

# TRINITY CHURCH

*Third Sunday of Advent*

*December 15, 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. Third Sunday of Advent – Holy Eucharist

## The Word of the Lord

Prelude	<i>Nun komm', der Heiden Heiland (BWV 659)</i>	<i>J. S. Bach</i>
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Opening Hymn #68	<i>Rejoice! rejoice, believers</i>
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The Lighting of the Advent Wreath	Third Candle - Isaiah 35:5-7,10
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*As two purple candles on the wreath are lit, we listen to this reading:*

Reader: Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Celebrant: Let us pray. Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who brings us great joy. We who have walked in the shadow of the valley of death have found life in the resurrection of 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. St. 1, 2, 3	<i>Come, thou long expected Jesus</i>
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## 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. 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.*

## Lessons of the Day

First Reading	Zephaniah 3:14-20
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Reader: A reading from the book of Zephaniah.  
Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he

will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People: Thanks be to God.*

**Canticle** *Choir sings the canticle.*

*Canticle 9, plainchant*

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*  
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, \*

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*

see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*  
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*

for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Reader: A reading from the letter to the Philippians.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People: Thanks be to God.*

**Sequence Hymn #64**

*O heavenly Word, eternal Light*

Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

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

*People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Deacon: John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect

no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Sermon

The Rev. Sarah Ginolfi

The Nicene Creed (Congregation)

Celebrant: Please join me in saying the ancient words 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 Charlene Clark, and Don Raymond.** 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 Anglican Church of Tanzania; Ministries of the members of the Bishop's Staff and Rock Point Commons Staff.** 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 **Howard Jacoby and Edward Lantzakis who died recently, and Janet & Neil O'Brien, Bernice & Vernon Fifield, and Effie Bush & family 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: O God, in the course of this busy life, give us times of refreshment and peace; and grant that we may so use our leisure to rebuild our bodies and renew our minds, that our spirits may be opened to the goodness of your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

#### The Confession and Absolution

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

*Wilt not thou turn again, O Lord?*

*Philip Dietterich*

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.*

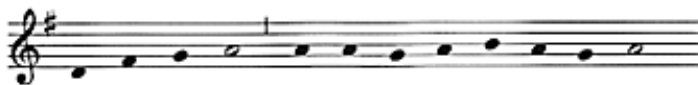
*And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

*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

*Cantor*



We break this bread to share in the Bod - y of Christ.

*All*



We who are ma - ny are one bod - y, for we all share in the one bread.

### 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.*

### Communion Anthem

*Savior of the nations, come!*

*16th cent. German melody  
organ variations by Hugo Distler*

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 #73

*The King shall come when morning dawns*

Dismissal

Deacon: Dismissal.

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

Postlude

*Nun komm', der Heiden Heiland (BWV 661)*

*J. S. Bach*

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