

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 24, 2023

Fill the Creche Service

4 pm

Trinity Buckingham Episcopal Church
2631 Durham Rd, PO Box 387
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.

This evening we gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and to tell once more the story of God-with-us: Emmanuel. The readings come from Luke's Gospel and as we tell the story in word and song, children of all ages bring the beloved figures of Mary, Joseph, Jesus, the angels, the shepherds and the sheep, not to mention a few cows and horses to fill the manger. The Magi won't arrive for another 12 days... see if you can spot them on a window sill, following the star!

If you are visiting this evening, welcome! We hope you find our members friendly, and this celebration meaningful and joyful. 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, we wish to greet you today or on your next visit in whatever manner will suit you best. Please fill out a visitor's card and return it to an usher.

Children are always very welcome at all of Trinity's 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. New children and their parents are always welcome!

Leading Worship this Evening

Celebrant: Nancy Dilliplane

Lay Associate for Liturgy and Spirituality & Pianist: Martha Dudich

Greeter/Usher: Joe & Deb McLean, Deb Grant

Intercessor: Joe McLean

Acolyte: Ellie Swidorski

Chalicians: Morley Ewing, Jim Sanders

Creche Helpers: Amelia Kurup, Leo Kurup, Francis McLean

Altar Guild: Joanne Welker/Meg Perry

A/V:

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude Piano Selections
He Came Down

Martha Dudich
Francis McLean, Amelia & Leo Kurup

Gathering Hymn: O Come, all ye Faithful



O Come, all ye faith- ful, joy- ful and tri- umph- ant, O come ye, O come ye to
Sing, choirs of an- gels, sing in ex- ul - ta - tion, sing, all ye cit- i- zens of



Beth- le- hem! Come and be- hold him, born the King of An- gels. O come, let us a-
Heaven a- bove! Glo- ry to God, glo-ry in the highest,



dore Him; O come let us a- dore Him; O come, let us a- dore Him, Christ the Lord.

Salutation:

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

Many: **And we beheld his glory.**

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

One: Let us pray.

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 telling of the Christmas story from Luke's Gospel. As the story is read, children bring their Nativity pieces and place them in the crèche.

First Reading

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town

of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

Hymn: Once in Royal David's city (verse 1)

*During the singing of the hymn, children place **Mary, Joseph, the cow and the donkey** in the manger.*

Once in ro - yal Da - vid's. ci - ty stood a low - ly cat - tle_ shed, Where a
mo - ther laid_ her_ Ba - by In a man - ger for_ His_ bed: Ma - ry
was that mo - ther mild Je - sus Christ her lit - tle_ Child.

bethsnotes.com

Second Reading

While they were there, the time came for Mary to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Hymn: Once in Royal David's city (verse 2)

*During the singing of the hymn, a child places the **Baby Jesus** in the manger.*

He came down to earth from Hea-ven, who is God and Lord of all, And his
Shel - ter was a sta - ble and his cra - dle was a stall; With the
poor, and mean and lowly lived on earth our Sav - ior holy.


bethsnotes.com

Third Reading


In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

Hymn: The First Nowell verses 1 & 2


*During the singing of the hymn children bring the **large angel**, the **shepherds** and the **non-plush sheep** forward and place them in the manger.*




1. The first_ Now - ell the_ an-gel did say, Was to
2. They look - éd_ up and_ saw_ a Star Shin-ing



1. cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; In_
2. in_ the East, - be - yond - them far, And




1. fields_ where they lay_ keep-ing their sheep On a
2. to_ the_ earth it_ gave_ great light, And_



1. cold win - ter's night_ that was_ so deep:
2. so it con - tin - ued both day_ and night. Now-
REFRAIN



ell, - Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,



Born is the King_ of Is - ra - el.

Fourth Reading:

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Hymn: Angels We Have Heard on High vs 1 & 2

*During the singing of the hymn, children bring the **smaller angels** and place them in the manger.*

1. An-gels we have heard on high, Sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains, And the moun-tains
Shepherds why this ju-bi-lee? Why your joyous strains pro-long? What the gladsome
in re-ply Ech-o back their joy-ous strains. *ritard* Glo - - -
Tid-ings be Which in-spire their heavenly song?
- - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o, Glo -
- - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o!

bethsnotes.com

Fifth Reading:

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Hymn: Away in a Manger *tune: Mueller*

*During the singing of the hymn, children bring the **plush sheep** and **any remaining crèche figures** and place them in the manger.*

F Bb

A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a
The cat - tle are low - ing, the poor Ba - by
Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask Thee to

F C F

bed, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet
wakes, But lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing He
stay Close by me for - ev - er and love me I

Bb

head. The stars in the sky — looked down where He
makes. I love Thee, Lord Je - sus, look down from the
pray. Bless all the dear child - ren in Thy ten - der

F C F Gm C F

lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep in the hay.
sky, And stay by my side — 'til morn - ing is nigh.
care, And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

Thank you, God: An Affirmation of Christmas Faith

God, Creator,
Sun maker, Moon maker, Star maker, in love you made us.

Thank you, God!

God in Jesus,
Storyteller, Healer, Teacher, in joy you came for us.

Thank you, God!

God here among us,
Comforter, Listener, Disturber, in justice you beckon us.

Thank you God!

Prayers

Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world. Shine in the dark places where there are wars and where people hurt each other.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world. Help our leaders to know how to run this country and this town so that everybody's needs are met, especially those who are suffering.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world. Shine in the dark places where people are ill or sad. Please bring help and healing to all who need it.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, we are your lights in the word. Help us to show people your light by loving them.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, we are your lights in the world. Help us to put the needs of others before our own needs for your sake.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, we are your lights in the world. Help us to look for you and listen for you so we can follow you in everything we do.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Kyrie Confession

Lord God, mighty God, you are the creator of the world.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary, you are the Prince of Peace.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit, by your power the Word was made flesh and came to dwell among us.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Peace The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing to give thanks to you, Creating God. And so, we join our voices with all creation as we shout with joy:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy God, we praise you. Let the heavens be joyful and the earth be glad. We bless you for creating the whole world, for your promises to your people Israel, and for Jesus Christ, in whom your fullness dwells.

**Born of Mary, he shares our life,
Eating with sinners, he welcomes us.
Guiding his children, he leads us.
Visiting the sick, he heals us.
Dying on the cross, he saves us.
Risen from the dead, he gives new life.
Living with you, he prays for us.**

On the night on which he was betrayed, and as they were sitting at a meal, Jesus took a piece of bread and broke it. He gave it to the disciples saying, "This is my body. It is broken for you. Do this to remember me."

Later after they had eaten, Jesus took a cup of wine and said, "This cup is the new relationship with God Made possible because of my death. Drink this all of you, to remember me."

So now we do as Jesus said. With thanksgiving we take this bread and this wine, and we proclaim the death and resurrection of our Lord.

When we are together and share bread and wine like this, Jesus has promised to be present. **Loving God, receive our thanks and praise.**

Pour out your spirit upon us and upon this meal that it may be the body and blood of our Lord. Make us one with Christ and will all who share this feast.

Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love, that we may serve as your faithful disciples until we feast at your table in glory.

We praise you, eternal God, through Christ your Word made flesh, in the holy and life-giving Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now we pray the words that Jesus taught us:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
 now and for ever. Amen.**

**We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ;
 We who are many are one body for we all share in the one bread.**

Communion Hymns: O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.
 So God im-parts to hu - man hearts the bless-ings of his heav'n.
 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro-claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to-night.
 and prais - es sing to God the King and peace to all the earth.
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893, abr., alt.

Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908; setting: *Service Book and Hymnal*, 1958, alt.

Text and music: public domain

ST. LOUIS

86 86 76 86

MIC 521 UK 2017

Silent Night

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
 heaven - ly hosts — sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
 birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

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 the light of the guiding star, the humility of the shepherds, the perseverance of the magi, the joy of the angels, the faithfulness of Joseph and Mary and the peace of the Christ-child be God's gift to you this Christmas. And the blessing of the triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate De - i - ty.
 Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.
 Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William
 H. Cummings (1831-1915)

77. 77. D with Refrain

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Upcoming Worship Opportunities
at Trinity Buckingham**

December 25, 2023: Christmas Day
10 am in Historic Trinity

**December 31, 2023: Christmas Lessons & Carols
with Holy Eucharist**
10 am in the main church sanctuary
(one service only this day)

January 7, 2023: The Baptism of Our Lord
8 am Quiet Eucharist in the main church sanctuary
10 am in the main church sanctuary

Children are always welcome at all of our worship services. There is a basket of quiet toys in the rear of the church. While not staffed, our nursery is open to visit with your child. The sound from the sanctuary is available in the nursery.

Sunday School takes place during the 10 am service on Sundays from September through May. Children gather for worship with their families and then process out to their classroom. They return in time for Holy Communion.

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE
LICENSE,
License #A-736239. All rights reserved.

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
Barry McCabe, Accounting Warden

VESTRY

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

STAFF

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

VOLUNTEERS

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



TRINITY BUCKINGHAM CHURCH & ACADEMY
2631 DURHAM ROAD, PO BOX 387
BUCKINGHAM, PA 18912
CHURCH: 215.794.7921 SCHOOL: 215.794.5530
TRINITYBUCKINGHAM.ORG
TRINITYBUCKINGHAMACADEMY.ORG