



# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Offering Companionship along the Way*

THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 12, 2023

**Prelude** Organ improvisation on tune *Hanover*

**Processional Hymn 388** O worship the King, all glorious above

*Hanover*

*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.*

**The Gloria: Hymnal S 277** Gloria in excelsis

David Hurd, b. 1950

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*Pastor* The Lord be with you.

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

*Pastor* Let us pray together our collect.

**O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.***

**A Reading from the Book of Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25**

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

“Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the LORD!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

### **Psalm 78:1-7**

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; \*  
    incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; \*  
    I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,  
    and what our forefathers have told us, \*  
    we will not hide from their children.
- 4 We will recount to generations to come  
    the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, \*  
    and the wonderful works he has done.
- 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob  
    and established a law for Israel, \*  
    which he commanded them to teach their children;
- 6 That the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn; \*  
    that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
- 7 So that they might put their trust in God, \*  
    and not forget the deeds of God, but keep his commandments;

## A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians, Chapter 4

Finally, brothers and sisters, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus that, as you learned from us how you ought to live and to please God (as, in fact, you are doing), you should do so more and more. <sup>2</sup> For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. <sup>3</sup> For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from fornication; <sup>4</sup> that each one of you know how to control your own body in holiness and honor, <sup>5</sup> not with lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God; <sup>6</sup> that no one wrong or exploit a brother or sister in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, just as we have already told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. <sup>7</sup> For God did not call us to impurity but in holiness. <sup>8</sup> Therefore whoever rejects this rejects not human authority but God, who also gives his Holy Spirit to you.

<sup>9</sup> Now concerning love of the brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anyone write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another; <sup>10</sup> and indeed you do love all the brothers and sisters throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, beloved, to do so more and more, <sup>11</sup> to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we directed you, <sup>12</sup> so that you may behave properly toward outsiders and be dependent on no one.

<sup>13</sup> But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. <sup>15</sup> For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

**Gradual Hymn 61** Sleepers, wake! A voice astounds us

*Wachet auf*

### Gospel Acclamation

#### Alleluia in C

Charles P. Giffen



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*Pastor*        The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to Matthew 22:15-22  
*People*        **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. Then the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'

Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

*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**

Father, we pray for all peoples throughout the world. May people who suffer, and are caught up in the midst of war, especially in Ukraine, and in Israel and Gaza, natural disaster, disease or poverty, find peace through you;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all those in religious orders, for lay and ordained ministers, and all the holy people of God;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

We give thanks at all times for the blessings of our lives. We lift up our thanksgivings (*we leave time for people to say silently or aloud the things for which they are grateful*). Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

On our parish cycle of prayer we pray today for Richard Stone, Alan Swide, Helen Symons and for their families;

**That we may serve and love them, and one another, as Christ loves us.**

Have compassion on those who suffer, especially (*we read from the book and leave time for other names to be added*). We pray for all who are afflicted with any grief or trouble;

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

We pray for all those who have died, especially those who we name (*we read from the book and leave time for other names to be added*). Give to the departed eternal rest;

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for all the saints, those we love in this world, and in the next;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom. Amen.**

### **The Confession**

**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 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 Anthem** *“Praise the Lord”*

by Jeremiah Clarke (1674-1707)

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem, praise thy God, O Sion.

For kings shall be thy nursing fathers and queens thy nursing mothers.

As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of our God, God upholdeth the same for ever.

Be thou exalted, Lord in thine own strength.

So will we sing, and praise thy power. Hallelujah.

Source of text: Psalm 147 v. 12, Isaiah 49 v. 23, Psalm 48 v. 8, Psalm 21 v. 13

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

*Old 100th*

## 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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. for you are the source of light and life. You made us in your image and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

**Holy, holy, holy: Hymnal S 125** From *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

**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.**

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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."  
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

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.**

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.**

**Fraction Anthem: Hymnal S 172** Blessed are those Ambrosian chant;  
adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991)

*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 304** I come with joy to meet my Lord *Land of Rest*

**Postcommunion Prayer**

**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**

The Goodness of the Creator, the Grace of the Savior, the Guidance of the Holy Spirit be upon you and within you. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn 423** Immortal, invisible, God only wise *St. Denio*

**The Dismissal**

*Pastor* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** Organ improvisation on tune *St. Denio*

*The altar flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God.*

## Serving Today

*Rector:* The Rev. Heidi Truax  
*Music Director:* Christine Gevert  
*Minister of Communion:* Theresa Kenny  
*Lector:* Emma Sisk  
*Epistoler:* Michelle Sisk  
*Intercessor:* Linda Lloyd  
*Altar Guild:* Bev Becker  
*Flowers:* Heather Chapman  
*Counter:* Martha Nesbitt  
*Greeter/Usher:* Brennan Sisk/Jim Conzo  
*Verger:* Geoff Brown

## Announcements

- Today** 3:00—5:00 PM Regional Convocation at White Memorial Park, Litchfield
- Sunday, Nov. 19** 12:00 Noon Vestry meeting  
4:00 PM Misa en español followed by dinner
- Tues., Nov. 21** 5:30 PM Interfaith Thanksgiving service at Salisbury Congregational  
Christine Gevert, organist
- Wed., Nov. 22** 2:00 PM at Pilgrim House - Peeling Party to prepare for Thanksgiving dinner
- Thurs., Nov. 23** 12—2PM Thanksgiving Dinner at the Pilgrim House

## Weekly Schedule

- Mondays** 6:30 PM Crescendo rehearsal in Walker Hall
- 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 Bible Study on Zoom Gospel of Matthew
- Saturdays** 9:00 AM till Noon—Bookkeeper, Nancy Hiller is in the office every other Sat.

## Music Credits, Permissions, Licenses

Service Music: S 277 *Gloria in excelsis* by David Hurd, b. 1950, S 125 *Holy, holy, holy Lord* (from *A Community Mass*) by Richard Proulx (b. 1937), and S 172 *Blessed are those* - Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991), and hymns 61, 304 are performed with permission of OneLicense A-730466. All rights reserved.  
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*Offering Companionship Along the Way*