

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church



Holy Eucharist Rite II

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025 8 & 9:30a.m.

(The Lines in bold italics are spoken by the people.)

We are all guests at the Lord's Table. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

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Holy Trinity Bartow • Come and See

Processional Hymn: 65 “Prepare the way, O Zion” (vs. 1-3)

- 1. Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!**
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.
- 2. He brings God’s rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.**
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.
- 3. Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior’s rule embrace.**
His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Server Today we relight the candle of HOPE. Now we light the candle for the second Sunday in Advent. This is the candle of PEACE. As we prepare for the coming of Jesus, we remember that Jesus is our hope and our peace. From the prophet Isaiah:

Celebrant “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.” —Isaiah 9:6-7

Let us pray: ***Gracious God, Grant that we may find peace as we prepare for our Lord’s birth. May divisions in ourselves and in our families be peacefully resolved. May there be peace in our cities and in the***

countries of our world. Help us to see the paths of peace in our lives, and then give to us courage to follow them. Lord, let us remember that you only are the giver of lasting peace and that you are always with us. Amen.

The Word of God

BCP p.355

Celebrant Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.***

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***

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

People ***Christ, have mercy.***

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

BCP p.357

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The Lessons: *(we sit)*

The First Reading: **Isaiah 11:1-10**

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

The Second Reading: (read responsively) BCP p.685

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;

3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *

and the little hills bring righteousness.

4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *

he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *

from one generation to another.

6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *

like showers that water the earth.

7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *

there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *

who alone does wondrous deeds!

19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *

and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.

The Epistle

Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

(We all stand)

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

The Gospel **Matthew 3:1-12**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume 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.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People ***Praise to you, Lord Christ***

The Sermon (we sit)

The Nicene Creed (we stand) BCP p.358

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.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy"
For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and
be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Justin our Bishop, Greg & John our
retired bishops; Becky our priest, Pattie our Deacon, and Russell our
seminarian, and for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy
people of God, we pray to you, O Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions
may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray
to you, O Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the
Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord. ***Lord, have
mercy.***

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may
grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord. ***Lord, have
mercy.***

For those in positions of public trust, especially our president, president
elect and governor, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity
and freedom of every person. We give thanks for those who are serving
our country: Cole, Keith, David, Monique, Gabriel, Gabe, Matt, and Naomi
& Kolten. We pray for James, Jonah and Ethan who are deployed in
service to our country. We also pray for our first responders, especially
Ben & Zachary. We pray to you, O Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees,
prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and
protected, we pray to you, O Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who
are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show
forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord. ***Lord, have
mercy.***

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors, that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health. We pray for our Members: Mark, Beverly, Nolan, Chris, Mel, Lisa, Sharon, Sylvia, Allene, Susie & Dabney. We pray for our Family & Friends: Patricia Parker, Diane B., Art R., DeeDee T., Aaron T., Leslie T., Donna S., Cindy T., Janine Polk, Sharron Simmons, Gerry Crews, Betty Fitzgerald, Meryl Crews, Grace Meacham, Archie Conners, Tenley Sylvain, Rac, and Tommy Stokes, and we offer prayers for those not able to join us; especially Hope and Karen.

We pray to you, O Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For Churches in our Diocese: St. Alban's, Auburndale; Pray that they grow during this holiday season, finding new life in God's wonders and for Holy Trinity, Bartow; Please pray we may do good works in the community in the name of Jesus.

We pray to you, O Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God. ***To you, O Lord our God.***

Celebrant For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sins against God our neighbor.

Confession of Sin and Absolution

Leader and People saying together

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.

The Priest, stands and says the absolution.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***



The Peace (*we stand*)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

**Birthdays &
Anniversaries**

***Happy Birthday to you! To Jesus be true!
May the Lord Bless and keep you,
Your whole life through.***

Offertory

Celebrant says the Offertory Sentence

Offertory Music

Tim Davis

The Doxology sung together

Hymn 380

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen***

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p.367

Celebrant and People (we stand)

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 him thanks and praise.***

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; 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:

Celebrant and People

Hymn S-130 Sanctus “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord (*sung*)

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

The Celebrant continues (we sit or kneel as able)

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,
Celebrant and People

***We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;***

The Celebrant continues

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 forever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p.364

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 Breaking of the Bread

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

*Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!*

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Communion

Communion Music

Tim Davis

The Body and Blood of Christ, our Lord. ***Amen.***

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Now in thanksgiving, let us pray together.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever Amen.

The Blessing *The Priest blesses the people.*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Recessional Hymn: 616 Hail to the Lord's Anointed (vs: 1,2,5)

***1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed, Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, To set the captive free;
To take away transgression, And rule in equity.***

- 2. *He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
whose souls condemned and dying, were precious in his sight***
- 5. *O'er every foe victorious He on His throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious, All-blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;
His Name shall stand forever, His changeless Name of Love***

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!
People ***Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

The Church has several pending capital needs to maintain our buildings and infrastructure: the Rectory needs re-roofing; the Sanctuary must be tented again for termites; the metal beams on Carlton Hall & school building wings require rust remediation & painting; and the irrigation system needs renovation and repair.

Quotes are still being finalized, but it is clear a capital campaign is appropriate to raise well in excess of \$75,000. The Building and Endowment funds have committed \$25,000 each. The remainder needs to be funded by parish families. Advance commitments for more than half have already been received. Please prayerfully consider contributing to the effort. Designate gifts to the Building Fund.

Serving Us Today: Altar Guild Team 1:
George Ann Hodges and Sarah & Nim Korda



May God Bless your special day!

Birthdays

December 12—Mary Frisbie

December 12—Sandra Suarez

Anniversaries

SCAN ME



- This is 1st Sunday, loose plate goes to RDF
- Friday 8am Parish Breakfast
- There is no youth group today
- Mark your calendars: on Dec 12th @ 5pm—Porch Party at Millers, 755 S Broadway for the Christmas parade
- Open House at Rev Becky's on Dec 14th



Sunday, Dec 30, 2025

Worship Attendance— 41

Tithes & Offerings— \$ 1,465.00

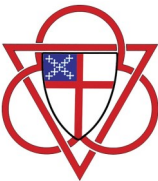
Weekly Budget—\$3,485.00

Dec 14, Readings: Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalm 146:4-9

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11



Bishop: *The Rt. Rev. Justin Holcomb*

Rector: *Very Rev. Becky Toalster*

Deacon: *Deacon Pattie Behnstedt*

Senior Warden: *Byron Walker*

Junior Warden: *Keith Miller*

Parish Administrator/Sexton: *Wayne Troxler*

Accompanist: *Tim Davis*

Nursery: *Dalmaris Suarez*