

Trinity Church
Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023

WELCOME AND LITURGY OF GATHERING

Leader: Reading of [Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13](#). This is the word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Trinity is fostering a haven of belonging where wanderers and wonderers gather to discover and embody the love of Jesus in the world.

COMMUNAL SINGING

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark the herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled"
Joyful, all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With the angelic host proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Oh Come All Ye Faithful

Oh come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant
Oh come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold him; born the King of angels

Oh come let us adore Him
Oh come let us adore Him
Oh come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
Oh sing all ye citizens of heav'n above
Glory to God; glory in the highest

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

COMMUNITY CONFESSION & ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Leader: Today marks the second Sunday of Advent, the season in which we anticipate celebrating the birth of Jesus. For unto us, a child is born - the presence of God With Us - will show us the way. This Advent, we pause. We breathe. We pray. We dig deep. We reach out. We rise up. We remember. We vision. We sit with the pain. We stay with the trouble. We wait, expectant. We light candles. We labor. We open to You, and to one another, and to the Sacred Mystery that is Emmanuel, God-With-Us, Love Incarnate, Divinity Enfleshed.

Reading - [Mark 1.1-8](#)

Prayer & Candle Lighting: The Peace of God-With-Us does not come as law and order, or enforcement and control. Peace cannot be imposed from on high. Peace cannot be commanded. The Peace of God-With-Us is chaotic, wild, unruly, unpredictable. The Peace of God-With-Us is collective, liberating us from deadly complicity. Peace is gestating in darkness; it comes unexpectedly. Peace invites our expectation, and demands our participation. Prepare the way, for peace with justice. May Peace be birthed among, within, and through us, this Advent.

ALL: Always present God, forgive us, not for the ways in which we may doubt, but for how we show that doubt in self-absorbed lives. Open our eyes to your presence with us, so we may live lives of greater mercy and love, of faith and peace.

Leader: Friends, this is good news: out of deep love for us, God refines our faith, forming us more and more into God's image.

ALL: Thanks be to God! We will embrace the presence of God as it refines us through love and moves us toward peace!

BLESSING AND PASSING THE PEACE

Adults: The Lord be with you!

Children and Kids Ministry Leader: And also with you!

During this time we greet one another, recognizing that we are all a part of the body, as PreK-5th grade children are led to their ministry space. Younger children and youth remain, and are welcome, in the Gathering. Materials for toddlers are available and we understand that their presence means they will be heard, no need to worry about their vocal contributions.

ADVENT REFLECTION

Frankly Advent: Prayer of Faith to be Gathered

Isaiah 40:1-11

**[For discussion prompts visit the series page here.](#)*

LORD'S TABLE LITURGY

Leader: As we draw closer to the celebration of his birth, as we long to follow Jesus beyond Bethlehem, we proclaim that mystery we call faith:

ALL: Christ died, to scatter the arrogance of death; Christ was raised, picking up resurrection and carrying it into the new dawn; Christ will return, as your love stretches to the end of time.

Leader: Life takes place here and now, as you, Holy One, pour out your Spirit upon those gathered around the Table, and on the gifts prepared for the meal.

ALL: The bread which is broken, not only feeds us, but gives us the compassion to hear the voices of those crying out in despair and fear. The cup of grace touches us so we will not douse the Spirit, but be voices of justice, repairers of poverty's potholes, lock-pickers of addiction's cells, weavers of garments of kindness.

Leader: The Table of the Lord is open for all who put their faith in Christ.

**communion elements are gluten free, not allergen free*

RESPONSE & OFFERING OF WORSHIP

The [Offering Basket](#)

Prayer requests may be posted in the Zoom chat (Zoom participants) or written and placed in the offering basket.

The First Noel

The first noel, the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night

Noel, noel, noel, noel
Born is the King of Israel

Noel, noel, noel, noel
Born is the King of Israel

NEW ELDER COMMISSIONING

Please join in welcoming our newest elders who will serve three year terms on the Leadership Team. Anna Billingsley (Parish Elder), Emily Yarman (Administrative Elder), and Laura Samide (Parish Elder). More information may be found at www.indytrinity.org/leadership.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent. The sermon series and resources for observing Advent are posted online at www.indytrinity.org/advent.

Advent Morning Divine Hours. Over the years we have made our way through the Advent season together by gathering virtually on weekdays to center ourselves around the anticipation of the incarnation of the Christ as well as support one another during this joyous, contemplative, and sometimes difficult time. Each morning we will be participating in the morning prayers of the Divine Hours by Phylis Tickle, reflecting on poems and writings of familiar and new authors, and listening to music that Trinity Church is sharing throughout this season. Join us weekday mornings at 7am on [Zoom](#) or catch up throughout the day on [FB](#) or [YouTube](#). Questions? email joel@indytrinity.org

Holiday Schedule:

- Dec. 17th/Joy Sunday: Roll out of bed and come to the Gathering in your ugly Christmas sweater and/or pajamas. We're starting a new advent tradition!
- Christmas Eve Gathering @ 10am only
- NO Gathering Sunday, December 31st - enjoy gathering with friends and family
- January 7th - Special Brunch Gathering

Our next **Community Conversation** will take place TODAY Sunday, December 10th after the Gathering. The conversation will provide an opportunity to share reflections on our year of renewal. Check your emails for more details.

2024 Trinity Church Budget has been approved. Please check your email. Budget and other financial documents may be found online at www.indytrinity.org/church-documents. Please contact us at contact@indytrinity.org if you have any accessibility issues.

Elder Recognition. Please join in thanking Mike Yordy for his three years of service to our church family on the Leadership Team. He will be rolling off this month as new elders are brought on.

THE BENEDICTION

Leader: We will go now, as faithful people, so others might know God.

ALL: We will seek to invite others into this community of grace.

Leader: We will go now, as seeds of justice, so others might know Jesus.

ALL: We will seek to welcome all who have been rejected by the world.

Leader: We will go now, to be lights of hope, so others might know the Spirit.

ALL: We will seek to illuminate the shadows of brokenness with peace and life.

(Some liturgies adapted from lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com, enfleshed.com)

COMMUNAL CONNECTION

Updated: Guide and Service Dog Training. As we welcome Guide/Service Dogs at Gatherings, please familiarize yourself with resources under on these two websites <https://www.guidedogs.com/resources/blindness-and-guide-dog-etiquette> and <https://www.guidedogsofamerica.org/best-practices-when-around-a-service-dog/> and discuss main points with those in your household. If you or anyone in your household has severe allergies or any fear of dogs, etc. please contact us (contact@indytrinity.org) so we can do our best to keep Gathering spaces welcoming for all.

New Covid Guidelines: We are in a season of preparing for possible gathering changes due to the resurgence of Covid. Gatherings may look a little different according to the needs of our leaders if Covid affects them or their teams. We ask that everyone remain flexible if and/or when this is the case. **If a gathering is going to be virtual, we will send an email by 8am on Sunday**, or earlier. We are also asking that those who have tested positive or develop symptoms not attend the gathering in person, but join online via Zoom. If you have been exposed, you can follow the guidelines from the CDC by using this [calculator](#) to determine what are your best precautions to take.

Land Acknowledgement. We acknowledge that the land on which we gather for worship was stolen from Native peoples, who were driven out of the area and of their native lands by genocide, force (through broken treaties and laws imposed upon their nation), and systematic dispossession. The Myaamiaki, Kaskaskia, and Kickapoo peoples* and their sovereign Nations have cared for, and are deeply a part of, this land - past, present, and future. (ref: [Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery, Trinity Church](#))

Gathering Hosting Schedule. As an act of service and care, please join staff, leaders, and others from your parish in hosting Sunday Gatherings. These are great times to connect and welcome others to converse while serving as well. Arrival at 9:45am is great, 9:30am is super helpful for assisting with audio equipment and/or indoor set up. Cleaning up on the back end should only take 10-15 minutes. The hosting checklist is in the Trinity office. Thank you!

December

3rd: North/Carmel

10th: Fishers

17th: Midtown/Downtown

24th: Broad Ripple

31st: No Gathering

January

7th: (Brunch) North/Carmel

14th: Fishers

21st: Midtown/Downtown

28th: Broad Ripple