

God Invites us to the Table

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We Join Earth and Heaven in Song

Holy, holy, holy,

Lord, God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name

In earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy,

Merciful and mighty

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

We Proclaim the Mystery of Our Faith

Christ has died!

Christ is risen!

Christ will come again!

God Feeds us at the Table

We Share Praises and Requests and We Pray Together

We Share Announcements

God Sends Us

We Sing the Doxology

Our prayer of confession and assurance of forgiveness is from the Book of Common Prayer.

The Early Service at Trinity

December 8, 2024 - 8:30 am

The Second Sunday in Advent

God Gathers Us for Worship

Advent Candles, Bible, Water, Towel, Bread, and Cup

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,

in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God, do not be afraid;

lift up your voices: the Lord is near,

lift up your voices: the Lord is near.

We Prepare for the Coming Messiah (*from Malachi 3:1-6*)

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way

before me, and the Lord whom you seek will

suddenly come to his temple.

The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—

indeed he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.

But who can endure the day of his coming,

and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fuller's soap;

He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver,

and he will purify the descendants of Levi.

He will refine them like gold and silver, until

they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness.

Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing

to the LORD as in the days of old.

Then I will draw near to you for judgment;
I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers,
against adulterers, against those who swear falsely;
**against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages,
the widow and the orphan, against those who thrust
aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the LORD.**

For I the LORD do not change; therefore you,
O children of Jacob, have not perished.
**Return from me, and I will return to you,
says the LORD of hosts.**

We Sing a Hymn of Longing – “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

**Come, Thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of ev’ry nation,
Joy of every longing heart.**

**Come to earth to taste our sadness,
He whose glories knew no end.
By His life He brings us gladness,
Our redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number,
Born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder,
Christ was born the Lord of all.**

We Affirm Our Faith (Nicene Creed)

**We believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made;
of the same essence as the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried.
The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again with glory
to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life.
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
He spoke through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come.**

Amen.

**Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child, and yet a King,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.**

We Confess Our Sins

**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.**

Prayers of silent confession

**Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of
darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this
mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great
humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious
majesty, to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life
immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

We Share the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

God Speaks Through the Word and Spirit

“Be Not Afraid: God is with Us”– Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” ²⁴

When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.