

THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

December 25, 2023
9:30 a.m.



TRINITY CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

The Rev. Sarah C. Ginolfi, Priest-in-Charge

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The Diocese of Vermont

The Episcopal Church

The Anglican Communion

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THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

Processional Hymn #83 (vs. 1, 2, 3, 6)

O come, all ye faithful

Adeste Fideles

Opening Acclamation

(The people stand as able.)

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

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant: Eternal God, who created all things out of love, we thank you for the gifts of grace and mercy; open our hearts to receive your love so that we might become like Jesus, loving ourselves and our neighbors just as you love us. In Your name we pray. *Amen.*

Song of Praise Hymn #96

Angels we have heard on high

Gloria

Collect

Celebrant: May God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 52:7-10

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 98

Celebrant: Please join me in reciting from Psalm 98, responding with the italicized verses.

1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for the LORD has done marvelous things.

2 *The right hand and the holy arm of the LORD **
have secured the victory.

3 God has made known the victory; *
and has openly shown righteousness in the sight of the nations.

4 *The LORD remembers mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.*

5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

6 *Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.*

7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the sovereign, the LORD.

8 *Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.*

9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who is coming to judge the earth.

10 *In righteousness shall the LORD judge the world *
and the people with equity.*

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 1:1-4

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.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Carol #115

What child is this?

Greensleeves

THE GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed

*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, we seek to follow your will. Guide us as we deepen in spirituality, grow in compassion,
and be your courageous hope in the world. Source of life, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

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. We remember also these we name either silently or aloud.

(Silence.) We pray to you.

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.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

(Silence)

Priest: 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 Christ be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Announcements

Thank you for your financial commitment to the life of Trinity Church. Your gift helps our church family spread God's gift of love and joy with the world! Offering plates are located on the table in the chapel narthex. To give electronically, see the QR code in the announcements.

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 God 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 124 (*In the front section of the blue hymnal.*)

Hurd

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,

*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.*

Fraction Anthem S 152

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

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 to receive Communion. 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. Those wishing to receive a blessing instead of Communion are invited to cross their arms as a signal to the priest. Please alert an usher if you wish to receive communion in your seat.

Communion Hymn #115

What child is this?

Greensleeves

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant and 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: The blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and remain with you always. Amen.

Closing Hymn #100

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

Antioch

Dismissal

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

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

In Dulci Jubilo (BWV 729)

J. S. Bach



MERRY CHRISTMAS!