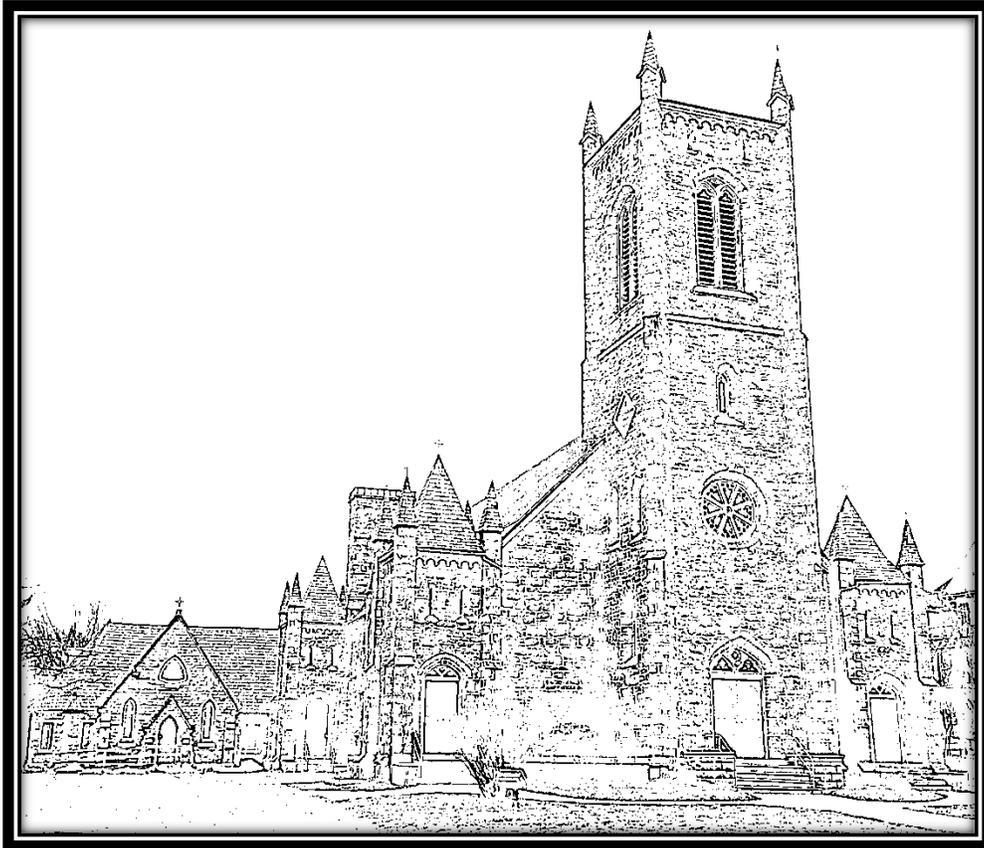


Trinity Church

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

9:30 a.m.



Welcome to our Trinity Church family!

85 West Street, P.O. Box 367, Rutland, VT 05701

(802) 775-4368

office@trinitychurchrutland.org

www.trinitychurchrutland.org

We are a vibrant Episcopal family united in following Christ.

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE: The Rev. Sarah C. Ginolfi

Announcements

Face Masks Required for In-Person Worship—With the increase of COVID-19 cases in Vermont and nationwide and for the safety of our Trinity family, we are now requiring that face masks be worn in church and that seating spacing be more strictly followed. If you do not have a mask, please ask the ushers for one. Please use the pews marked with green tape.

Advent Series: Invite, Welcome, Connect—Advent is a season of preparation, hope, and hospitality. During this season, we'll run an evening formation series via Zoom to explore how we can invite, welcome, and connect newcomers to our beloved parish home. The second of the three sessions will be this Tuesday at 7:00pm and will center on “welcome.” While these three focus areas are interrelated, those in attendance will be able to access each night's content without participating in every session. We'll email a link to the Zoom meeting each week.

Christmas Flowers Memorials—Have your loved ones honored or remembered during Christmas with a gift to the Christmas Flowers! Submit the names of those you'd like to have remembered along with your gift (*suggested* donation of \$50), and they will be included on the prayer list throughout the Christmas Season. The deadline for submission is Friday, December 17.

Christmas Services—Christmas Eve, December 24: we begin at 5:15pm with a musical prelude and Holy Eucharist follows at 5:30pm. On Christmas Day, December 25: we'll celebrate Holy Eucharist at 9:30am. Since Christmas falls on a Saturday this year, our service on Sunday, December 26 will be a “lessons and carols” style service with Nanci Gordon leading us in prayer and offering the homily (at our regular 9:30am time).

Christmas Tree Pickup—Rutland Boy Scout Troops 105 and 120 will once again collect discarded Christmas trees at the end of the holiday season, with pickup dates scheduled for Saturdays, January 8 and 15. To schedule your tree pickup, please call 802-438-8721 or email RutlandBSTreeCollection@gmail.com. (This is their major fundraiser, so donations are greatly appreciated and accepted at pickup.)



ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TODAY IN MEMORY OF:

Walter & Janice Patrick, John & Shirley Dumouchel, Betty Dumouchel, Alexis Smith, Peter Svahn

Our Staff: *Priest-in-Charge*, the Rev. Sarah Ginolfi; *treasurer*, Linda Fay; *Parish Administrator*, Wendy Grace; *Music Director*, John Riddle; *Sexton*, Jeff Zoesch

Our Vestry: *Senior Warden*, Fern Fryer; *Junior Warden*, Jay Slenker; *Members*: Melissa Alarie; Kathy Hall; Rich Jones; Krey Kellington; David Thurmer; Holly Webb

Today's Liturgical Assistants: *Altar Guild*— Sue Patrick, Brenda Thurmer, Lisa Boerner. Lisa Frankel-Boerner; *Chalice Assistant*— Dana Peterson; *Old Testament Reader*— Kathy Hall; *Epistle Reader*— Sarah Danner; *Intercessor*— Winnie Grace; *Ushers*— Larry Patrick, Kathy Hall; *Live Stream Tech*— Marc Brierre

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE: The Rev. Sarah C. Ginolfi

Cell: (717) 575-7137

Email: sarah.ginolfi@trinitychurchrutland.org

9:30 a.m. Third Sunday of Advent – Holy Eucharist

The Invitatory

Prelude	<i>Nun komm', der Heiden Heiland (BWV 659)</i>	<i>J. S. Bach</i>
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Opening Hymn #73	<i>The King shall come when morning dawns</i>
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The Lighting of the Advent Wreath	<i>Third Candle - the Candle of Joy</i>
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Advent wreath with 3 candles lit represents Mary the Mother of Jesus.

Officiant: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

All: *Thanks be to God*

Officiant: Last Sunday we lit the Candle of Peace. We light it and the Candle of Hope again as we remember that Jesus, born in Bethlehem, will come again to fulfill all of God's promises and bring us everlasting peace and joy.

(A person lights the Candles of Hope, and Peace)

Today we light the Third Candle of Advent, the Candle of Joy. When the angel Gabriel told Mary that a special child would be born to her, she was filled with joy. She sang a song that began with the words: "My soul magnifies the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour." Just as the birth of Jesus gave great joy to his mother, so his presence in the world gave joy to those who had none before. He healed them and gave them hope and peace when they believed in him. From hope, peace, and love grows joy. We light the Candle of Joy to remind us that when Jesus is born in us, we have joy and that through him there will be everlasting joy on earth. Joy is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle, we celebrate the joy we find in Jesus Christ.

(A person lights the Third Candle, the Candle of Joy)

Officiant: Let us pray together.

All: *Thank you God for the joy you give us. We ask that as we wait for all your promises to come true, and for Christ to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us today, and every day to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your joy with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.*

Opening Sentences

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

People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

Officiant: 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.*

(Music denoted with an S prefix is service music and is located in the front of the hymnal.)

*All: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

The Collect of the Day

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Officiant: 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.*

The Word of the Lord

Lessons of the Day

First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

The First Song of Isaiah (Canticle 9)

S 213

(The choir will sing the canticle.)

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.

The Word of Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn #66

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

Officiant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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

Nicene Creed (Congregation)

Officiant: Please join me in saying the Nicene Creed.

Officiant and 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 and Confession

Reader: Dear God, we seek to follow your will. Guide us as we deepen in spirituality, grow in compassion, and be your courageous hope in the world.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. We pray for **the Anglican Church of Canada; Ministries of Rock Point School and Brookhaven School**. We pray also for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Shannon, our Bishop, Sarah, our priest, and for all bishops and other ministers. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Reader: God, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Reader: God, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Reader: God, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We pray for parishioners celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, **especially Tom & Joanne Williamson, Becky Congdon, Brandy Ellison, John Hamlin, Ella Meoli, Mary Reitz, Adrian Sandford-Wilson**. Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Reader: God, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, **we pray for: Rodney, John, Meg, Mike, Emily, Susan, Mona, Harriet, Mary Ann, Joan, Guy, Arlynn, Christian**. Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Reader: God, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially **Walter & Janice Patrick, John & Shirley Dumouchel, Betty Dumouchel, Alexis Smith, Peter Svahn** in whose memory the altar flowers have been given, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Reader: God, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Officiant: O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Confession and Absolution

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: 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.

Officiant: 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

Officiant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Thank you for remaining in your place for the passing of the peace. In these times, you may exchange the peace through eye contact with a wave, a bow, a smile, or whatever motion you grow to embrace in this adapted practice.

Announcements

All may come up the center aisle to receive Communion. Alert an usher if you wish to receive communion in your seat. The priest will distribute the bread and the wine in "kits" that we will consume together once all are served.

Thank you for your financial commitment to the life of Trinity Church. Your gift helps our church family spread God's love and joy in the world! Offering plates are located at the top of the center aisle on the way to the altar as well as near the center exit doors.

Offertory Anthem

Advent Carol

Dale Wood

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

S 120

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 sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:

Sanctus

S 114

*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.

Eucharistic Prayer B *(People stand or kneel as able.)*

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All: We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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,

*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

Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Agnus Dei

S 158

All (sung): Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

Grant us your peace.

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.

Thank you for following the direction of the ushers, maintaining 6 feet of distance from other family groups, and waiting to consume the elements upon returning to the pews.

Communion Hymn #54

*Savior of the Nations, Come!
organ variations by Hugo Distler*

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Celebrant: May the blessing of God Almighty: Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always.

Closing Hymn #68

Rejoice! rejoice believers

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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. There are waste bins at each exit for communion container disposal. Join others for fellowship outside!*

Notes from the “Invite” Advent Session on December 7th

At the onset of our time together, we each shared stories of how and why we came to Trinity Church. There were a diversity of pathways to Trinity. One important discovery we acknowledged was that the population of those who naturally found Trinity Church because they grew up in an Episcopal Church is dwindling. We cannot expect the community to know who we are or what we stand for, so sharing our story through relationships will be an important quality for us to enact.

Next, we watched Brené Brown’s TED Talk on “The Power of Vulnerability.” We examined the intersection of “invitation” and “vulnerability” to discern how the concept of being vulnerable in ourselves and in our community could encourage us to be more mindful of how we share our faith story or welcome the stories of newcomers. Brown writes that being vulnerable takes courage—telling the story with our whole hearts. And, while searching for and sharing vulnerability can be intimidating, “it’s also often the birthplace of joy, creativity, and love.” With that, one in our group wondered what might happen if we shared the message: “Come, be imperfect with us. You are worthy in your imperfection.”

We spoke about the obstacles some may have with engaging church and how it’s important to be aware that many visitors may already be in a tender state when choosing to come to church. Perhaps someone has a challenging past with the church or is in the midst of a major family crisis. Giving all visitors the space to embrace and share what they need from rather than projecting our needs onto them shows a spirit of generosity and “letting go the outcome.”

To translate our thought into action, we brainstormed the following ideas to broaden our invitation effort at Trinity:

- We could host family friendly events like game nights, New Year’s Eve parties, or summer picnics to get to know those in our community and build relationships before taking the step to invite a family who is completely unfamiliar with church to attend worship.
- We could offer a grape juice option during Communion to better serve the needs of those many individuals who come to our parish for AA meetings.
- We could design pins, bookmarks, or new Trinity t-shirts to wear when joining community events and hand out as swag.
- We could create Facebook events and promote them (very inexpensive) for special services like Christmas, Easter, or concerts.

Next week on Tuesday the 14th at 7pm (on Zoom—use the same link, but just in case, it will be emailed again), we will discuss and brainstorm ways to “Welcome” visitors when they enter the building for events or worship. See you there!

Hey Trinity and Rutland! Thanks to your generous support of our Socks for Souls drive BROC Community Action gave us an award. Way to step up in our town!

