



The First Sunday after Christmas
December 28, 2025
10:30 a.m.



The Rt. Rev. Deon Johnson, *Bishop*
The Rev. Dr. Paul Jacobson, *Rector*
The Venerable Harry Leip, *Deacon*

Established 1855 in the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri

Welcome! We are blessed by your presence with us this morning and hope that you will find strength, comfort and fulfillment through our worship. Children are welcome to stay through the service. We welcome all seekers of God to Holy Communion and look forward to meeting you following the service.

Trinity Episcopal Church, 600 North Euclid, St. Louis MO 63108
trinitycwe.org 314-361-4655

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

What Child Is This?

Arr. Paul Manz

Lift Every Voice, #21

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Go, tell it on the moun - tain o - ver the hills and ev - ery-where;

go, tell it on the moun - tain, that Je - sus Christ is born.

Fine

1. While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2. The shep - herds feared and trem - bled, when lo! a - bove the earth,
3. Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,


1. Be - hold through - out the heav - ens there shown a ho - ly light.____
2. Rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed the Sav - ior's birth.____
3. And God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.____

D.C.

Words: Luke 2:8-20; adapt. John W. Work, Jr. (1871-1925). used by permission of Mrs. J. W. Work. Adapt. and Arr. Copyright © 1989 *The United Methodist Hymnal* by permission. Music: Negro Spiritual; adapt. and arr. William Farley Smith (b. 1941).

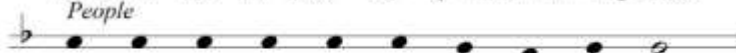
The people standing, the Celebrant sings

Celebrant



Bless-ed be the one, ho - ly and liv - ing God.

People



Glo - ry to God for ev - er and ev - er.


Collect for Purity

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.**


The Hymnal 1982, #96

Angels we have heard on high

Gloria



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;



and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

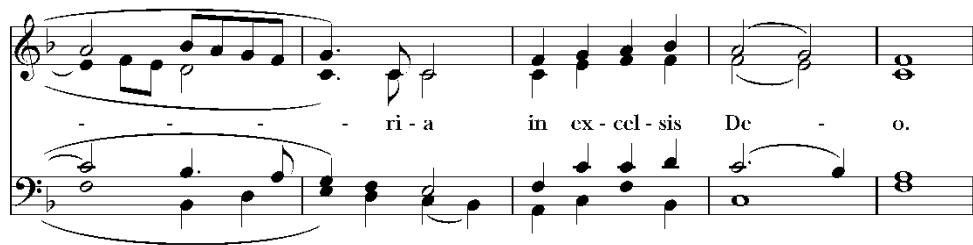
Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958).

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

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.***

First Reading

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;

and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 147:13-21 *St. Helena Psalter*

Jerusalem will worship you, O God, *
and Zion will praise your name.
For you have strengthened the bars of our gates *
and have blest our children within them.
You have established peace on our borders *
and satisfied us with the finest wheat.
You send out your command to the earth, *
and your word runs very swiftly.
You give snow like wool *
and scatter hoarfrost like ashes.
You scatter your hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against your cold?
You send forth your word and melt them; *
you blow with the wind, and the waters flow.
You declare your word to Jacob, *
your statutes and judgments to Israel.
You have not done so to any other nation; *
to them you have not revealed your judgments. Alleluia!

Second Reading

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.
People ***Thanks be to God.***



1 Of the Fa-ther's love be-got-ten, ere the worlds be-
 2 O that birth for ev-er bless-ed, when the Vir-gin,
 3 Let the heights of heaven a-dore him; an-gel hosts, his
 4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa-ther, and, O Ho-ly

gan to be, he is Al-pha and O-me-ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho-ly Ghost con-ceiv-ing,
 prais-es sing; powers, do-min-ions, bow be-fore him,
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks-giv-ing,

he the source, the end-ing he, of the things that
 bore the Sa-vior of our race; and the Babe, the
 and ex-tol our God and King; let no tongue on
 and un-wea-ried prais-es be; hon-or, glo-ry

are, that have been, and that fu-ture
 world's Re-deem-er, first re-vealed his
 earth be-si-lent, ev-ery voice in
 and do-min-ion, and e-ter-nal

years shall see, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 sa-cred face, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 con-cert ring, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 vic-to-ry, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!

This hymn may be performed in equal note values: ♩ ♪ ♪ ♪

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt. Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956).

The Gospel

John 1:1-18

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord 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. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Venerable Harry Leip

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and 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

Rejoicing in the mercy of our God, manifested for our salvation in the birth of Jesus Christ our Savior who became human and lived among us, let us pray for all the needs of the world.

Eternal God, bless your holy church, that it may boldly proclaim the good tidings of salvation to all the ends of the earth. Lord, in your mercy: *hear our prayer.*

Bless your servants at this gathering, that empowered by your word we may minister in faithfulness to you and in love to one another. Lord, in your mercy: *hear our prayer.*

Guide the leaders of the world that they may put aside their own ambitions and strive for peace and justice among the nations. Lord, in your mercy: *hear our prayer.*

Gracious God, grant health and wholeness to the sick, especially for Bill, Kitty, Nan, Debra, Nicole, Etta, Barbi, Helen, Glenda, Thomas, Gloria, Dolores, John, Steven, Julien, Joan, Kevin, David, Betsey, Pat, Ray, Gwen, Charlene, Bruce, and for those we now name_____. Give them patience, perseverance, and trust in your love. Lord, in your mercy: *hear our prayer.*

As you comforted your people by sending your most precious Son, the word of life, comfort those whose lives have been shattered by the loss of a loved one, that their sorrow may be turned into joy. We also remember our beloved who now rest in your eternal love, including those who we now name_____. Lord, in your mercy: *hear our prayer.*

In thanksgiving we remember before you, O Lord, all those holy people who bore witness to the light especially the Mary the God-bearer, John the Baptizer and all your holy persons in each generation. Grant that we may persevere in faith to which we have been called and at the end behold your glory. Lord, in your mercy: *hear our prayer.*

All these things we ask in the name of him who came as the light in the darkness of our world, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Incarnate Christ be always with you.

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory


What Is This Lovely Fragrance?

arr. Paul Manz

The Hymnal 1982, #104

A stable lamp is lighted

Andijar




1 A sta - ble lamp is light - ed Whose
 2 (This) child through Da - vid's ci - ty Shall
 3 (Yet) he shall be for - sak - en, And
 4 (But) now, as at the end - ing, The




glow shall wake the sky; The stars shall bend their voic - es,
 ride in tri - umph by; The palm shall strew its branch - es,
 yield - ed up to die; The sky shall groan and dark - en,
 low is lift - ed high; The stars shall bend their voic - es,



And ev - ery stone shall cry. _____ And ev - ery stone shall cry,
 And ev - ery stone shall cry. _____ And ev - ery stone shall cry,
 And ev - ery stone shall cry. _____ And ev - ery stone shall cry,
 And ev - ery stone shall cry. _____ And ev - ery stone shall cry,



And straw like gold shall shine; A barn shall har - bor hea - ven,
 Though hea - vy, dull, and dumb, And lie with - in the road - way
 For ston - y hearts of men; God's blood up - on the spear - head,
 In prais - es of the Child By whose de - scent a - mong us



A stall be - come a shrine. _____ 2 This
 To pave his king - dom come. _____ 3 Yet
 God's love re - fused a - gain. _____ 4 But
 The worlds are rec - on - ciled. _____



Final Ending

Words: © Richard Wilbur (b. 1921)
 Music: *Andijar*, David Hurd (b. 1950)

76. 76. 66. 76

The Great Thanksgiving

Prayer A, Expansive Language

Celebrant *People*
May God be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. 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 (Hymnal S130)

Franz Peter Schubert, arr. Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

The people stand or kneel

Holy and gracious God: 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 maker and of all.

Jesus 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ. 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 Jesus Christ our Savior; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for 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 Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem

The Hymnal 1982, #115, vs. 2

What child is this?

Greensleeves



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.

Invitation to Holy Communion

The sacrament of Holy Communion is central to the Christian community. As Christ gave freely of himself, so the sacred meal in his name is also freely given. Rejoicing in the spirit of Christ's inclusive love, all are warmly invited to receive the bread and wine at the Supper of the Lord.

Following the direction of the ushers, come forward to the communion rail, where you may kneel or stand. If you wish to receive a blessing rather than communion, please indicate that desire by crossing your arms over your chest.

To receive the bread, your right palm on top of your left palm. *Gluten-free wafers are available.* Please assist us by crossing your right arm over your chest so we may serve you correctly. To receive the wine, please help guide the chalice to your lips. If you do not receive wine, you may touch the chalice when it is offered, or simply cross both arms after receiving the bread.

Due to our Diocesan health policy, we ask you not to dip your communion bread into the chalice (*i.e.*, intinction). If you are not comfortable drinking directly from the chalice, you are welcome to receive just the bread; or you may touch the chalice when it comes to you.

If you are unable to come to the altar rail, notify an usher, and we will bring communion to you.



1 The snow lay on the ground, the stars shone bright,
 2 'Twas Ma - ry, daugh - ter pure of ho - ly Anne,
 3 Saint Jo - seph, too, was by to tend the child;
 4 And thus that man - ger poor be - came a throne;



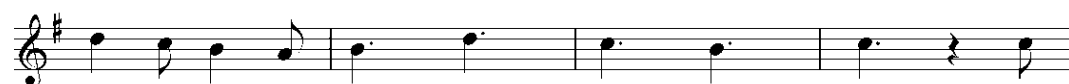
when Christ our Lord was born On Christ - mas night. Ve -
 that brought in - to this world the God made man. She
 to guard him, and pro - tect his mo - ther mild; the
 for he whom Ma - ry bore was God the Son. O



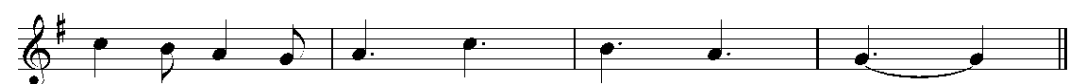
ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve -
 laid him in a stall at Beth - le - hem; the
 an - gels hov - ered round, and sang this song, Ve -
 come, then, let us join the heaven - ly host, to



ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve -
 ass and ox - en shared the roof with them.
 ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve -
 praise the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.



ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num. Ve -



ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.

Words: Source unknown, 19th cent. Music: *Venite adoremus*, melody adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944); harm. Leo Sowerby (1895-1968).

1 Love came down at Christ-mas, love all love - ly, love di - vine;
 2 Wor - ship we the God - head, love in - car - nate, love di - vine;
 3 Love shall be our to - ken; love be yours and love be mine,

love was born at Christ - mas: star and an - gels gave the sign.
 wor - ship we our Je - sus, but where-with for sa - cred sign?
 love to God and neigh - bor, love for plea and gift and sign.

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894), alt. Music: Gartan, melody from *Petrie Collection of Irish Melodies, Part II*, 1902; harm. David Evans (1874-1948). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant and People

***Almighty and everliving God,
 we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
 of the most precious Body and Blood
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
 and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
 that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
 and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
 And now, Father, send us out
 to do the work you have given us to do,
 to love and serve you
 as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
 To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.***

The Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs cm - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - cous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 3 far as the curse is found, far
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Antioch*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

Dismissal

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, may dismiss the people, who respond

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

He Whom Shepherd Men Came Praising

arr. Paul Manz

RiteSong subscription # CPIRS29694

Music under OneLicense # A-713038

Sunday Service Schedule

8:00 AM Rite I – Spoken Eucharist

10:30 AM Rite II with music

Weekday Service Schedule

7:00 AM on Thursdays

Parish Office Hours

Sunday 7 AM-1 PM, Wednesday & Thursday 8 AM-4 PM, Friday 8 AM-Noon

Notes for December 28, 2025, First Sunday after Christmas

- The Rev. Stephen Weissmann

As the natural daylight begins to increase after the solstice, so the new light of Christ brightens after Christmas. Today's collect asks that the One who shines the Light of the Incarnation will light that same brightness in our hearts, and will make it glow in our lives. Thoughts of **Light Incarnate** pervade readings as the church reflects on the significance of Christ's birth. The climax of that reflection will be the reading of the Prologue to John's Gospel, about the irruption of eternity's Light into time's shadows.

"As brightness Zion's vindication will go forth." Isaiah uses light as well as a cluster of other images—wedding garments, spring garden, new name, crowns—to celebrate Israel's redemption. This passage was originally rejoicing at the Jews' return to Zion from their exile in Babylon, about 500 B.C.

Verse 2 of Psalm 147, "the Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles," dates it at the same time as today's Isaiah reading. Its verses about snow, frost, and cold make it fit the beginning of winter. Its last lines, "[God] declares his statutes and his judgments to Israel. He has not done so to any nation" raise the topic of the Torah and Gentiles' relation to it, to be addressed in today's epistle.

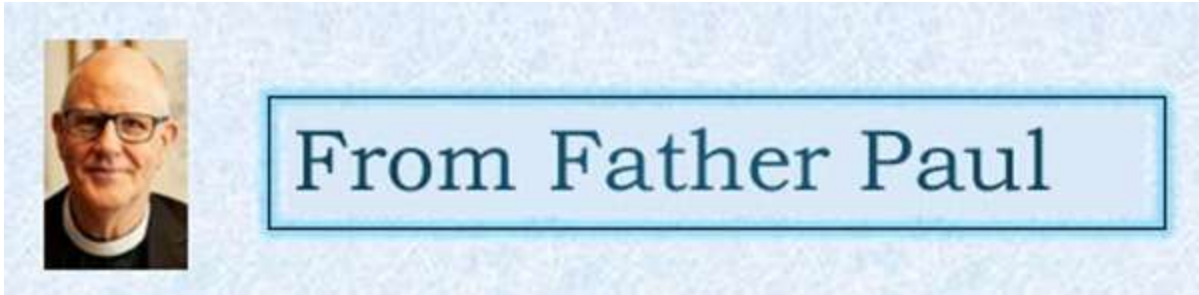
The status of Gentiles, to whom God's Torah was not given, erupted into a major controversy in the Galatian Church when some there had insisted that Gentile male converts to Christianity must first be circumcised, *i.e.*, made into Jews, before they could be admitted to the church.. Vehemently Paul opposed that provision, arguing that circumcision, like other rules of the Torah, was for Jews' earlier stage of salvation, but now is unnecessary for Gentiles who are people of faith. Just as adults no longer need a custodian, so God's adoptees no longer need the Torah. As a son of the Torah himself, Jesus had been circumcised and named on the eighth day after he was "born of a woman," an occasion to be observed by the church calendar on January 1.

"[God's] word runs very swiftly," and "He sends forth his word" sings today's Psalm. That Word was in the beginning, attests the prologue to John's Gospel, echoing Genesis 1 as well as psalms. That Word was made flesh in Jesus. The Light which Isaiah had glimpsed, the word of which psalmists had inklings, became a man. That assertion is the principal axiom of the Christian Faith. The light coming from that en-fleshed Word illuminates the world, testified John the Baptist, though the world prefers its own darkness. Those who receive the shining Word are, Paul would write, adopted as God's children. Bright as Moses' Torah is, it is outshined by the grace and truth of Jesus, who is the Light Incarnate.

On December 28, the church calendar commemorates "the Holy Innocents," the infant boys of Bethlehem, massacred by order of Herod the Great. Because the 28th is a Sunday this year, that Feast, Childermas, is transferred to Monday. Another martyr, Archbishop Thomas Becket, was murdered in Canterbury Cathedral by order of another King, Henry II, on December 29, 1170.

The Parish Office will be closed December 25th through January 1st.

Thanks to everyone who assisted with Sunday's Advent Lessons & Carols service and also with the church greening - we deeply appreciate your faithfulness to the Trinity community.



Dear Ones,

At last, Christmas is on the doorstep. I look forward to seeing you in church this afternoon to welcome Christmas once more at 4pm, or on Christmas morning at 10am. If you're really in the Christmas Spirit, you're welcome to come to both!

The Office will be closed until January 2, so there will be **no eTimes next week**; it will return on January 7. Happy New Year in advance!

I think of Christmas as the great feast of stories, so I want to share two of my favorites. The first is one I've loved for years – **Star in the Night**. A black-and-white retelling of the Nativity story in the rural Southwest, it was released in 1945 and won an Oscar in 1946 for Best Short Subject (Two-Reel). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Ghb4aLEHow>

The second, much more recent, favorite is a 2020 Christmas Special of a British comedy series called **The Goes Wrong Show**. This version of The Nativity is a grown-up version of every chaos-ridden pageant you've ever seen. https://youtu.be/8z1YshlCu7E?si=ZGsJfL8oP3ZAPC_B

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus with warmth and light and song, please remember in your prayers and your generosity those who, like the Holy Family, have no place to lay their head, and who rely upon the openhandedness of strangers.

Christmas blessings,



**As of this morning, we have received
58 pledges totaling \$277,840.**

Dear Trinitarians,

As we approach the end of the year, please don't forget to make your pledge. 2026 is just around the corner. And thanks to everyone who has pledged so far!

- The Stewardship & Generosity Committee

Visit the link below to make your pledge, or fill out a pledge card available at the back of the church. 2026 Pledge Form (<https://www.trinitycwe.org/stewardship>)



**New Year's Eve Taizé at Christ Church Cathedral
at 5:00 p.m.**

Join us for prayers, scripture readings, and chants in the style of Taizé in Christ Church Cathedral, 1210 Locust Street, St. Louis.

It is a deeply spiritual way to close 2025 and open our hearts to 2026.

Stay for refreshments and a toast to the New Year afterward.

- * This Taizé service is offered by Confluence Spirituality St. Louis.
- * We hope you can join us and bring friends and family.
- * Secure parking is available at the Cathedral.

Needs at Pantry:

Chili, Chicken Noodle Soup, Vienna Sausages,
Peanut Butter, Spam and Saltine Crackers.

Bottled Water

Served in November:

258 Households, 674 Individuals

TRINITY FOOD MINISTRY



This Week's Core Value: Food – Anglo-Catholic Worship

We believe that devotion to the Real Presence on the Altar leads us to devotion to the Real Presence in our neighbor. We gather for a multi-sensory experience, rooted in consistency and ancient rhythms that anchor our wandering bodies and souls.

December 28: The First Sunday after Christmas

In our Diocese of Missouri, we pray for the people and ministry of Trinity Episcopal Church (1871) in Kirksville and Carol & Maria, their Co-Transition Pastors.

- In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for Hogar Saint Mary.
- In the Anglican Communion, we pray for The Anglican Church of Canada.



We keep in our prayers those who are ill or in need:

Bill Mayhan

Katherine "Kitty" Drescher

Debra Townsend

Nicole Adams

Etta Taylor

Barbi Click

Helen Hendry

Glenda Wiman

Thomas Kirk

Gloria Winston

Dolores Friesen
John Biggs
Steven Forsyth
Julien Worland
Joan Dunbar
The Rev. David K. Fly
Betsey Gardner
Pat Way
Ray Becvar
Gwen Sims
Charlene Wright
Bruce Baldwin

Friends and Relatives:

Teri Smith-Jones, former parishioner, recovery from accident
Geraldine Caldwell, friend of Carter Whitson, profound dementia.
Harry Forbes and Bruce Deal, NYC friends of Michael Shepley
Marshan Leib, friend of Brian Alms, Lewy's Body Dementia
Tim, friend of Mary Moore, cancer
Denise Huber
Angela Salvador, friend of Brian Alms, breast cancer
Dennis Jones, friend of Sharron Underwood.
Lou Adams, Al Adams' brother, degenerative disk disease, colon cancer.
Tiffany Cruz, friend of Lisa Carpenter, breast cancer
Joe Richardson (Of Feed My People), friend of Jerry Martin, multiple health issues.
Karla, friend of Cathy Tierney, heart issues
Ken, Molly Perling's grandfather
Warren Frank Moseley (Cynthia and Patrick Fox's son), and his friend, Janese Julien for comfort and healing
Hope, health challenges.
Teresa, Eliza Williamson's stepmother, chronic illness
Mike, Jeannette Lehrmann's brother, prostate cancer.
Pat R., friend of Cathy Tierney, bladder cancer
Frank Menkhus, Pat Way's friend with heart problems
Sally Moylan, Pat Way's friend with multiple health problems

For Diocesan Clergy: The Rev. Canon Doris & David Westfall, The Rev. Helen Ludbrook and The Rev. David K. Fly.

For Trinity Food Ministry and its volunteers.

For service members in harm's way.

Birthdays December 28 - January 3: Barb Holmes, Lome Trolard, Susie Anderson, Lisa Carpenter.

Trinity Episcopal Church

AN OPEN AND INCLUSIVE CONGREGATION

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trinitycwe.org

www.facebook.com/TrinityStL

Rector

The Rev. Dr. Paul Jacobson
frpaul@trinitycwe.org

Deacon

The Venerable Harry Leip
harry@trinitycwe.org

Choirmaster and Organist

Jeffery Nall
jeff@trinitycwe.org

Parish Administrator

Bill Ader
bill@trinitycwe.org

Food Ministry Operations Mgr.

Chuck Dombek
chuck@trinitycwe.org

Sextons

Angelo Shell
Allen Robinson Bey

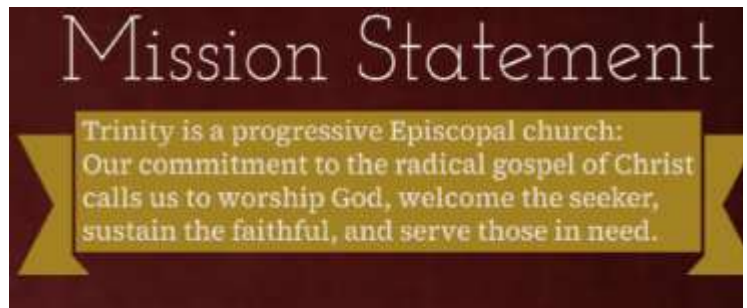
Readings for next Sunday, Jan. 4 Epiphany Sunday

Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14



Vestry

Senior Warden: Adrienne Fly

Junior Warden: Ben Kiel

2026

Fritzi Baker
Skip Coburn
Dave Hilditch

2027

Adrienne Fly
Ben Kiel
Mary Patton
Perry Trolard

2028

Carlos Daughaday