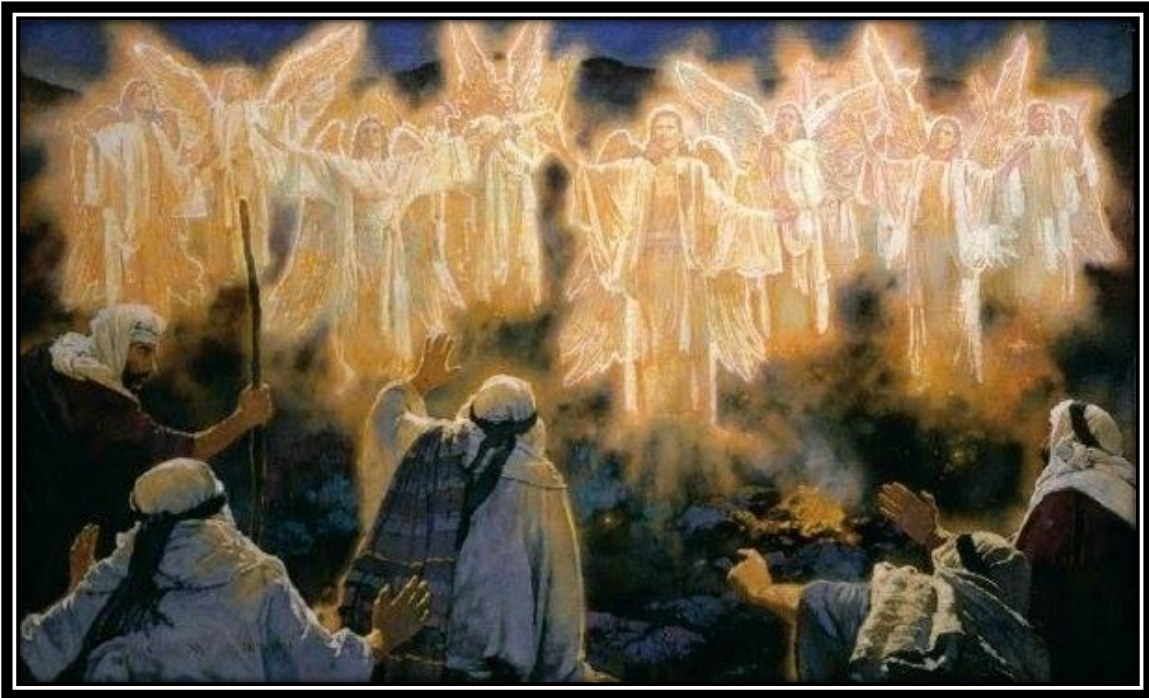


# THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

December 24, 2025

7:00 p.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*

85 West Street, Rutland, VT 05701

(802) 775-4368

[office@trinitychurchrutland.org](mailto:office@trinitychurchrutland.org)

[www.trinitychurchrutland.org](http://www.trinitychurchrutland.org)

The Rev. Sarah C. Ginolfi, Rector

The Rev. Liz Skaleski, Deacon

# THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

## Choral and Instrumental Prelude

|   |   |
|---|---|
| The snow lies thick                     | Geoffrey Shaw                               |
| Il est ne, le divin Enfant              | trad. French carol, arr. John Rutter        |
| Adeste Fideles (from Cathedral Windows) | Sigfrid Karg-Elert                          |
| Fantasia on "Greensleeves"              | Ralph Vaughan Williams                      |
|   | David Rugger, viola                         |
| Wexford Carol                           | trad. Irish carol, arr. Howard Helvey       |
| Up and wake thee, Peter lad!            | trad. Besancon carol, arr. Mary E. Caldwell |

\*\*\*\*\*

## The Word of God

*Posture Note: In the Episcopal Church, worship engages the whole person. Customarily, the congregation stands for singing and praise, sits to hear lessons and for instruction (standing for the Gospel), and kneels or stands for prayer. At Trinity, many kneel for the Communion Prayer, while others choose to stand or remain seated. In all of these practices, you are invited to worship in the manner that best supports your physical needs. Your presence among us is of greatest importance!*

|                       |                                |                       |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Processional Hymn #83 | <i>O come, all ye faithful</i> | <i>Adeste Fideles</i> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|

### Opening Acclamation

*(The people stand as able.)*

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

People: *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.*

Celebrant: 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.*

|                         |                                     |               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Song of Praise Hymn #96 | <i>Angels we have heard on high</i> | <i>Gloria</i> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|

## Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray. O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

## FIRST LESSON

Hebrews 1:1-12

Reader: A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

## The Christmas Pageant

*During the pageant, the congregation may remain seated throughout.*

*Carols will be interspersed within the narration and the congregation is invited to sing.*

Deacon: This night is like no other night. It is a time to dream and sing our way to Bethlehem. The children will show us how to go.

|   |   |                         |
|---|---|-------------------------|
| Hymn 1: #79, v. 1-2, 5                                    | <i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>         | St. Louis               |
| Hymn 2: #102, v. 1-2                                      | <i>Once in Royal David's City</i>         | Irby                    |
| Hymn 3: #101, v. 1-2                                      | <i>Away in a Manger</i>                   | Cradle Song             |
| Hymn 4: #109, v. 1-2                                      | <i>The First Nowell the Angel Did Say</i> | <i>The First Nowell</i> |
| Hymn 5: #128, choir sings verses, congregation on refrain | <i>Three Kings of Orient</i>              |                         |
| Hymn 6: #100  | <i>Joy to the World!</i>                  | Antioch                 |

Sermon

The Rev. Sarah C. Ginolfi

### The Nicene Creed

Celebrant: Let us affirm our faith using 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.*

### Prayers of the People

Reader: Dear God, guide us in our mission to follow Jesus, build community, and love others through service. We pray for your Church throughout the world;

People: *That we all may be one.*

Reader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

Reader: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
 People: *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

Reader: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
 People: *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Reader: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
 People: *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Reader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
 People: *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Reader: We remember with love all those in whose memory the Christmas flowers have been given. Give to the departed eternal rest.  
 People: *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

Reader: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
 People: *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Reader: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.  
 (Silence)

Celebrant: Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **The Peace**

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

### **Announcements**

*Thank you for your financial gift to the life of Trinity Church. Your contribution truly is a gift which helps our church family spread God's gift of love and joy with the world! To give to the parish general fund, please use the labeled envelopes in your pew, for unlabeled cash offerings go to the discretionary outreach fund.*

# The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn #107

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

*In Dulci Jubilo*

**Sursum Corda S 120** (*sung; service music is in the front section of the hymnal*)

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 him thanks and praise.*

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, 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. And so we join the saints and angels proclaiming your glory, as we say:

**Sanctus S 128** (*In the front section of the blue hymnal.*)

**Mathias**

People: *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 people stand or kneel and the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the

new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

**The Lord's Prayer**

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

*People: 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.*

**Fraction Anthem S 152** *(In the front section of the blue hymnal.)*

**Hurd**

*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 receive, come up the center aisle to the rail and return via the side aisles. If mobility is a concern, ask an usher for Communion at your seat. Receive wine by drinking from the common cup or by intinction (dipping the wafer) into the Communion Bowl—not the cup. A grape juice bowl (lighter colored liquid) is offered and gluten-free wafers are available upon request. To receive a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest to signal that to the priest.*

|                            |  |                    |
|----------------------------|--|--------------------|
| <b>Communion Anthems</b>   | <b>Before the Marvel of this Night</b> | <b>Carl Schalk</b> |
| <b>Communion Hymn #112</b> | <b><i>In the bleak mid-winter</i></b>  | <b>Cranham</b>     |

**Post Communion Prayer of Mission**

*All: 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.*

**Christmas Pageant Finale**

*The youth will conclude the pageant, the lights will dim, candles will be lit,  
and for a moment of quiet, the congregation sits or kneels:*

|                  |  |                            |
|------------------|--|----------------------------|
| <b>Hymn #111</b> | <b><i>Silent night, Holy night</i></b> | <b><i>Stille Nacht</i></b> |
|------------------|--|----------------------------|

**The Blessing**

**Celebrant:** *Life is short and we don't have much time to gladden the hearts of those who journey the way with us, so be swift to love, make haste to be kind, and may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. Amen.*

|                             |  |                           |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| <b>Recessional Hymn #87</b> | <b><i>Hark! the herald angels sing</i></b> | <b><i>Mendelssohn</i></b> |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------|

**Dismissal**

**Deacon:** *Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!*

**People:** *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!*

|                 |   |                                |
|-----------------|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Postlude</b> | <b><i>Vom Himmel Hoch</i></b>                     | <b><i>Johann Pachelbel</i></b> |
|                 | <b><i>(From Heaven above to Earth I come)</i></b> |                                |





**\*\*Many thanks to all who helped with our Christmas celebration!\*\***

The Altar Guild: Melissa Alarie, Sue Beriau, Nancy Blosser, Karen Cartier, Shannon Hill,  
Jane Jones, Sue Patrick, Brenda Rubach Thurmer, Mary Ruth, Melissa  
Slenker, David Thurmer

Chalice Assistant: Dana Peterson

Lesson Reader: Karen Cartier

Intercessor: Mary Ruth

Ushers: Melissa Slenker, Jay Slenker

Livestream Tech: Melissa Alarie

Choir: David Castonguay, Lois Castonguay, Daisy Chew, Wendy Grace, George  
Jacoby, Paige Kaufman, Richard Kaufman, David Rugger, Patty Searles,  
Holly Webb, Cassie Whitcomb

The Youth Group: all of them, our bright and shining wonders!

Our Trinity Staff:

|                 |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Rector:         | the Rev. Sarah Ginolfi |
| Deacon:         | the Rev. Liz Skaleski  |
| Treasurer:      | Linda Fay              |
| Administrator:  | Wendy Grace            |
| Music Director: | John Riddle            |
| Sexton:         | Gil Nell               |

|             |                |                 |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Our Vestry: | Senior Warden: | Melissa Alarie  |
|             | Members:       | Brandy Blosser  |
|             |                | Lois Castonguay |
|             |                | Judy Hall       |
|             |                | Shannon Hill    |
|             |                | Diane Novak     |
|             |                | David Rugger    |
|             |                | Cassi Whitcomb  |

## 2025 CHRISTMAS FLOWERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

### 2025 DEATHS:

Francis "Ben" Burney

Scott Brush

Thomas W. Huebner

Catherine "Kit" Wakefield

Joseph "Jay" Siliski

John Mazzariello

Mary Helen Proulx

Erica Bovey

Richard Makovec



William B. Thomas

Dorothy Burton

Nicole Taylor

Alberta Grazini

Walter & Janice Patrick

Peter Svahn, Sr.

Alexis J. Smith

John & Shirley Dumouchel

Betty Dumouchel

Karen Welch

Ethel Dumouchel

Ernie Wright

William H. & Leone Fryer

Alfred & Patricia Peterson

Pascal Peterson

Doris F. (Dotty) Scott

Wesley D. (Mike) Scott

John C. Kaufman

Anna A. Kaufman

Mary Ellen Harder

James & Iris Harder

William Harder

William & Mary McFie

Robert McFie

Edna Dadson

Mr. & Mrs. Garell Readnour

Mr. & Mrs. Hudson Readnour

Mr. & Mrs. Jasper Readnour

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Stefanchik

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Stefanchik, Jr.

Dorothy Conry

Jean Toth

Michael Stefanchik, III

Christopher & Pamela Peplau

Robert & Helen Kinney

Rita Keeler & Robert Morgan

Florence & Charles Perry

Robert & Elaine Perry

Henry Perry

Lawrence Perry

John Jaworski

Charles Brush Chahanovich

Kenneth James Stacy

Richard A. Clark

Scott S. Brush

Charles "Harry" Brush

Audreta Joyce Brush

Tyler C. Webb

Shirley M. Parker

Cindy Riddle

John & Marion Riddle

Mabel K. Riddle

Jeffrey Thompson

Charles and Virginia Thompson

Gladys E. Milliman

Harry and Estelle Beer

Marion Beer

William Pratt

David Mudgett

Marjorie Carleton

Susan Rubach Beggs  
Herman Rubach  
Vernon & Margaret Thurmer  
Frank & Lucille Lemmerman  
Ruth Earle  
Ira "Bud" Earle  
Duke Trombley  
Donald Kemnitzer  
Clarence "Hank" Patzsch  
Madeline Patzsch  
The Novak Family  
Dottie Williams  
Paul Monteleone  
Janet & Neil O'Brien  
Grace N. McCullough  
Michael McCullough  
Donn & Elsie Bassett  
Richard & Mildred Lancour  
Rev. Mark Thompson  
Jean Gordon  
Richard M. Gordon  
Richard J. Gordon  
Michael Austin  
Sally Sady  
Dee Felton  
Rev. Gunnar Urang  
Peter R. Klein  
Martha Zullo  
Tamara Zullo  
Rose Bolintiam  
Francis & Ruth Holden  
Guy & Marion Blosser  
Kimberly Oakman  
Francis Reis  
William Holden  
Robert Holden  
Al & Veda Ghio  
Roderick Phillips, Jr.  
Lillian Perry

Welles Patrick Levins  
Mary Phillips  
Jeremiah Warner  
Lori Thompson  
Tom Brown  
Al & Avis Bond  
Hazel Looker  
Hazel Sodergren  
Marion Driscoll  
June Shook  
Brian Glodzík  
Carl Pfadt  
Beatrice & Carleton Grace  
Nellie & Harold Cook  
Margaret J. Jensen  
W. Glenn Jensen  
Jean L. Jensen  
James A McNeish  
Clare B McNeish  
Cynthia Jensen Harris  
Greg Harris  
Stewart H. Jones  
Elizabeth Madden  
Joyce Sawyer



**IN THANKSGIVING AND CELEBRATION OF:**  
the dear people of Trinity Episcopal Church  
all parents and grandparents; brothers and  
sisters; aunts, uncles and cousins; and nieces  
and nephews  
the Kaufman grandchildren:  
Quinn Belisle  
Mercy Kaufman  
Arthur Kaufman





**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**