

# TRINITY CHURCH

*Second Sunday of Advent*

*December 10, 2023*

*9:30 a.m.*



## WELCOME TO OUR TRINITY CHURCH FAMILY!

*85 West Street, Rutland, VT 05701*

*(802) 775-4368*

*office@trinitychurchrutland.org*

*www.trinitychurchrutland.org*

*We are a vibrant Episcopal family united in following Christ.*

*Seeking \* Growing \* Serving \* Embracing*

**Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Sarah C. Ginolfi**

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

## The Word of the Lord

Prelude

*Conditor alme siderum*

Jean Titelouze

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Second Candle - The Candle of Peace

*Advent wreath with two lit candles represents the prophets who foretold the birth of Jesus.*

Celebrant: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

All: *Thanks be to God*

Celebrant: Today is the Second Sunday of Advent and we will light the Candle of Peace. Last Sunday we lit the First Candle in our Advent Wreath, and celebrated the patriarchs, this First Candle reminded us of our hope in Christ. We light it again as we remember our Saviour, born a king in the line of King David. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, and we believe that he will come again to fulfill all of God's promises to us, to rule the world wisely and bless all nations.

*(A person lights the First Candle, the Candle of Hope)*

Celebrant: Today we light the Second Candle of Advent, the Candle of Peace. We remember the prophets who spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a Saviour would be born, a king in the line of King David. The prophet Isaiah called Christ "the Prince of Peace". They told us how he would rule the world wisely and bless all the nations. When Jesus came he taught people the importance of being peace-makers. He said that those who make peace shall be called the children of God. When Christ comes to us he brings us peace and he will bring everlasting peace when he comes again. We light the Candle of Peace to remind us that Jesus is the Prince of Peace and that through him peace is found. Peace is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle, we celebrate the peace we find in Jesus Christ.

*(A person lights Second Candle, the Candle of Peace)*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: *Lord Jesus, Light of the World, the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people from trouble. Give peace in our hearts at Christmastide. We ask that as we wait for you 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 peace with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.*

\* Opening Hymn #76

*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry*

Opening Sentences

Celebrant: Our King and Savior now draws near:

People: *Come, let us adore him.*

Trisagion S 102 - 3x sung

*(service music, marked with S, is found in the front of the blue hymnal)*

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray. Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## First Reading

Reader: A reading from the book of Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

## Psalm

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

*Choir sings refrain, repeated by all; choir sings verses; all repeat refrain where indicated.*

REFRAIN:



**R. Lord, let us see your kind - ness, and grant us your sal - va - tion.**

1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord our God, \*  
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.  
2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people \*  
and blotted out all their sins. *REFRAIN*  
8 I will listen to what you say Lord God, \*  
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.  
9 Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, \*  
that your glory may dwell in our land.  
10 Mercy and truth have met together; \*  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other. *REFRAIN*  
11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, \*  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.  
12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, \*  
and our land will yield its increase.  
13 Righteousness shall go before our God, \*  
and peace shall be a pathway for our feet. *REFRAIN*

## Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Reader: A reading from the second letter of Peter.

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be

dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sequence Hymn #67

*Comfort, comfort ye my people*

Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: *Glory to you, O Christ.*

Celebrant: The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Gospel of Christ.

People: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

Sermon

The Rev. Sarah Ginolfi

The Nicene Creed (Congregation)

Officiant: Please join me in saying the ancient words 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.*

## Intercession Prayers

Reader: God of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ you promise to hear us when we pray to you in faith with thanksgiving.

We pray for one another, for our families and friends, through whom we learn to love and to be loved. **For those in our congregation celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, we pray for joyful blessings upon Mary Proulx, Mary Reitz, Becky Congdon, and Adrian Sanford-Wilson.** Thank you for all who care for us. Give us grace to serve Christ by serving our neighbors and our community, loving others as he loves us.

*Silence*

Reader: We thank you for the unfailing love you hold out to everyone in Jesus Christ. Comfort and heal those in sorrow, need, sickness or any other trouble. **We pray especially for Barbara, Joe, Dick, Ryah, The Right Reverend Thomas Ely, Patty, Iris, Ben, and Pat.** Give them courage and hope in their distress, and bless those who minister to them.

*Silence*

Reader: We remember with gratitude your many gifts to us in creation and the rich heritage of these lands. Help us and people everywhere to share with justice and peace the resources of the earth. **We pray that the children under the protection of Orphan Care Volunteers Association in Uganda receive those blessing's necessary to sustain their physical and spiritual well-being.** Give wisdom to those in authority among us and to all leaders of the nations.

*Silence*

Reader: We pray for your Church throughout the world, thanking you for all who serve Christ and his kingdom. We pray especially for **The Church of Pakistan (United); and the Ministries of the members of the Diocesan Staff and Rock Point Commons Staff.** And we pray for our priest, the Rev. Sarah Ginolfi and all our lay leaders. By your Spirit strengthen your people for their work and witness in the world. Unite us in your truth and love, that we who confess your name may also reflect your glory.

*Silence*

Reader: We remember with thanksgiving all who have died in Christ, **especially Dorothy Mainolfi and John B. Musetti for whom the altar flowers have been given,** and we rejoice at the faithful witness of your saints in every age, praying that we may enter with them into the unending joy of your heavenly kingdom.

*Silence*

Reader: Merciful God, you look with compassion on all who turn to you. Hear the prayers of your people.

*People: Grant that what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Celebrant: Now to God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or conceive, by the power which is at work among us, be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all ages. *Amen.*

## The Confession and Absolution

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

*All: God of all mercy, 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 the grace of 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 Christ be always with you.  
People: And also with you.

Announcements

*Thank you for your financial commitment to the life of Trinity Church. Your faithful stewardship helps our mission to be God's courageous hope for the world. The Offering plate is located at the top of the center aisle on the way to the altar.*

Offertory Anthem

*Song of the Advents*

*Russell Schulz-Widmar*

## The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer C*

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: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People: *Glory to you for ever and ever.*

Celebrant: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People: *By your will they were created and have their being.*

Celebrant: From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People: *Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.*

Celebrant: Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People: *By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.*

Celebrant: And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus S 124

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.*

The Holy Communion

Celebrant: And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*People: We remember his death and celebrate his resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.*

*Celebrant: God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of our Mothers: God of Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.*

*People: Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.*

*Celebrant: Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. 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 S 152

*Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.*

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

#### 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.*

*All are welcome to God's table! To receive communion, proceed up the center aisle and either stand or kneel along the railing to receive Communion. The priest will distribute the bread (or gluten free wafer upon request) and the Chalice Assistant the wine (or grape juice 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.*

#### 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: Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may the blessing of the Holy Trinity, One God, be with you always. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn #65

*Prepare the way, O Zion*

Dismissal

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

People: *Thanks Be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Postlude

*Prepare the way, O Zion*

*Wilbur Held*

*Exiting: Your presence is a blessing! Thank you for this gift.  
There are waste bins at each exit for communion container disposal.*

*\* We save paper by using the blue hymnal book rather than printing hymns in the bulletin. The Hymnal 1982 uses masculine pronouns for God since that was customary at the time of its printing. Those worshipping, however, are welcome to substitute gender neutral pronouns for God when singing or speaking if that better honors your practice.*