

# The First Sunday of Christmas



**December 28, 2025**

10 a.m.

## **Trinity Episcopal Parish**

317 Franklin Street

Clarksville, TN 37040

931-645-2458

[www.trinityparish.com](http://www.trinityparish.com)

### **WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!**

We are delighted that you have joined us for worship this morning. You will find that our worship blends the ancient mysteries of the church with a modern and vibrant faith. Everything you need to worship with us is in this bulletin. Located in the pew rack are Welcome, Small Group, Volunteer, and Giving connection cards. Please complete a Welcome Card so we can learn a little more about you.

**NURSERY:** Kids of all ages are welcome to attend the service! However, parents may prefer to take infants and toddlers up to 3 years old to our staffed nursery, located downstairs in the Parish House next to the sanctuary. The ushers or greeters can accompany you to the nursery.

Please note that the Parish House doors are locked during the service. Should you need access to the Nursery during the service, please see an usher, or go to the breezeway door and the gatekeeper will assist you.

**NOTE:** No Children's Chapel today.

**RESTROOM:** A restroom is located to the right as you enter the church, to the left as you exit.

**LIGHTING A VOTIVE:** The Little Side Chapel (located in the alcove to the left as you enter the church) is available to anyone wishing to light a candle and have a few moments of reflection and prayer.

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*Today we light again the candles of hope, peace, love, and joy. Remembering that Jesus came to bring light to the world, we light the Christ Candle.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

SILENT MEDITATION AND RINGING OF THE BELL

### The Word of God

OPENING HYMN: Angels From the Realms of Glory ..... Hymnal 93

*Hymnals are found in the pew racks.*

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

**And blessed be God's 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.**

GLORIA / Verse 1 ..... Hymnal 95

*Hymn numbers with an S are at the beginning of the Hymnal.*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.  
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.

The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the Lord will give.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.  
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 147

1 Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God! \*  
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

**2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; \***  
**he gathers the exiles of Israel.**

3 He heals the brokenhearted \*  
and binds up their wounds.

**4 He counts the number of the stars \***  
**and calls them all by their names.**

5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; \*  
there is no limit to his wisdom.

**6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, \***  
**but casts the wicked to the ground.**

7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; \*  
make music to our God upon the harp.

**8 He covers the heavens with clouds \***  
**and prepares rain for the earth;**

9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \*  
and green plants to serve mankind.

**10 He provides food for flocks and herds \***  
**and for the young ravens when they cry.**

11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \*  
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

**12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, \***  
**in those who await his gracious favor.**

13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \*  
praise your God, O Zion;

**14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \***  
**he has blessed your children within you.**

15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

**16 He sends out his command to the earth, \***  
**and his word runs very swiftly.**

17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

**18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \***  
**who can stand against his cold?**

19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.  
**20 He declares his word to Jacob, \***  
**his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**  
21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!

#### NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Titus 2:11-14

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN: Love came down at Christmas ..... Hymnal 84

*All stand*

*Please join in singing Procession: Verses 1 and 2/Recession Verse 3.*

#### GOSPEL: John 1:1-18

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

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:  
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.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Form IV)**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Remembering especially Sean, our presiding bishop, John, bishop of Tennessee, and [ \_\_\_\_], our priest today, grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Grant the people of Trinity the guidance of your Holy Spirit, patience, love and mutual respect as we seek the next priest to shepherd our parish and this community.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Remembering especially Donald, president of the United States, Bill, governor of Tennessee, and Wes and Joe, our mayors, guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless the men and women in the service of our nation, and their families, that they may live in safety, be filled with courage, and have a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All kneel. Silence may be kept.*

**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 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

*All stand.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

### **The Holy Communion**

#### **OFFERTORY**

*You may leave your offering in the plates as they are passed, or visit <https://trinityparish.com/giving/> or scan the QR code using your phone's camera to give online.*



*You may also mail your offering or pledge to: 317 Franklin Street, Clarksville, TN 37040.*

**TODAY'S OFFERING:** *Today is the fourth Sunday: A second offering is collected for FUEL, which provides weekend food packages to schoolchildren in need.*

**MUSICAL OFFERING:** Infant Holy, Infant Lowly - arr. Neil Harmon

#### **DOXOLOGY**

*The People stand and sing while the offerings are brought forward.*

**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.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** (Eucharistic Prayer D, Book of Common Prayer p. 372)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing:

**SANCTUS** ..... Hymnal S114

*Hymn numbers with an S are at the beginning of the Hymnal.*

*The People sing:*

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts:**

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee O Lord Most High.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (see BCP p. 373)

*The People remain standing or kneel.*

... Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

... Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM ..... Hymnal S158

*The People sing:*

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
grant us thy peace.**

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.

DISTRIBUTION

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive Communion. Here are the options:*

***Bread intincted by the priest:*** *Proceed to the right (pulpit) side, standing or kneeling. The priest will carefully intinct (dip) the bread in the wine and place it in your open hand.*



**Bread and wine (common cup):** Proceed to the left (eagle lectern) side, standing or kneeling. You will receive bread in your hand, which you should immediately consume, and then you will drink from the chalice. Touching only the base of the chalice, you may assist in directing the wine to your lips. Please do not touch the upper part of the chalice or intinct the bread.

**Bread only:** Left side. After receiving bread, cross both arms over your chest to indicate no wine.

**Blessing only:** Either side: If you or your child wish to receive a priest's blessing instead of bread and wine, please cross your arms over your chest.

#### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

*Please join in the singing of the hymns.*

#### POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*The people stand or kneel.*

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: Good Christian Friends Rejoice ..... Hymnal 107

#### DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

POSTLUDE: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing arr. Neil Harmon

*Please join us in the Parish Hall immediately following today's service for coffee and a light meal.*

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#### Those serving today

1st reading: Frank Lott

Psalm: Will Green

2nd reading: Jan Hodgson

Prayers: Sandy Shirley

Verger/LEM: Casey Williams

Acolyte: Chris Smith

Ushers: Ken Mory Steven B. Stroman

Greeters: Ric Williams Jen Williams

Livestream: Jamie Loy

Gatekeeper: Malinda Mabry Scott

Parish H. lockup: Howell Foust  
Organist: Gayle Sullivan

Altar Guild: Matthew

### **Celebrant**

We are joined today by the Rev. Martin Odidi of Nashville.

### **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer**

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### **Parish Cycle of Prayer**

Russ and Christina and William Longhurst

Frank and Patricia Lott

James and Kelly and Li and Rhianna and Jamison and Gwendolynn and Joshua and Gunnar Loy

### **Parish Prayer List**

Michael Brunet

## **Calendar**

### **SUNDAY WORSHIP:**

- **7:30 a.m.:** Holy Eucharist Rite I, spoken
- **10 a.m.:** Holy Eucharist Rite II, with music, nursery available

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

**9 a.m.**

**Children:** Godly Play for students pre-school through 5th grade.

**Youth:** Students 6th through 12th grade.

**Adults:** Walk in Love: "Episcopal Beliefs and Practices" by Scott Gunn

**11:30 a.m.** (following 10 a.m. service)

- **Adults:** Luke's Gospel and Acts of the Apostles

*Nursery is available starting at 9 a.m. through the 10 a.m. service for infants up to 3 years old.*

### **FELLOWSHIP:**

- **Small Groups** meet weekly or bi-weekly. To sign up, go to <https://trinityparish.com/engage/small-group-connections/> or call the church office, 931-645-2458.
- **Women's Study**, "The Gift of Years," second Saturdays at 9 a.m., Parish Hall Library.
- **Loaves & Fishes** Trinity volunteer Day, third Wednesdays at noon, 325 Crossland Ave.
- **Circuit Workit** low-impact exercise, Saturdays at 9:30 a.m., Parish Hall.
- **Chair Yoga**, Saturdays, 10:30 a.m., Parish Hall.

## **Announcements**



We are off to a great start with our Stewardship drive, but we have a long way to go. Please submit your intention for 2026 as soon as possible, so our Vestry can confirm our budget for the coming year. You can turn in your pledge card by mailing it, drop it by the church office, or place it in the plate this Sunday. You also can submit your intention online by going to:

[app.easytithes.com/App/Form/7acc8200-0dfd-45c2-93b8-2f12a738c03e](http://app.easytithes.com/App/Form/7acc8200-0dfd-45c2-93b8-2f12a738c03e)



**GAME NIGHT:** Join fellow parishioners for dinner and fun the first Wednesday of each month beginning January 7. We will gather in the parish hall for a delicious meal (suggested donation of \$10 per person, kids 15 and under are free) at 5:30 pm, then start playing games at 6 pm until 8 pm. Children are welcome too! We will have board games, card games, video games - something for all ages. Want more information? Contact Kate Smith at (931) 551-7412 or [norakatemom@gmail.com](mailto:norakatemom@gmail.com).

**Save the date!**

Empty Bowls Lunch February 11th, 2026. Tickets will be available in the coming days. Please be on the lookout for information as it will start coming out soon!



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[www.trinityparish.com](http://www.trinityparish.com)

Follow us on **Facebook**, **Instagram** and **YouTube** at TrinityParishTN

To view our **full calendar**, visit <https://trinityparish.com/events/>.

To receive our weekly **Talk of Trinity emailed newsletter**, email [administrator@trinityparish.com](mailto:administrator@trinityparish.com).

To access **Trinity Guest WiFi** the password is: trinityparish

## Our Team

Office Administrator: Kelsey Deboard

Nursery: Kelly Loy and Lisa Mejeun

Treasurer: Beverly Kimbrough

Lead Verger: Chris Smith

## Our Vestry

Howell Foust, Senior Warden  
Steven Stroman, Junior Warden

Maryalice Telford

Heather Fleming

Will Green

Frank Lott

Bob Houston  
Bill Kimbrough  
Cornelia Mitchell  
Chris Nolder  
Amy Truesdale

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