Trinity Buckingham Church

Sharing God's love and serving God's people with Christ in our hearts and God's work through our hands



First Sunday of Advent November 28, 2021

10:30 am

Trinity Episcopal Church PO Box 387, 2631 Durham Road Buckingham, PA 18912 Phone: 215-794-7921 Office@trinitybuckingham.org

Welcome to Trinity Church!

Welcome to this gathering place, friend and stranger, saint and sinner. Come, with hope or hesitation; come with joy or yearning; all who hunger, all who thirst for life in all its fullness. May our generous God and our compassionate Savior and the life-giving Spirit bless you this day.

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us today. If you are new to worship in the Episcopal Church, we hope that you will simply enjoy the movement of the service and focus on the message of the Gospel, and not worry too much about what to do or what not to do. In general, we stand to sing, sit to listen and stand or kneel to pray, but please be comfortable. Some people will cross themselves, bow or kneel at different times—this reflects a personal preference and you are encouraged to follow your own.

If you are seeking a church just for today, thank you for celebrating with us and may God be with you as you travel. If you are searching for a new church home and family, know that you are welcome. We wish to greet you today or on your next visit in whatever manner will suit you best. Please leave a visitor's card at the registration desk.

Face-to-face worship during a global health crisis continues to present some challenges. Your health and well-being is our highest priority. While the CDC has ruled that vaccinated people may safely be indoors without masks, some in our community have not been vaccinated, so for everyone's protection, we ask that you please wear a mask throughout the service.

Please help us care for one another by taking your bulletin and any trash with you when you go, and by using the provided cleaning supplies if you visit the restrooms.

For the time being, the nursery is closed. Children are very welcome in the sanctuary.

A Children of All Ages Service, intentionally hospitable to young children, is offered outside at 9:30 am

Faith Hall is open for fellowship following the worship service. For the time being, we will not be providing food or drink, but you are welcome to bring your own.

Worshipping during a pandemic is new for all of us. Please do not hesitate to contact Nancy our rector, Cynthia, our parish administrator, or any member of the vestry to share your comments, questions and suggestions.

Leading Worship Today

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Nancy Burton Dilliplane Lay Associate for Liturgy and Spirituality: Martha Dudich

Greeter/Usher: Heather Carbo Lay Reader: Kay/Bob Kinney Altar Guild: Marjorie Guidry

A/V: Ewan Swidorski

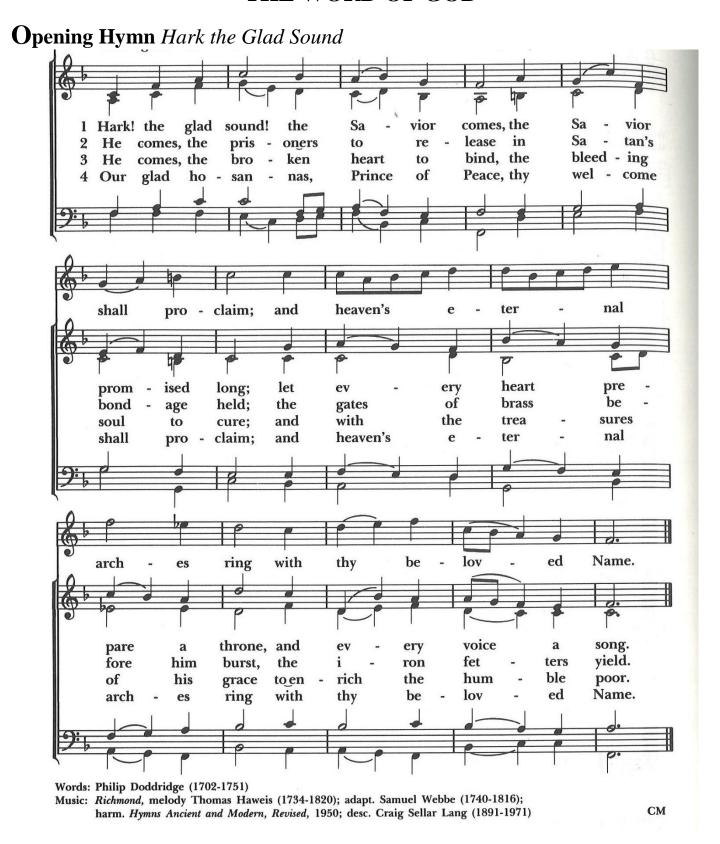
THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the Sunday of Hope. We light the first candle today to remind us that Christ is the hope of the world.

Let us pray: Emmanuel, God with Us – send your hope into our hearts. Live in us and help us to live in you. Help us to be bearers of hope, and make us ready to perceive Christ's appearing. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may our waiting and our worship make us your own faithful people, now and forever. Amen.



THE WORD OF GOD



Salutation

One: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

Many: You come to you people and set them free.

Collect for Purity

Lord,

have

mer

cy.

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.

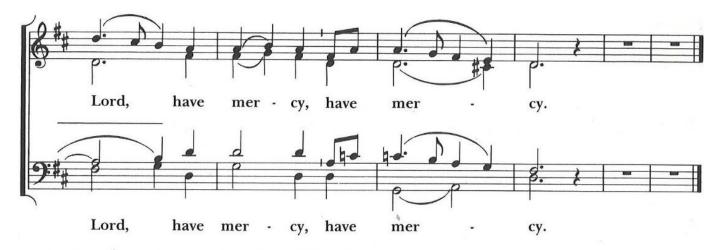
Kyrie:



Lord,

have

mer - cy.



Setting: From Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Collect

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

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.

Please be seated for the Lessons

In the Old Testament, "righteousness" has to do with being faithful in relationship. God, therefore, is righteous in punishing Israel for failing to be just, and righteous in showing mercy on Israel. Although God punishes people for disobedience, God will eventually bring them home and restore the Divine relationship with them.

First Lesson Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

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

Psalm 25:1-9 ~Marty Haugen



Lord, make me know your ways, teach me your paths
And keep me in the way of your truth
For you are God, my Savior.

For the Lord is good and righteous, revealing the way to those who wander gently leading the poor and the humble

To the ones who seek the Lord, Who look to God's word, who live God's love God will always be near, and will show them mercy.

Paul wrote this earliest of his letters to the church he founded in Thessalonica (northern Greece) just before 50 c.e. In this passage he responds to Timothy's good report of the people. He overflows with thanksgiving, joy and blessings for the people of this vibrant and growing church. He urges them to remain faithful, not only until he returns to visit them, but also as they await for the return of Christ.

Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

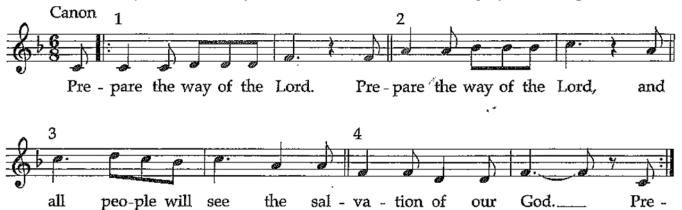
How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

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

Gospel Anthem:

Please stand, as you are able for the Alleluia and reading of the Gospel.



The first Sunday of the new church year begins with a part of Jesus' apocalyptic teaching about the destruction of the temple and the final coming of God's reign. Mark wrote his gospel for a community in crisis, suffering under Roman persecution. Surely God would come and come soon to make things right. Jesus suggests that the present darkness—then and now—will in fact end with God's appearing. The faithful should neither despair nor stop living godly lives, but should remain alert for God's coming.

Gospel Lesson Luke 21:25-36

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gospel Reflection

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Burton Dilliplane

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

God of the prophets, give your church courage to speak truth, and to tell of your love.

God of the prophets, hear us and help us!

God of the angels, give your church voice to sing your presence into the world. Give the world a freedom song, and help us to speak peace throughout the earth... God of the angels, hear us and help us!

God of Mary and Elizabeth, give your church grace to be pregnant with hope and to bring forth new life for a barren world...

God of our mothers, hear us and help us!

God of Zechariah and Joseph, give your church dreams and visions, and the courage to follow them...

God of our fathers, hear us and help us!

God of the shepherds, give your church humility, and to all who sit in darkness, alone and afraid, a light from heaven proclaiming peace...

God of the shepherds, hear us and help us!

God of the magi, give your church gifts, and the will to leave home to find you among the poor...

God of the magi, hear us and help us!

God of the Holy Innocents, give your church power to stand against violence and to protect the powerless...

God of the victim, hear us and help us!

Prayers are added for our church family.

God our Sovereign, you are always coming into the world. Come to us now, soon, and forever, and let us receive you as the Child of humanity and the Wind of change, through whom, this day, we pray. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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.**

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you. And also with you.

The Offering of our Common Life

Offertory Anthem: Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set they people free; From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art: Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; By thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

At God's table, there is food for all who are hungry. If you are seeking God and a deeper knowledge of Jesus Christ, you are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you are not baptized, and would like to learn more about what this could mean for you and about entering fully into the life of Christ and His Church, please speak to our rector, Nancy. We will receive only the bread today. Please come forward, row by row, one side of the church at a time, allowing 6 feet of space between you and your neighbor. Take a cup containing the consecrated wafer and return to your seat. When all who desire have received a piece of the bread, we will all consume it together, facing forward. If you prefer not to receive bread at this time, remain seated and make a spiritual communion, in solidarity with those who are at home.

A Prayer for Unity

Loving God, beyond limits of time and space, you come to us unbidden, and you sustain us in body and in spirit. We are grateful to receive you, as we are and where we are, whether we receive you in physical or spiritual bread. Give us grace to respond this day, and in the days to come. Nourished for service, may our hearts be made ready, our eyes be made open, our hands be made strong and our feet be made willing to do your will in all the places to which you call us. We long to unite ourselves wholly to you and to one another, and in all things remain a Eucharistic people, the body of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts

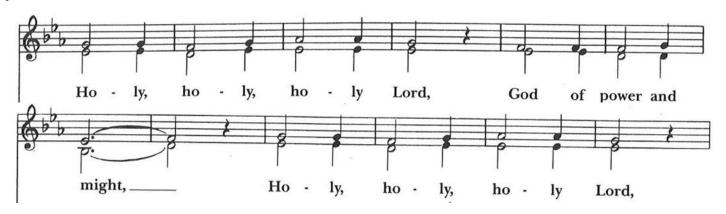
People: We lift them to the Lord.

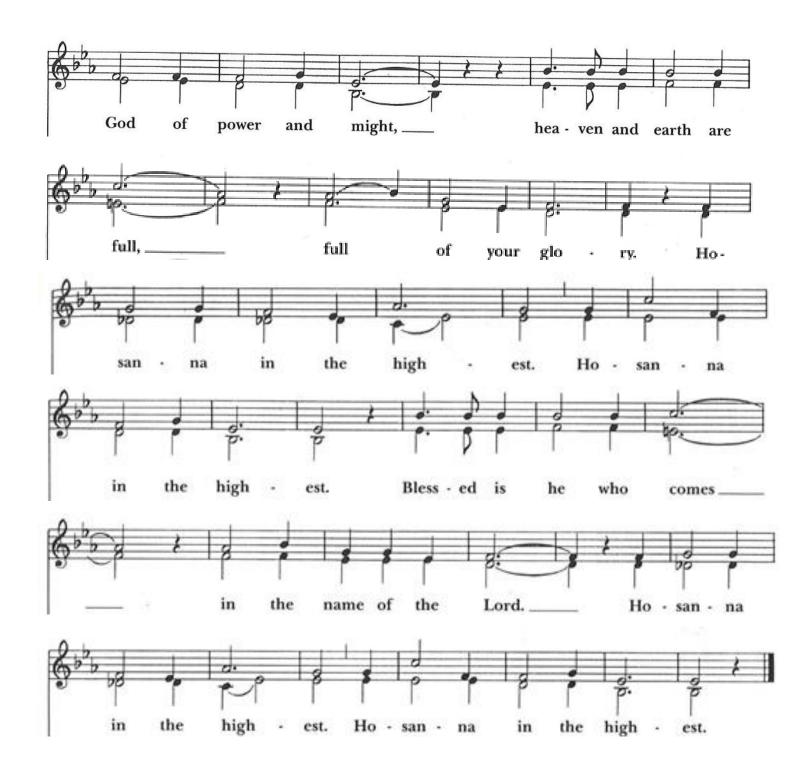
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our 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. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:





We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father, We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 say,

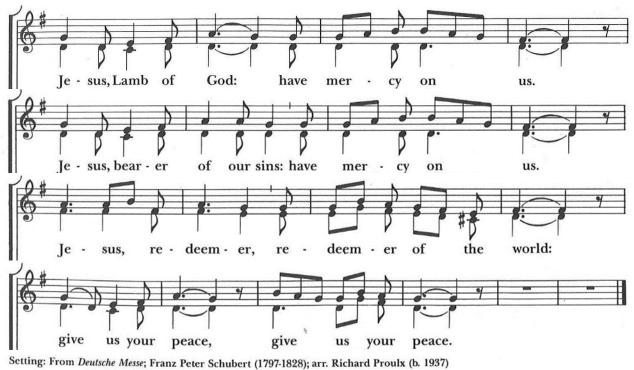
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei



The Communion of the People

Prayer following Communion

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

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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Sending Hymn

