

TRINITY BUCKINGHAM CHURCH

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



December 3, 2023

The First Sunday of Advent

10 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 with the usher/greeter.

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, while now optional, masking remains the safest practice.

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.

Children are always very welcome at worship services. Please pick up a "Sunday Paper" from the ushers and some crayons. Puzzles and quiet toys are available in a basket in the rear of the church. The nursery is not staffed, but you are welcome to visit it with your child. The audio from the sanctuary is transmitted to the nursery.

Sunday School takes place during the first part of the 10 am service from September to early June.

Leading Worship Today

Celebrant & Preacher: Nancy Dilliplane

Lay Associate for Liturgy and Spirituality & Accompanist: Martha Dudich

Greeter/Usher: Natalie Welker-Marx

Chalice: Joanne Welker

Lay Reader: Morley Ewing

Intercessor & Psalmist: Joe McLean

Altar Guild: Meg Perry & Joanne Welker

Acolyte: Sue Snyder

Open/Close: Steve Downs/Joanne Welker

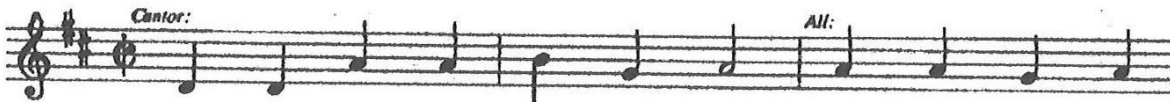
A/V: Deb Grant

Prelude:

THE WORD OF GOD

Gathering Hymn: Sing Out, Earth and Skies

Verses



1. Come, O God of all the earth: Come to us, O
2. Come, O God of wind and flame: Fill the earth with
3. Come, O God of flash - ing light: Twin - kling star and
4. Come, O God of snow and rain: Show - er down up -
5. Come, O Jus - tice, Come, O Peace: Come and shape our



Right - eous One; Come, and bring our love to birth:
right - eous - ness; Teach us all to sing your name:
burn - ing sun; God of day and God of night:
on the earth; Come, O God of joy and pain:
hearts a - new; Come and make op - pres - sion cease:

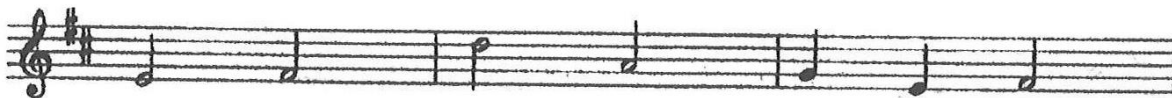


In the glo - ry of love your Son.
May our lives your love con - fess.
In your light we all are one.
God of sor - row, God of mirth.
Bring us all to life in you.

Refrain



Sing out, earth and skies! Sing of the God who



loves you! Raise your joy - ful cries!



Dance to the life a - round you!

Salutation: *One:* Blessed are you, holy and living One.
 Many: **You come to you people and set them free.**

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.

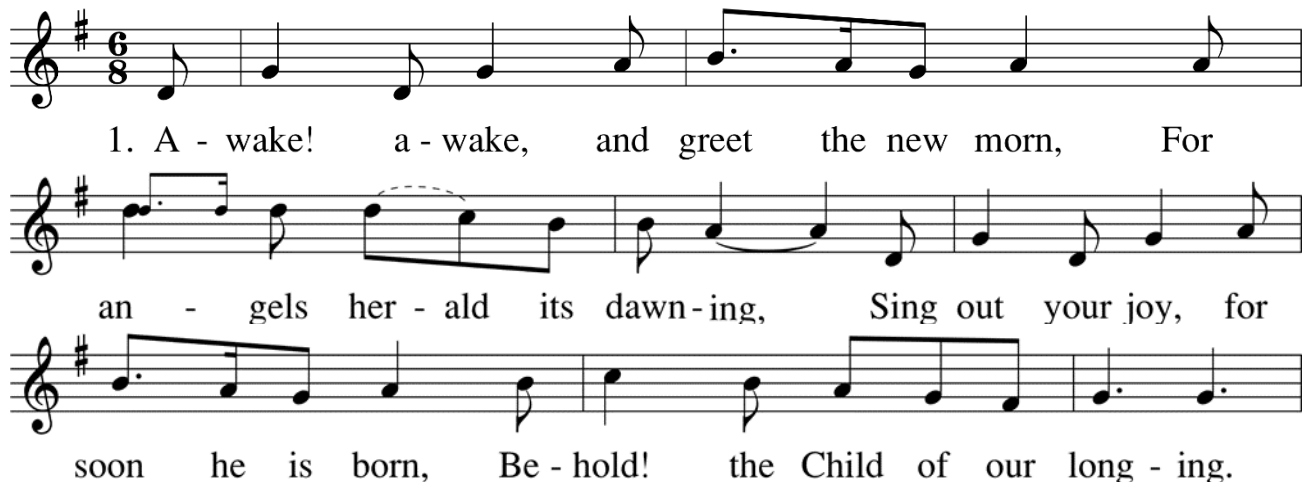
The Story of Advent



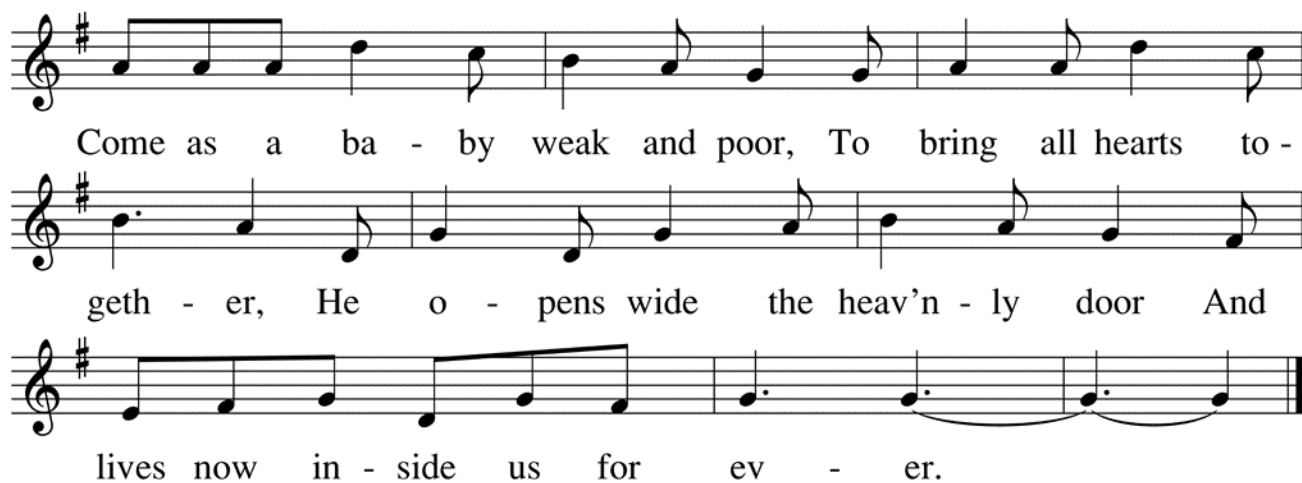
Children of all ages are invited to come to the chancel to hear the story of the Prophets, the Holy Family, The Shepherds and Angels and the Magi.

Blessing and Sending of the Children (10 am only)

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



1. A - wake! a - wake, and greet the new morn, For
an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for
soon he is born, Be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.



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

The readings for the first Sunday of Advent are always a plea for God's saving help to come and rescue a world lost in darkness. Isaiah's poignant words are the lament of Israel, returning from exile to find their home desolate and the temple destroyed. And yet the prophet has hope that God will act again to deliver God's people, as once they were delivered from Egypt. On behalf of his people, Isaiah acknowledges Israel's faithlessness, and begs God's forgiveness, confident that despite their sins, God is still their loving Creator.

First Lesson

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.

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

Psalm 80: 1-7; 16-18

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 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 those at your right hand, *
those whom you have made so strong for yourself.

17. So we may never turn away from you, *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18. Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Epistle reading expresses Advent hope and expectation of the coming of One who is faithful to God's promises. Paul assures the church that the Spirit has equipped them with all they need to wait faithfully for the time when Christ will return to consummate all time and space under his rule of grace and love.

Second Lesson

1 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.

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.

Bernadette Farrell



- | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. Word of jus - tice, | Al-le-lu - ia, | Come to dwell here. | Ma-ra-na-tha! |
| 2. Word of mer - cy, | Al-le-lu - ia, | Live a - mong us. | Ma-ra-na-tha! |
| 3. Word of pow - er, | Al-le-lu - ia, | Live with - in us. | Ma-ra-na-tha! |
| *4. Word of free-dom, | Al-le-lu - ia, | Save your peo - ple. | Ma-ra-na-tha! |

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

Mark 13:24-37

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

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."

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

Gospel Reflection:

Nancy Dilliplane

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.
We pray especially for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our presiding bishop, Daniel our bishops, Nancy our rector, Cynthia and Caroline our staff, and the ministry of all the baptized.

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. We pray especially for Martha and for our choir and hand bell ensemble.

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. We pray for our Sunday School, and for Alison and Gillian, and for the staff, families and children of the Trinity Buckingham Academy.

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. We pray for Joanne, Natalie, Peter, Janet, Sara, Steve, Sue and Jill, our vestry.

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. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list, and those whose names are written on our hearts and this morning's prayer cards and for those we name now, silently or aloud.

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. We pray especially for the Code Blue Shelter guests and volunteers, and for the feeding ministry of the New Britain Food Larder.

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. We pray for all who hold the reins of wealth and power, especially Joe our president, Josh our governor, and our congress, assemblies, councils, courts and schoolboards.

God of the powerless, hear us and help us!

God of Anna and Simeon, give your church a place with all your saints and the courage to follow them in life and in death. We pray for those who have died, especially those we name now either silently or aloud....

God of the saints, hear us and help us!

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 holiness and the Wind of change, through whom, this day, we pray. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution of Sin

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 Lives

Offertory Hymn: Unexpected and Mysterious

Trinity Choir

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 please speak to our rector, Nancy. It is preferred that you consume the bread at the time you receive it and then sip from the chalice. An alcohol-free chalice and gluten-free bread are available, please ask the server if you require either.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

Many: **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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, — Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, — hea - ven and earth are

full, — full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes _____

_____ in the name of the Lord. _____ Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Agnus Dei

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.


Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

The musical score is written for a voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#), indicating G major. The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.', 'Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.', 'Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:', and 'give us your peace, give us your peace.' The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

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

Communion of the People



While we are wait - ing, come, while we are
With power and glo - ry come, with power and
With love un - end - ing, come, with love un -

wait - ing come,
glo - ry come, Je - sus, our Lord, Em -
end - ing, come,

man - u - el, while we are wait - ing, come

Prayer after Communion

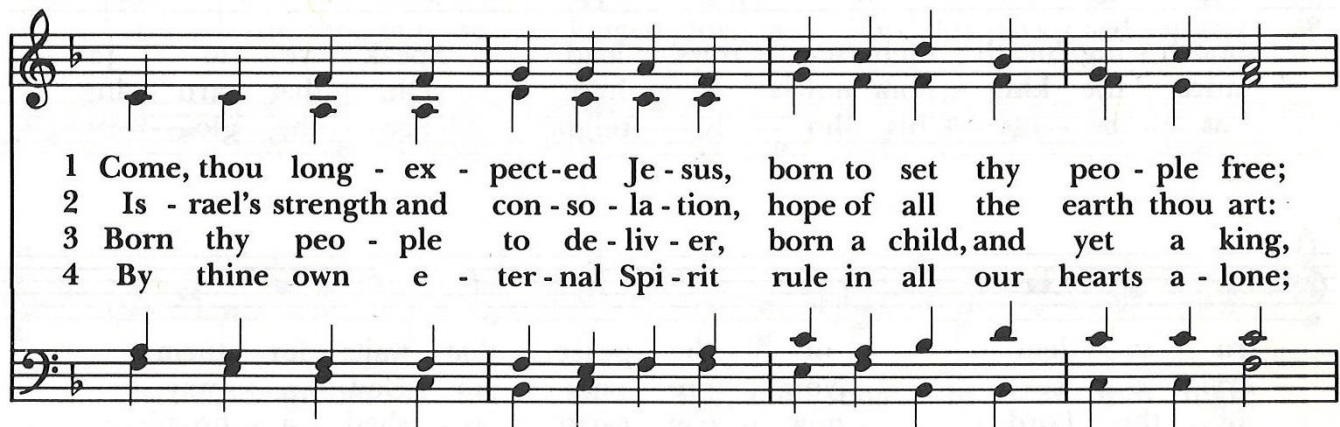
Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Increase our hope, dispel our apathy; inspire our imagination, and deepen our commitment until we become signs of the kingdom for which we and others pray. Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

Dismissal

One: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Sending Hymn: Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715;
adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

87. 87

Dismissal

One: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

Many: **Thanks be to God!**

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Rosemary for Remembrance



A service of healing and hope
in the dark time of the year

Sunday, December 17, 2023
3 p.m.

Trinity Episcopal Church, Buckingham
2645 Durham Rd.
Buckingham, PA 18912
215-794-7921

Worship Schedule for Advent and Christmastide:

December 3, 2023 ADVENT 1 8 am
10 am

December 10, 2023 ADVENT 2 8 am
10 am

December 17, 2023 ADVENT 3 8 am
10 am

December 24, 2023 ADVENT 4 9 am (Note the single service time!)

CHRISTMAS EVE

(Sunday, December 24, 2023) 4 pm Fill the Creche Service
(intentionally hospitable to children)

8 pm Choral Eucharist
(with Special Music & Candles)

CHRISTMAS DAY

(Monday, December 25, 2023) 10 am in Historic Trinity

LESSONS AND CAROLS

(Sunday, December 31, 2023) 10 am (Single Service today!)

A Festive “Ring in the New Year” coffee-hour
will follow the Lessons and Carols in Faith Hall.

We'll return to our usual 8 am and 10 am Sunday Schedule on January 7, 2024.

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

Joanne Welker, Rector's Warden
Barrie McCabe, Accounting Warden

VESTRY

Janet Zimmerman DeCaprio, Stephen Downs,
Peter Oliver, Suzanne Snyder, Sara Swidorski,
Jill Unger, Natalie Welker-Marx

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Jill Unger, Acolyte Coordinator
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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