

First Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

Reader: A reading from the book of Micah.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

People: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*Thanks be to God.*

**Psalm** *Choir sings the Psalm.*

*Psalm 80:1-7*

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, \*  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Second Reading

*Hebrews 10:5-10*

Reader: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.  
When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

People: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*Thanks be to God.*

**Sequence Hymn #438**

*Tell out, my soul!*

Gospel

*Luke 1:39-55*

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Deacon: In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said,

*"My soul magnifies the Lord,  
 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
 for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.  
 Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
 for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
 and holy is his name.  
 His mercy is for those who fear him  
 from generation to generation.  
 He has shown strength with his arm;  
 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.  
 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
 and lifted up the lowly;  
 he has filled the hungry with good things,  
 and sent the rich away empty.  
 He has helped his servant Israel,  
 in remembrance of his mercy,  
 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
 to Abraham and to his descendants forever."*

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

#### Guided Reflection

#### The Nicene Creed (Congregation)

Celebrant: Together, let us affirm our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed.

People: *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.*

#### Intercession Prayers

Reader: God of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ you promise to hear us when we pray to you in faith with thanksgiving. We pray for one another, for our families and friends, through whom we learn to love and to be loved. **For those in our congregation celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, we pray for joyful blessings upon Alden Franzoni, Xzavier Chipp-**

**Blair, Bill Meub, Nick Searles, Preston Billings, Susan Champine, Jamie Peterson, Betsy Morgan, Susan Bishop.** Thank you for all who care for us. Give us grace to serve Christ by serving our neighbors and our community, loving others as he loves us.

*Silence*

Reader: We thank you for the unfailing love you hold out to everyone in Jesus Christ. Comfort and heal those in sorrow, need, sickness or any other trouble. **We pray especially for Jackie, Deborah, Jackie, Leah, and Ed.** Give them courage and hope in their distress, and bless those who minister to them.

*Silence*

Reader: We remember with gratitude your many gifts to us in creation and the rich heritage of these lands. Help us and people everywhere to share with justice and peace the resources of the earth. **We pray that the children under the protection of Orphan Care Volunteers Association in Uganda receive those blessings necessary to sustain their physical and spiritual well-being.** Give wisdom to those in authority among us and to all leaders of the nations.

*Silence*

Reader: We pray for your Church throughout the world, thanking you for all who serve Christ and his kingdom. We pray especially for **The Church of the Province of Uganda; Ministry of Green Mountain Online Abbey, the Rev. adwoa Wilson, Vicar for Discipleship and Formation, Clergy in Charge of the Abbey.** We pray for the office of the Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Shannon, our Bishop; Thomas and Rob, our companion Bishops of Maine and New Hampshire; for Sarah, our priest; and for Liz, our Deacon; and for all our lay leaders. By your Spirit strengthen your people for their work and witness in the world. Unite us in your truth and love, that we who confess your name may also reflect your glory.

*Silence*

Reader: We remember with thanksgiving all who have died in Christ, **especially John E. and Eva S. Hill for whom the altar flowers have been given,** and we rejoice at the faithful witness of your saints in every age, praying that we may enter with them into the unending joy of your heavenly kingdom.

*Silence*

Reader: Merciful God, you look with compassion on all who turn to you. Hear the prayers of your people.

*People: Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Celebrant: Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, inspire those who feel lost, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Confession and Absolution
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Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All: God of all mercy, 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.*

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

#### The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.  
People: *And also with you.*

#### Announcements

*Thank you for your financial commitment to the life of Trinity Church. Your faithful stewardship helps our mission to follow Jesus, build community and provide love through service. The Offering plate is located at the top of the center aisle on the way to the altar.*

#### Offertory Anthem

#### Advent Carol

*Dale Wood*

### The Holy Communion

#### The Great Thanksgiving

*Enriching Our Worship Prayer 3*

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 God thanks and praise.*  
Celebrant: All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

#### Sanctus S 124

All: *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

#### The Holy Communion

Celebrant: Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us. We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his disciples and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his disciples and said: "Drink this, all of you: this

cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.” And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

*People: Dying, you destroyed our death.*

*Rising, you restored our life.*

*Christ Jesus, come in glory!*

*Celebrant: Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.*

*All: Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.*

### The Lord’s Prayer

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

*All: 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 Fraction



### The Invitation

*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.*

*You are welcome at God’s table! To join in this sacred meal, proceed up the center aisle and either stand or kneel along the railing. The inside rows go first up the center aisle and then the outside rows dismiss to the back of the church and then up the center aisle. If you are unable to walk to the communion rail, please alert an usher if you wish to receive communion in your seat. There are two options to receive the wine: by sharing from the common chalice (cup) or by intinction (dipping the wafer) into the Communion Bowl. Please do not use the common cup for dipping. Gluten free wafers and/or grape juice are available upon request. Finally, those wishing to receive a blessing instead of Communion are invited to cross their arms as a signal to the priest.*

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

Blessing

Celebrant: Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may the blessing of the Holy Trinity, One God, be with you always. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn #72

*Hark the glad sound!*

Dismissal

Deacon: Dismissal.

*People: Thanks Be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Postlude

*Psalm XIX*

*Benedetto Marcello*

*Exiting: Your presence is a blessing! Thank you for this gift.*