

December 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome. If you are a visitor, we are grateful that you have joined us and hope that you find space here to come close to God. We welcome all who seek the Holy, no matter your background. At Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, we pray, celebrate, and share our gifts with each other, our neighbors, and our community, as we serve God and represent the Episcopal Diocese of Arkansas. We'd love to connect with you about how to make this church your home. To do so, please fill out one of the pew cards in front of you and drop it in the offertory plate.

The service is found in the black Book of Common Prayer beginning on page 323.

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen**.

#### Zephaniah 3:14-20

### THE FIRST READING

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;

do not let your hands grow weak.

The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors at that time.

And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the Lord.
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

#### CANTICLE 9

Lector

People

Surely, it is God who saves me; \* I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \* and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \* from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, \* Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; \* see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \* and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \* for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Text: Song of Isaiah (Isaiah 12:2-6)

### THE EPISTLE

## Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

### THE GOSPEL

### LUKE 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

## 🇞 Altar Gifts 🔊

To the glory of God and in loving memory of Anita B Harris and Dr Austin Grimes by Barbara and Steve Bova

To the glory of God and in loving memory for Joyce Martin, and Maxine B and William P (Dub) Hamilton by Cathy and Mike Mayton

Make arrangements for a Christmas memorial by contacting Missy McCain (missy@trinitylittlerock.org) by December 18.

### Celebrant

The Rev. Thomas Alexander

### Preacher

The Very Rev. Amy Dafler Meaux

### Lector and Lay Eucharistic Minister Judy Barger

Make a pledge, or year end gift to the Trinity Operating Fund.



# **Events and Information**

## This week at and around the Cathedral

Today	4 pm, Choral Evensong		5:30 pm, Eucharist with Healing Prayers
	4 pm, EYC Snow Ball at Christ Church		5:30 pm, Community Dinner
Monday	7 am, Breakfast and Bible Study		6 pm, Koinonia Pick-up Pageant and
	8:30 am, Morning Prayer		Eucharist
Tuesday	8:30 am, Morning Prayer		6:30 pm, Book Club
Wednesday	<ul> <li>8:30 am, Morning Prayer</li> <li>4 pm, Trinity Chorister Rehearsal</li> <li>5 pm, Trinity Ringing Society Practice</li> <li>5 pm, St. Cecilia Singers</li> </ul>		7:30 pm, Choral Compline
		Thursday	8:30 am, Morning Prayer
			5:15 pm, Evening Prayer
			7 pm, Choir rehearsal

# **Trinity News**

## Choral Complines in Advent

Come to Compline on Wednesday nights at 7:30 in Advent for a peaceful, beautiful conclusion to your day. Compline is a short service of night prayer with prayers, readings, and music. Traditionally, there are no musical instruments; the music is entirely a cappella. The Trinity Schola will sing for these services.

## Breakfast and Bible Study

Every Monday at 7:00 am Community Bakery on Main Street

Looking for a new weekday spiritual practice? Join us at our local Community Bakery as we begin the week and the work day by sharing breakfast and discussing the Gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday. There's no prior preparation involved. Our time together on Monday makes Sunday even more meaningful. To learn more, contact the Rev. Thomas Alexander (*thomas@ trinitylittlerock.org*).

# Updated Weekday Worship Schedule

With the new liturgical year, we are offering a newly updated weekday worship schedule, which now includes Morning Prayer in Pierce Chapel at 8:30 am, Monday through Thursday. The complete schedule is as follows:

### Monday

8:30 am, Morning Prayer, Pierce Chapel **Tuesday** 

8:30 am, Morning Prayer with Expansive Language, Pierce Chapel

#### Wednesday

8:30 am, Morning Prayer, Pierce Chapel 5:30 pm, Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers, Pierce Chapel

#### Thursday

8:30 am, Morning Prayer, Pierce Chapel 5:15 pm, Evening Prayer, Cathedral Chancel and Livestream



# Koinonia Worship with Pick-Up Pageant

#### Wednesday, December 18

Join us for dinner and our family worship service including the always fun "Pick-Up Christmas Pageant"! Children can choose their nativity costume following dinner. Come as early as 5:15 to eat, we'll dress and get ready for church between 5:45-6:00! Cookies and punch reception to follow.

### Christmas Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 22 at 4 p.m.

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral will offer its annual service of Christmas Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 22nd at 4 pm. Nine biblical readings announcing the Incarnation will alternate with choir anthems by Poston, Chilcott, Rutter, Sweelinck, Howells, Bohlin, and Willcocks, and beloved Christmas hymns such as *Once in royal David's city*, *God rest you merry, gentlemen*, *O come, all ye faithful*, and *Hark! the herald angels sing*.

The Trinity Choir and Trinity Choristers will sing for this service.



Join us for afterwards for a reception!