



JANUARY 5, 2025 THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS 10:00 A.M. – HOLY EUCHARIST

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL

At Trinity Church, we believe God's love is expansive and unconditional and that through Christ, God has called us to love one another as God loves us. We welcome all people regardless of gender, race, age, culture, ethnic background, sexual orientation, economic circumstances, family configuration, or difference of ability. We celebrate the worth, dignity, and gifts of every person as a child of God.

THE WORD OF GOD



Music: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

Music: Dix, melody Conrad Kocher (1786-1872); arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889); harm. The English Hymnal, 1906.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

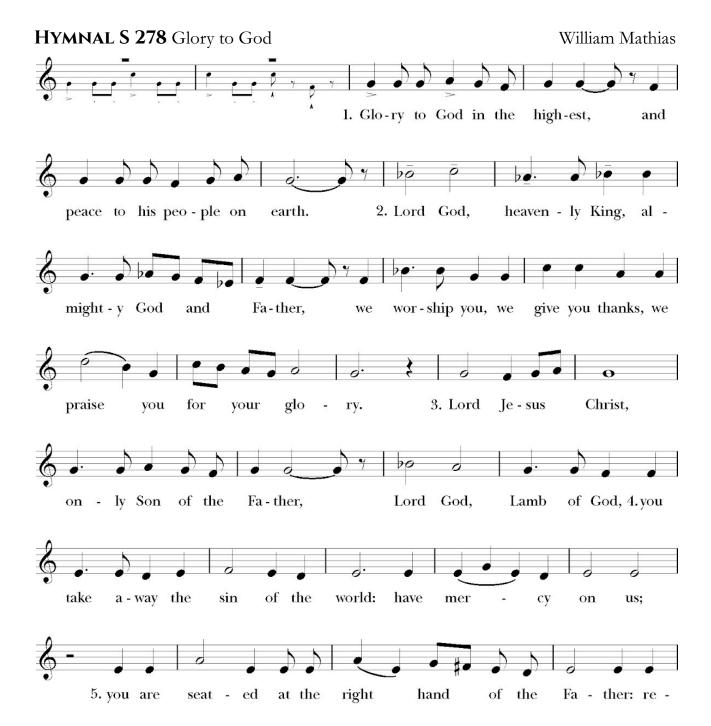
Celebrant

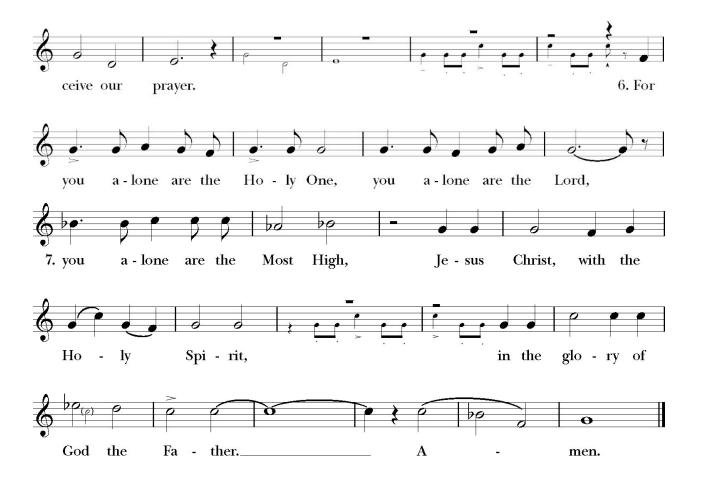
Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

FIRST LESSON Jeremiah 31:7-14

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep

him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

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

PSALM 84:1-8

Thomas Attwood



- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O'LORD of hosts! *

 My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;

 my heart and my flesh re joice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; * by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! * they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! * whose hearts are set on the pilgrims way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *

 for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will re him self in Zion.



- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
 hearken, O'God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our de fender, O God; *
 and look upon the face of your A nointed.

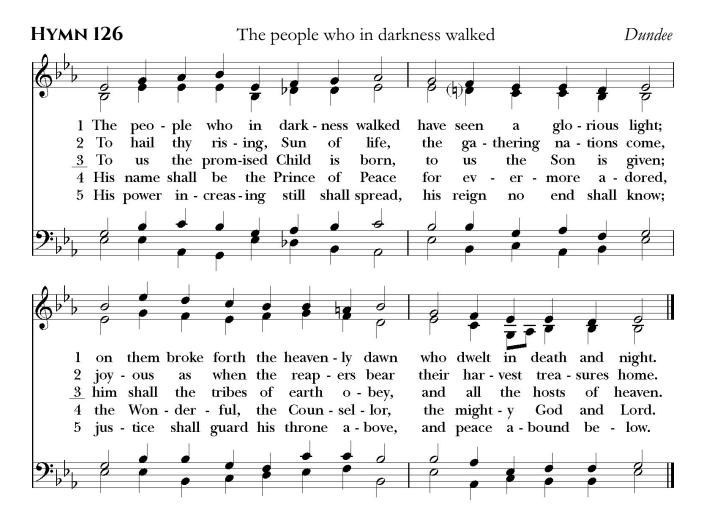
SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

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



Words: John Morison (1749-1798), alt.; para. Of Isaiah 9:2-7

Music: Dundee, melody The CL Psalmes of David, 1615; harm. Thomas Ravenscroft (1592?-1635?), alt.

GOSPEL Matthew 2:1-12

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew. People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were

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

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Nancy J. Hagner

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who has brought us out of darkness and

into his own marvellous light. Christ born for us, Son of God given for us:

help us to know you, to worship and to serve you.

Lord, in your mercy

People hear our prayer.

Intercessor Wonderful counsellor, you order all things with your wisdom: help the

Church to reveal the mystery of your love and fill her with the Spirit of

truth. Lord, in your mercy

People hear our prayer.

Intercessor Mighty God, the government is on your shoulders: guide the leaders of the

nations and bring in your kingdom of justice and righteousness.

Lord, in your mercy

People hear our prayer.

Intercessor Everlasting Father, you call us to live together in unity: protect by your

mercy all your children, bless our families and renew our communities.

Lord, in your mercy

People hear our prayer.

Intercessor Prince of peace, you bring reconciliation through the cross: by your healing

power give to all who suffer your gift of wholeness and peace, especially Ellie, Barbara, Colby, Susie, Christine, Ryan & Kim, Peter, Caroline, Jinna, Barbara, Cameron, Irina, Andrew, Arthur, Frank, Nan, Jenny, Donald, Will, Spencer, Kathy, David, John, Duncan, Paul, Michael, Chris, Andrew, Helen, Dan, Ben, Barbara, Michelle, Karen, Scott, John, Robert, Mart, Priscilla, Anne, Linda, Susan, Tassy & Tino, Jamie, Ellen, Kevin, Scott & Randall, Dawn, Jacoby, Linnea, Audrey, Jim, Weyden & Angel, Gail, Mary, Amy, Bill,

the Klein Family, Pat, and Tommy.

Lord, in your mercy

People hear our prayer.

Intercessor Shepherd and guardian of our souls, give us with all the faithful departed,

especially Jimmy Carter and Peter Haas, friend of Janet and John Vitkevich,

a share in your victory over evil and death. Lord in your mercy.

People hear our prayer.

Intercessor

Intercessor Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every

human heart, and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** (Book of Common Prayer, p. 823)

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, full of the Spirit,

People hear our prayer, receive our praises, fill our lives. Amen.

THE CONFESSION

Celebrant Let us humbly confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant

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

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

ANTHEM

There shall a star come out of Jacob

Felix Mendelssohn

There shall a star come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel, With might destroying princes and cities.

As bright the star of morning gleams So Jesus sheddeth glorious beams Of light and consolation.

Thy word, Oh Lord Radiance darting, truth imparting, gives salvation.

Thine be praise and adoration.



Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894), alt. Music: Gartan, melody from Petrie Collection of Irish Melodies, Part II, 1902; harm. David Evans (1874-1948) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Celebrant

Generous God, creator, redeemer, sustainer, at your table we present bread and wine and this money, symbol of the work you have given us to do; use it, use us, in the service of your world to the glory of your name. **Amen**.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER G

Common Worship

Celebrant The Lord is here.

People The Spirit is with us.

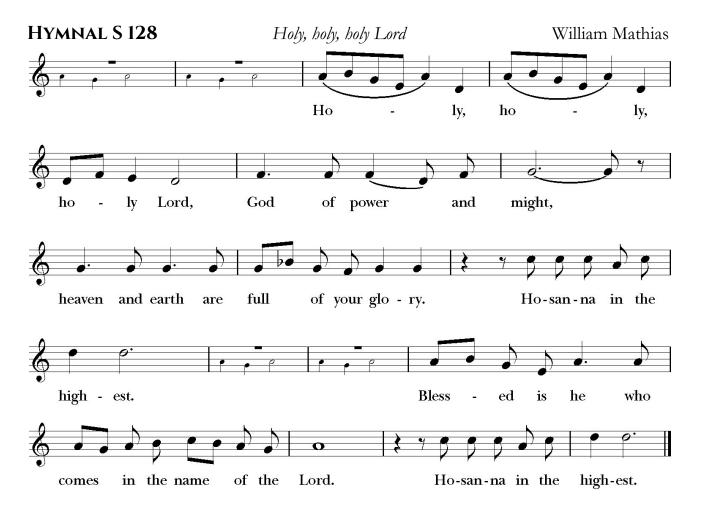
Celebrant Lift up your hearts:

People We lift them to the Lord.

CelebrantPeopleLet us give thanks to the Lord our God:It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever. 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:



Celebrant

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast. From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

People Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Celebrant

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last with all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendor for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

People

Blessing and honor and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant People

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

INVITATION AND COMMUNION

Celebrant

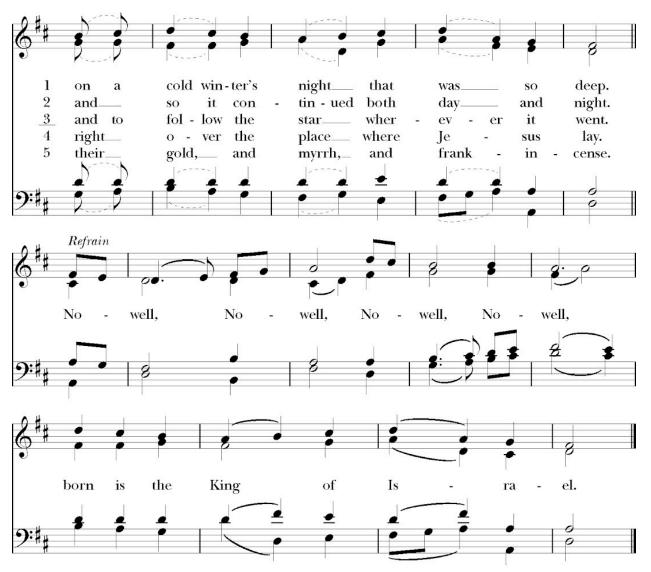
The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to receive Holy Eucharist as One Body in Christ. Please come forward as directed by the ushers. You are welcome to receive wine from the common cup, but there is no intinction. If you wish to maintain social distance, please come to the rail at the end and space yourself accordingly. If you are at home, please eat your pre-consecrated host now, in communion with all our brothers and sisters in Christ who share in the healing of His Body.

We are always ONE Body in Christ.

Healing Prayer is offered on the first Sunday of each month in the left transept by members of the Trinity Healing Prayer Team during and immediately following communion. If you seek prayer for yourself, for someone you care about, or for the world, simply walk over to the transept during communion and make your request known. All prayers will be held in confidence.

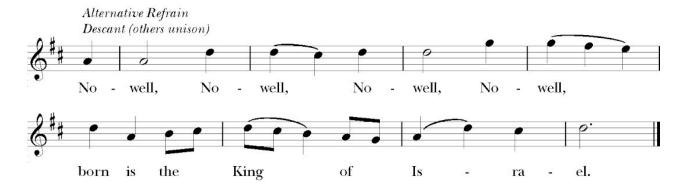




6 Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord; that hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

Words: English carol, 18th cent. Music: The First Nowell, English carol, 17th cent.; harm. John Stainer (1840-1901)



Music: *The First Nowell,* English carol, 17th cent.; harm. and desc. Healey Willan (1880-1968) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant

Let us pray.

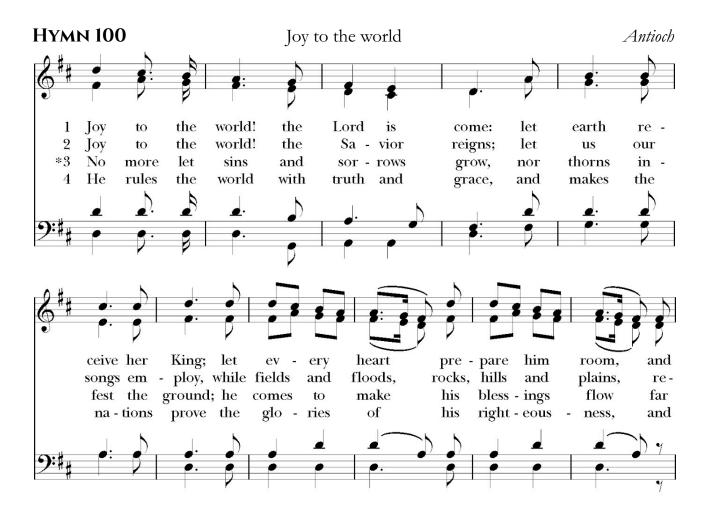
People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant

May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also, in your pilgrimage, to find the Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**





Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: Antioch, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo BWV 729

Johann Sebastian Bach

Altar Guild

Walter Birge

Sandy Folk Sally Myers, flowers

Sally Sanford

Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Gresh Lattimore

David Tocki

Livestream Production

John Sun

Music Director

Robert Barney

Lector

Ed Prewitt

Verger

Bill Leonard

Preacher

The Rev. Nancy J. Hagner

Celebrant

The Rev. CJ Coppersmith

Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Julia Matallana Freedman

Special thanks to Trinity's Choirs for the musical offerings. Our liturgy today is from the *Book of Common Prayer*, Common Worship, and the Book of Occasional Services.

Cover Image: Nancy J. Hagner. St. Peter's Beverly. "The Magi approach"

Please try using this QR code to give your offering.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pledge envelopes for 2025 are ready for pick-up in the back of the Church for households that requested them during the 2025 Stewardship Campaign. Boxes of envelopes are arranged alphabetically by last name for easy identification. Please help yourself. If you've changed your mind and would like envelopes, just let Julia Mish know at (978) 369-3715 x. 115 or email her at mish@trinityconcord.org.

Adult Faith Formation: Religious Expression in Today's World

A special series for the New Year!

We will explore through a variety of speakers, preachers and programs some of the ways people are exploring and expressing their faith lives. Please join us at 9 a.m. for Adult Forums on the following dates. The first event is this Sunday at 11 a.m. in the Parish Hall and is for ALL Ages!

Jan. 5 @ 11.15 a.m. - Sacred Circle Dance for Epiphany

TODAY after the 10 am service, we will have a chance to celebrate Epiphany with 3 sacred circle dances in the Parish Hall. Led by Shirley Blancke and Ruth Lieberherr of the former Skyloom dance group, we'll greet each other with "Kos," said to have been danced by the Knights Templar of Malta. Next, "The Bells of Norwich" celebrates Lady Julian and her message, "All shall be well again." With the "Shepherd's Dance," like the Three Kings, we'll dance to the manger to give our gifts to the Christ Child. Wear comfortable shoes without rubber soles. (Rubber sticks to the floor too much and socks alone slip.) If you can walk unassisted you can do this! Sacred circle dance comprises European folk dances collected after World War II by Bernard Wosien as well, now, as new and old dances from all over the world.

January 12 @ 9 a.m. Thoreau's God with author Richard Higgins

"Henry David Thoreau's spiritual life is a riddle. Thoreau's passionate critique of formal religion is matched only by his rapturous descriptions of encounters with the divine in nature. He fled the church only to pursue a deeper communion with a presence he felt at the heart of the universe. He called this illimitable presence many names, but he often called it God. In Thoreau's God, Richard Higgins invites seekers—religious or otherwise—to walk with the great Transcendentalist through a series of meditations on his spiritual life. Thoreau offers us no creed, but his writings encourage reflection on how to live, what to notice, and what to love. Though his quest was deeply personal, Thoreau devoted his life to communicating his experience of an infinite, wild, life-giving God. By recovering this vital thread in Thoreau's life and work, Thoreau's God opens the door to a new understanding of an original voice in American religion that speaks to spiritual seekers today." (from the press release)

Please see **The Window** for information about forums on Jan. 19 and Jan. 26.

CONFIRMATION/NEWCOMERS CLASS

A short series of classes for high school students and newcomers will begin on Sunday, January 12, 2025 in the Library at 11.30 a.m. Dates for the classes are Jan. 12, Jan. 26, and Feb. 2. The service of Confirmation will be held here at Trinity on Sunday, April 27 @ 5 pm for those completing the class and wishing to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church. To learn more or register yourself or your high schooler, please see Rev. Nancy J. Hagner. hagner@trinityconcord.org.



81 Elm Street, Concord MA 01742 978-369-3715 <u>www.trinityconcord.org</u>

TRINITY STAFF

The Rev. Nancy J. Hagner, Rector
The Rev. CJ Coppersmith, Assistant Rector
The Rev. Julia M. Freedman, Minister of Youth & Families
Robert Barney, Director of Music
Beth Confrancisco, Administrative Coordinator
Julia Mish, Bookkeeper
Wesley Sawyers, Sexton
Paul Lamoreaux, Sunday Sexton
Olivia Gauntlett, Nursery Care

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William Garnett, Junior Warden
Beth Phalen, Clerk
Michael Broxson, Treasurer
Sarah Atwood, Sally Bradford, Ellen Carlson-Dunmire, Fiona Trevelyan Hornblower,
Tim Hupe, Sally Lopez, Julie Pierce, Carroll Sandel, Jace Tilton