

The Holy Eucharist

Fourth Sunday  
of Advent

December 22, 2024



**Trinity**  
Episcopal Church

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**PLEASE TAKE NOTE:**

We use **two hymnals** in our worship at Trinity. Hymns from the red-and-black *Lift Every Voice and Sing* are indicated by **LEVAS**, or by a red “L” on the hymnboard. Hymns starting with “S” are in the front section of the maroon *Hymnal 1982*; hymns indicated by a number with **no letters** are in the main section of the maroon *Hymnal 1982*. All of the **spoken texts** you need for worship should be in this booklet.

Our **worship services may be streamed, video- or audio-recorded, or photographed** for church ministry purposes. Attendance at this worship service constitutes consent to be streamed, video/audio recorded, or photographed for those purposes.

*Note: the back half of pew seating is off-camera for livestream and most video recording.*

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**If you are experiencing symptoms of illness**, we encourage you to stay home and participate in the service online: [www.TrinityMoorestown.org](http://www.TrinityMoorestown.org). This is how we care for the health of our whole community.

**Prelude**

*Veni Emmanuel*, Philip Moore

**Hymn 438** (10 a.m. only)

*Woodlands*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Book of Common Prayer, page 355*

*Celebrant* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.  
*People* **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

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.**

**Trisagion** (8 a.m. only)

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
**Have mercy upon us.**

**Anthem** (10 a.m. only) (Cherub Choir)

*Ding, Dong! Ding, Dong!*, Michael Bedford

*Ding, dong! Ding, dong! Hear the bells ring out their song! Listen to them as they say, “Jesus Christ is born today!” Joyfully the angels sing, making all the heavens ring: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Ding, dong! Ding, dong!... With great joy the shepherds saw God’s own Son in bed of straw: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Ding, dong! Ding, dong!...*

*Celebrant*     The Lord be with you.  
*People*         **And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

**A reading from the prophet Micah**

*5:2-5a*

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle 15: The Song of Mary**

*Book of Common Prayer, page 91*

*Magnificat*

*Luke 1:46-55*

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,**

**The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

*10:5-10*

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*Luke 1:39-45*

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

8:00 a.m.

**Sermon**

Mr. Bob Litsinger

10:00 a.m.

**Hymn 74**

*Valet will ich dir geben*

10:00 a.m.

Nativity Pageant

*see insert*

**The Nicene Creed**

*Book of Common Prayer, page 358*

**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:  
was incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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

In joyful expectation of his coming we pray to Jesus, our Redeemer.

We pray for all people of faith; for those who have waited long for your glory; for those who shout for joy at your coming now; and for those who find it hard to hope. Help us to work together so that all people may find unity in your kingdom.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge.

Let the people say, **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

We pray for all who hold authority in our nation and in the world; for those who struggle for freedom, for the victims of violence and oppression, and for all who create peace.

Give us strength and courage to honor your justice, and to do your will, in all our words and actions.

Come to your world as King of the nations.

Let the people say, **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

We pray for [\_\_\_\_\_ and ] all those on the Trinity prayer list, and for all who are sick or injured; for all who are hungry or in need; for those who suffer in spirit, and those who are alone or far from home. Break into our lives, where we struggle with trouble and distress, and set us free to love and serve you in joy and peace.

Come to the suffering as Savior and comforter.

Let the people say, **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

We remember those who have died, and those who mourn. Give us, with all the faithful departed, a share in your victory over evil and death.

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls.

Let the people say, **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

We give you thanks for our families, friends, and neighbors; for times of celebration and sharing; and for all the gifts we receive from you. Renew in us the wonder and joy of your creation, so that our hearts may always be full of your love and praise.

Come among us as a child, and a friend.

Let the people say, **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding prayer:*

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; give courage to your people who trust in your love. By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Confession of Sin

*Book of Common Prayer, page 360*

*The Deacon or Celebrant says to the people*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**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.**

*The Priest says*

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.**

## Exchange of Peace

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*Announcements may be made about matters of interest to the congregation.*

At 8 a.m. there is a collection plate near the entrance to make your weekly gift or regular pledge offering.

At 10 a.m., a collection of financial gifts for the work of the church is received during the singing of the anthem.

Or, at either service, scan the QR code to make a gift electronically.



**Offertory Anthem** (10 a.m. only)

*The Lord Did Send the Angel Gabriel*, Fred Gramann

The Lord did send the angel Gabriel to a town in Galilee. To Nazareth the angel came to tell news of what was soon to be. Alleluia! "The Lord is with you." He greeted Mary, called her favored one, saying, "The Lord is with you." But Mary did not understand his words, thinking this could not be true. Alleluia! The Lord is with you. Forget your fears for God has chosen you and soon you shall bear a son. You'll name him Jesus, Son of the Most High. He will sit on David's throne. Alleluia! Now the Lord is with you. For nothing is impossible with God; Mary said then, "Here am I. And in accordance with your word I'll be the Lord's servant all my life." Alleluia! The Lord is with you.

**Hymn at the Presentation** (sung at both services)

*Old Hundredth*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**Eucharistic Prayer 2**

*from Enriching Our Worship*

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

(sung at 10 a.m.) *S 129*, Robert Powell

**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 kneel or stand, according to personal preference, as the Celebrant continues*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, Do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

**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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, then says*  
Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The Celebrant invites the people to share communion, saying:*  
The gifts of God, for the people of God.

*We offer the sacrament of sharing in both Christ's Body and Blood to all baptized Christians. If you wish to receive communion, please come forward to the altar rail as directed. Communion will be distributed moving from right to left across the rail. You are encouraged to kneel at the rail, though you may stand if your joints or spirituality prefer.*

*Hold out one hand above the other to receive the bread from the priest. If you wish to intinct (dip the bread in the wine), please dip in the tray offered by the first server. If you wish to sip from the chalice, the second server will offer you the cup. You may not dip the wafer in the second server's cup.*

*Gluten-free and alcohol-free communion is available. Simply tell the priest or chalice server before they give you the bread or cup.*

*If you are unable to come forward, let the usher know, and we will bring communion to you.*

**Motet** (Coventry Choir)

*Ave Maria, Joseph Rheinberger*

*Ave, Maria, gratia plena; Dominus tecum, benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui. Sancta Maria, mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen. Hail, Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

**Hymn 269**

*Den des Vaters Sinn geboren*

**Hymn 267**

*St. George*

**Post communion prayer**

*Enriching our Worship*

**Loving God, we give you thanks  
for restoring us in your image  
and nourishing us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.  
Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;  
that we may proclaim your love to the world  
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**Blessing**

*The priest offers a blessing, and the people respond. Amen.*

**Hymn 436** (10 a.m. only)

*Truro*

**The Dismissal**

*The people are dismissed to go forth into the world.*

*People* **Thanks be to God. [Alleluia, alleluia.]**

**Postlude**

*Toccata on 'Veni Emmanuel', Andrew Carter*



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Wendy Carber, Helen Anderson, Gayle Celentano, Inez Tokashiki, *Altar Guild*  
Jan Marcinkevich, Jane Shaw, *Flower Guild*  
Outreach Commission, *Hospitality*  
Jane Shaw; Julie Bathke, Nathan Solitro, *Lectors*  
Jeff Wojcik; Bob Winzler, *Usbers*  
Jeff Gola, Hiro Moore; Jeff Wojcik, Nancy Matthews, *Chalice Bearers*  
Thomas Solitro, Madelyne Gibson, *Acolytes*  
Bill McBride, *Tech Guild*  
Vernon Williams, *Music Director*  
Bob Litsinger, *Preacher (8:00 a.m.)*  
The Rev. Emily Mellott, *Celebrant*

*Please join us in the parish hall for refreshments after the service*