



# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Offering Companionship along the Way*

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 3, 2023

**Prelude** Organ improvisation on tune *Stuttgart*

**Opening Hymn 66** Come, thou long-expected Jesus

*Stuttgart*

**Candle Lighting Hymn 56 vss. 1, 2** O come, O come, Emmanuel

*Veni, veni Emmanuel*

*Pastor* Blessed be God; Father Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

*Pastor* 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.**

**Holy God: Hymnal S 102** Trisagion

Alexander Archangelsky

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

*Pastor* The Lord be with you.

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

*Pastor* Let us pray together our collect.

**Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

**A Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah 64:1-9**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence-- as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil--to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.

You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

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

**Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18**

*Plainsong, Mode 1.7*

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
    shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
    stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
    show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, \*  
    how long will you be angered  
    despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
    you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
    and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
    show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
    the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
    give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; \*  
    show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

**A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 1:3-9**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

**Gradual Hymn 58** Lo! he comes, with clouds descending

*St. Thomas*

*Pastor* The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to Mark 13:24-37  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

*Pastor* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon**

The Rev. Heidi Truax

**Moment of silence for reflection**

**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

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world; we pray especially for the people of Ukraine and Russia, and of Israel and Palestine;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation (*we read from the book and leave time for names to be added.*) Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life (*we leave time for thanksgivings to be offered.*) On our parish cycle of prayer we pray for Tim Ward, Arete Warren, Norma Wright and for their families. We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. (*We read from the book and leave time for other names to be added.*) Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Absolution

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.**

*Pastor*           The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

## Announcements

**Offertory Hymn 60** Creator of the stars of night

*Conditor alme siderum*

**Doxology Hymn 380, vs. 3** Praise God from whom all blessings flow

*Old 100th*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Priest* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Priest* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Priest* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout for joy:

**Holy, holy, holy: Hymnal S 124 Sanctus**

David Hurd, b. 1950

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you call a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the New Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.  
Rising, you restored our life.  
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice, and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. Blessed are you now and for ever. **AMEN**

And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

**Lamb of God: Hymnal S 161** Agnus Dei

David Hurd, b. 1950

*Here at Trinity we welcome you to take communion with us if you seek a relationship with Jesus. You may drink from the chalice, or you may intinct your wafer. Or, if you prefer, you may receive communion in one kind only, the wafer. We offer wheat and gluten free wafers, wine and grape juice.*

**Communion Hymn 53** Once he came in blessing

*Gottes Sohn ist kommen*

### **Postcommunion Prayer**

**Lord, we watch, we wait, we look, we long for you. Dispel the clouds and darkness and awaken us to your glory, that we may walk in your light, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Blessing**

May the Lord find you alert to his coming, open to his presence, aware of his love; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn 68** Rejoice! Rejoice, believers

*Llangloffan*

### **The Dismissal**

*Pastor* Let us bless the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** Organ improvisation on tune *Llangloffan*

*The Advent greens this morning are given to the glory of God.*

## Serving Today

*Rector:* The Rev. Heidi Truax  
*Music Director:* Christine Gevert  
*Minister of Communion:* Mary Anne Carley  
*Lector:* Charley Clarke  
*Epistoler:* Alessandra Griffin  
*Intercessor:* Libby Abelow  
*Altar Guild:* Mike Cuoco  
*Advent Greens:* Theresa Kenny  
*Counter:* Cheryl Duntz  
*Greeter/Usher:* Jim Conzo/Mike Cuoco  
*Verger:* Geoff Brown

## Announcements

- Today** At coffee hour - please help wrap presents for the December Misa service
- Sunday, Dec. 10** 10:30 AM Pageant Sunday
- Saturday, Dec. 16** 12 Noon - Misa en español con regalos de Navidad  
(Eucharist with Christmas presents.)
- Sunday, Dec. 17** 12 Noon Vestry Meeting  
4:00 PM Crescendo Concert "Carols for the Earth"
- Sunday, Dec. 24** 8:00 AM Advent 4 and Christmas Eve Eucharist (no music)  
3:00 PM Choral Prelude  
3:30 PM Christmas Eve principle service
- Monday, Dec. 25** 10:00 AM Christmas Day Eucharist with Carols
- Sunday, Dec. 31** 10:30 AM Carol Sing (you choose carols from a list of available) & Readings

## Weekly Schedule

- Mondays** 6:30 PM Crescendo rehearsal in Walker Hall
- Tuesdays** 9:00 AM to 12 Noon Taichi Chuan with Christopher Kiely in Walker Hall  
Chris has established classes, and if you are experienced, you may join.  
If you are looking for an introduction to Taichi,  
Christopher will begin those classes in a while.
- Wednesdays** Services at Noble Horizons, Geer Nursing, Geer Lodge  
6:00 PM on first and last Wednesday of the month, Women's AA in Walker Hall
- Thursdays** 1:00 PM Book Study on Zoom *The Church Cracked Open* by Stephanie Spellers
- Saturdays** 9:00 AM till Noon—Bookkeeper, Nancy Hiller is in the office every other Sat.

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THE REV. FELIX RIVERA, DEACON AND HISPANIC MISSIONER  
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