

TRINITY CHURCH

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 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. First Sunday of Advent – Holy Eucharist

The Word of the Lord

Prelude

Ye sons of men, in earnest

Helmut Walcha

Opening Hymn #76

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Second Candle · Mark 1:4

As two purple candles on the wreath are lit, we listen to this reading:

Reader: John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Celebrant: Let us pray. Lord God, we light this candle to thank you for your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who is the way. We who like sheep have gone astray have found the way to you 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. St. 1, 2

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. Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Lessons of the Day

First Reading

Baruch 5:1-9

Reader: A reading from the book of Baruch.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the

glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Canticle *Choir sings the canticle.*

Canticle 16, plainchant

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

Second Reading

Philippians 1:3-11

Reader: A reading from the letter to the Philippians.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Luke 3:1-6

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

People: *Glory to you, O Christ.*

Deacon: In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

The Gospel of Christ.

People: *Praise to you, O 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 Keanna Chadburn, Shania Reed, Paul Proulx, Mary Proulx, Mary Reitz, Becky Congdon, Adrian Sanford-Wilson.** 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 **Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan; Ministry of our Assisting Bishops, the Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld and the Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Brown.** And we pray for our priest Sarah, our Deacon Liz, and 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 Dorothy Mainolfi and John B. Musetti 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: Eternal God, we pray for the future of mankind,
and when we are worried or afraid of what is to come,
we remember what you, through Christ, have done:
you became one of us in Mary's womb,
defeated death with love in an empty tomb,
and sent your Holy Spirit to fill us with power
to transform the world in its darkest hours.
United with you in each crisis we face,
we look to our future with trust in your grace.
In Jesus' name we pray. *Amen.*

(taken from Prayers for Every Season: More Common Prayer for Children and Families; Timothy J. S. Seamans; 2024.)

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

Song of the Advents

Russell Schulz-Widmar

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 #65

Prepare the way, O Zion

Dismissal

Deacon: Dismissal.

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

Postlude

Prepare the way, O Zion

Wilbur Held

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