## TRINITY BUCKINGHAM CHURCH

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



## Christmas Eve

### 8 pm

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

#### Welcome to Tríníty 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 night.

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us this evening. 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 tonight, 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 follow up with you 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.

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 this Evening	
Celebrant & Preacher : The Rev. Dr. Nancy Burton Dilliplane	
Lay Associate for Liturgy and Spirituality: Martha Dudich	
Greeters & Ushers: Natalie Welker-Marx, Jill Unger, Lynda Vesely, Joanne Welker,	
Sara Swidorski, Deb Grant	
Lay Reader: Morley Ewing	Acolyte: Ewan Swidorski
Altar Guild: Joanne Welker/Meg Perry	A/V: Jill Unger

#### **Sacred Music**

#### "Processional" from A Ceremony of Carols ..... Benjamin Britten

Today Christ is born. Today the Savior has appeared. Today the angels sing on earth, the archangels rejoice. Today the righteous exalt, saying, "Glory to God in the highest." Allelujah!

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming. . . . . hymn EST IST EIN ROS

arr. Sandra Eithun

He is Born..... French Carol, arr. David Christensen Somerset Carol.....trad. English folk carol, arr. Susan Kochanek

#### **Choir and Congregation: What Child Is This?**

Following an introduction by the Handbell Ensemble, the women of the choir will sing "Child of the Poor," a contemporary carol by Scott Soper, composed as companion to the 16th C English melody GREENSLEEVES, set to the familiar hymn "What Child is This?" some 300 years later by William Dix. Please join with the following verses and refrain.

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

#### This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing: Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian fear, for sinners here the silent word is pleading.

Bearing Good News / Born is Jesus .....Czech and French carols arr. Paul R. Ladd

Star Silver.....Carl Sandberg

I Wonder as I Wander..... John Jacob Niles arr. Jewel Kilcher & Nedra Carroll

Trinity Church Choir Members Bradley Cagenello, Nancy Dilliplane, Kay Kinney, Robert Kinney, Steve Mann, Karen Parker Kathi Sadowski, Wayne Sadowski, Suzanne Snyder

#### Trinity Church Handbell Ensemble

Nancy Dilliplane, Marjorie Guidry, Steven Guidry, Kay Kinney, Robert Kinney, Karen Parker, Suzanne Snyder

#### THE WORD OF GOD

#### Gathering Hymn: O Come, all ye faithful





#### Salutation

*One:* The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

Many: And we beheld his glory.

#### **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.

Hymn of Praise Angels we have heard on high





#### Collect

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen*.

Please be seated for the Lessons

#### **First Lesson**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the voke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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

#### Psalm 96

- 1. Sing to God a new song; \* sing to God all the whole earth.
- Sing and bless God's holy Name; \* proclaim the good news of salvation from day to day.

- 3. Declare God's glory among the nations, \* God's wonders among all peoples.
- 4. For God is great and greatly to be praised, \* more to be feared than all gods.
- 5. As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols, \* but it is God who made the heavens.
- 6. Oh, the majesty and magnificence of God's presence! \* Oh, the power and the splendor of God's sanctuary!
- 7. Ascribe to God, you families of the peoples, \* ascribe to God honor and power.
- 8. Ascribe due honor to God's holy Name; \* bring offerings and come into the courts of praise.
- 9. Worship the Most High in the beauty of holiness; \* may the whole earth stand in awe.
- 10.Tell it out among the nations that God reigns! \* God has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; God will judge the peoples with equity.
- 11.Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; \* let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12.Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before God, who will come, \* who will come to judge the earth.
- 13.God will judge the world with righteousness \* and the peoples with truth.

#### Second Lesson

#### Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are selfcontrolled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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

# Gospel Alleluia

#### **Gospel Lesson**

Luke 2:1-20

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

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things

which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

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

#### **Gospel Reflection**

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Burton Dilliplane

Please be seated for the reflection

#### The Nicene Creed

Please stand as you are able for the Creed and the Prayers

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.

#### **P**rayers of the People for Christmastide

Wondrous God, whose love was made flesh in Jesus Christ our Lord, hear us, as we pray, and take to your heart all of our longings and thanks. **Hear us and help us, O God.** 

Wonderful Counselor, give wisdom to the leaders of the nations, that they might guide us to peace. Bring an end to war and terror throughout the world. Wonderful Counselor, may your justice and righteousness be established on the earth.

Mighty God, make your church to be one in spirit and truth, strong with courage and rich with grace. Help us to tell the sweet, good news of your love in all we say and do, and especially as we reach toward each other.

#### Mighty God, may your church be united in serving the world.

Everlasting Father, help all who suffer to remember your love. Stay near to those in prison or struggling with addiction. Bring relief and strength to endure to those who are lonely, sick, dying, in pain or in any need or trouble, especially those whose names are written on our hearts and those we name now either silently or aloud....

## Everlasting Father, may the day come soon when our tears are wiped away by your own hand.

Prince of Peace, help us to bring an end to poverty and racism and all that keeps your children hungry and powerless. Grant that your peace would rule in our hearts and in our lives.

#### Prince of Peace, may you come soon to reign among us.

Child of David's throne, may all who live with you in glory help us, by their example and prayer, to find our way home. Give us, especially, the courage of Isaiah, of Mary, of Joseph and of John. Grant us the wonder of the shepherds and magi. Fill us with the songs of the angels.

## Son of David, make us one with all your saints who enjoy your presence day and night.

Your own prayers, thanksgivings and intercessions may be offered at this time...

Wondrous God, thank you for the miracle and grace of Christmas. May we be true, all the year long, to its call to believe the impossible and to make our humble humanity the place of your dwelling. Hear us we pray, and take to your heart all of our longing and thanks; through Jesus the Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit live and reign, One God for ever and ever. *AMEN* 

#### **Confession and Absolution of Sin**

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy you, forgive 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.** 

#### Peace

#### **O**ffertory Anthem Gaudete

medieval carol, arr. Mark Reeves

Rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary. Rejoice!

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.

#### Celebrant People The Lord 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 to give him thanks and praise. It is right

#### THE HOLY COMMUNION

**BCP 367** 

Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

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.** 



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

The Communion of the People



Music: Gustav Holst, 1874-1934

On Christmas night Christ-mas night On all Chris-tians sing 1 to hear the news 2 Then why should we on earth be sad, since our re - deem - er 3 When sin de - parts be - fore his face, then life and health come 4 A11 out of dark - ness have light, which made the an we gels bring. On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing an made us glad? Then should we why on earth be sad. in its place. When sin de - parts be fore his face, sing this night. All dark - ness out of have light, we the hear the news an - gels bring: news of great joy, news of our re-deem - er made us glad, when from our sin he set life and health come in its place. An - gels re - joice with us made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry to God in high - est

the

gels

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mirth, of news ci - ful king's birth. our mer free, all for to gain our lib er - ty? all sing, for the new - born to see king. heav'n; peace on earth, and good - will. A men." Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686, alt. SUSSEX CAROL Music: English traditional 888888

Following Communion, the lights are dimmed as the individual candles are lit in silence.)

#### **Hymn following Communion** Silent Night, Holy Night

Hymnal #111



Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885) Music: Stille Nacht, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910)

Irr.

#### **Prayer after Communion**

Gift-giving God, God of angels and stars; magi and shepherds; promise and hope; journeys and longing; God who calls and sends, blesses and guards, hides and reveals, asks and waits; Ancient Love, that is always new; God of Christmas, God of our hearts; may we bear the Christ to all who need him, and allow his birth in us again. Amen.

#### Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things on earth and things in heaven, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God, Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and those you love and remain with you for ever. **Amen.** 

#### Sending Hymn: Joy to the World!





#### Dismissal

**Postlude** *Joy to the World* ~Wilbur Held

#### Upcoming Worship Opportunities at Trinity Buckingham

December 26, 2021: Christmas Day

10 am in the main Sanctuary

Sunday, December 27, 2021: Christmas Lessons & Carols with Holy Eucharist

> 10 am in the main church sanctuary (one service only this day)

#### Sunday, January 2, 2022: Epiphany First Sunday, All Parish Celebration\*

9:30 am in the main church sanctuary (one service only this day)

\* This First Sunday Celebration will feature a display of Nativity Scenes. If you would like to lend Trinity your Nativity for this celebration please contact Pastor Nancy: <u>rector@trinitybuckingham.org</u> to arrange a drop off on December 30 or December 31. You can take your set home following the program on January 2.

We return to our usual 3 Sunday Service schedule:

8 am Quiet Eucharist 9:30 am Children of All Ages 10:30 am Traditional Eucharist with music

on January 9,2022

#### **Star-Silver** CARL SANDBURG

The silver of one star plays cross-lights against pine-green And the play of this silver, crosswise against the green, is an old story. Thousands of years.

And sheep grazers on the hills by night watching the woolly, four-footed ramblers watching a single silver star. *Why does this story never wear out?* 

And a baby, slung in a feed box back in a barn in a Bethlehem slum A baby's first cry, mixing with the crunch of a mule's teeth on Bethlehem Christmas corn Baby fists, softer than snowflakes of Norway

The vagabond mother of Christ and the vagabond men of wisdom all in a barn on a winter night, and a baby there in swaddling clothes, on hay *Why does this story never wear out?* 

The sheen of it all - is a star, silver and a pine, green. For the heart of a child asking a story: The red and hungry, red and hankering heart, Calling for cross-lights of silver and green. The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop The Right Rev. Daniel G. P. Gutierrez, Bishop The Rev. Dr. Nancy Burton Dilliplane, Rector rector@trinitybuckingham.org

#### VESTRY

Marty Gillen, Rector's Warden Lynda Vesely, Accounting Warden Janet Zimmerman De Caprio, Paul Harar, Barbara Kroberger, Jerry LaSala, Peter Oliver, RoseMarie Proctor, Sara Swidorski Joanne Welker, Natalie Welker-Marx

#### STAFF

Cynthia Goode, Parish Administrator office@trinitybuckingham.org Caroline Oakes, Minister of Media Communications caroline@trinitybuckingham.org Martha Dudich, Lay Associate for Liturgy & Spirituality liturgymaven@aol.com Dani Badiali, Facilities Manager faithhall@trinitybuckingham.org

> VOLUNTEERS Dave Romero, Treasurer Ray Perisho, Assistant Accounting Warden Jill Unger & Eric Wanzer, Acolyte Coordinators Meg Perry & Joanne Welker, Altar Guild

TRINITY BUCKINGHAM ACADEMY 215-794-5530 www.trinitybuckinghamacademy.org Alison Rose, Director

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Monday through Thursday – 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Friday – Closed



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