

**The First Sunday of Advent**

**December 1, 2024**

**8:00 am**

**Trinity Episcopal Church**



1ST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

**THE SEASON IS** — Advent. The word Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming." Advent begins the church year, starting four Sundays before Christmas. The season of Advent has been set aside as a time of preparation for Christmas since at least the last half of the 6th century. Advent is a time for self-examination and asking for forgiveness as the church is preparing for Christ's Second Coming even as it prepares for Christmas. The liturgical color of Advent is blue, the color of Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

## **FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

Please check out our website ([trinityoldswedes.church](http://trinityoldswedes.church)). Follow us on Facebook and Instagram by searching for @TrinityParishDE; and please tag us in your pictures using #TrinityParishDE.

## **OUR PRAYER LIST**

Prayer requests for the bulletin should be sent to the parish office by Wednesday to appear in the Sunday bulletin. The clergy and members of our church are happy to pray with you on the phone if you would like.

## **SERVICE PARTICIPANTS**

The Reverend Patricia Downing—Rector  
David Simmons—Director of Music  
Jerry Lucas—Reader/Intercessor/Server/Coffee Hour Host

Team 4: Ava Vandergast, Amelia Welch-Wierzbicki—Altar Guild  
*All music is used with permission.*

The flowers today are given in fond memory of Ann Aydelotte and grateful thanks for the friendship and fellowship of the people of Trinity Episcopal Parish ,  
from Joanne and Glenn Barton, Perth, Western Australia.  
*Flowers arranged by Catherine Dean.*

# The Holy Eucharist

## Prelude

### Processional Hymn MHSO 59

### Longing For Light



1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for  
2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for  
3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for  
4 Long-ing for shel - ter, man - y are home-less, long-ing for  
5 Man - y the gifts, — man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone has  
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
warmth, — man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see. \_\_\_\_\_  
pow - er to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice. \_\_\_\_\_  
bro - ken for o - thers, shared un - til all are fed. \_\_\_\_\_  
shel - ter - ing o - thers, wall made of liv - ing stone. \_\_\_\_\_  
to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come. \_\_\_\_\_

#### *Refrain*



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.



Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light!



Shine in your church gath - ered to - day. \_\_\_\_\_

Words and Music: Bernadette Farrell © 1994 OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213 [www.ocp.org].  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## The Word of God

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

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.***

### Kyrie

Lord have mercy.  
***Christ have mercy.***  
Lord have mercy.

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* ***And also with you.***  
*Celebrant* 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.***

### The Lesson

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm 25:1-9** *Spoken in unison.*

***To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.***

***Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.***

***Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
and teach me your paths.***

*Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.*

*Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.*

*Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.*

*Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.*

*He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.*

*All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.*

## **The Epistle**

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

**The Gospel** *People stand as they are able.*

Luke 21:25-36

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
*Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the

face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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

**The Sermon**

The Reverend Patricia Downing

**The 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.*

**The Prayers of the People**

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; in the Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, and in our diocese for St. Peter's Church, Smyrna;

*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons, especially Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Kevin, our Bishop, and Patty and Marta, our clergy;

*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, especially Anne Digan, Jim Yandle, Melissa Perry, Marilyn Serrano, Paquito Ocasio, Ofelia Pitalúa, Emiliano Morales, Ron Clineff, Andy Butcher, Courtney Thompson, Phil Simmons, Johanna Keresztes, Diana Wood, Wayne Wilson, Tritstina McNeill, Richard Leuliette, Bett Malgiera, Barbara McGinn, Josephine Otwell, and Jesús Busto;

*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;

*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week: Alexandra Saenz Pitalúa, Ranferis Morales Estrada, Douglas Smith, Trini Carranza, Rosa Medina, Leslie Ramirez, Tony Catka, Judy Byorick, Lio Mondragon Velazquez, Kaitlyn Lyons & Troy Coffee, and CeCe Ashe & Breanne Staley-Ashe; and for those celebrating special communion today: David Arellano Garcia and Joely Guerrero-Reyes.

*Silence*

### **The Concluding Collect**

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Celebrant and People*

***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.***

*Celebrant*

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**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. ***And also with you.***

# The Holy Eucharist

## The Offertory

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

*Ephesians 5:2*

All things come of Thee, O Lord, *and of thine own have we given Thee.*

## The Great Thanksgiving

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 him 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:

*Celebrant and People*

***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.***

*Then the Celebrant continues*

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;***

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,

*People and Celebrant*  
***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**

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

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

### **Post Communion Prayer**

***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.***

## The Blessing

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; 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 TH 72

Hark! The Glad Sound, The Savior Comes!

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior  
2 He comes, the pri - soners to re - lease in Sa - tan's  
3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

prom - ised long: let ev - ery heart pre -  
bond - age held; the gates of brass be -  
soul to cure; and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.  
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

## The Dismissal

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* *Thanks be to God.*

## Postlude

## Announcements

**Stewardship 2025—Joy & Connection**—The theme for the 2025 stewardship campaign is joy & connection. The stewardship letters and cards were mailed the week of October 7 and the link for online pledges is available on our website and via the Realm Connect app. Thank you to all who have already submitted their 2025 pledge. If you have not, please consider sending it in or doing so on Realm. Please contact Bid Hukill and Catherine Dean if you have any questions.

**Christmas memorials:** Parishioners are invited to remember loved ones at Christmas by contributing to the funds used to decorate Trinity and Old Swedes for Christmastide. The minimum suggested contribution is \$25, payable by Venmo or check. Please note “Christmas memorials” on your check. In addition, please print the names of those you are remembering so they can be listed accurately in the bulletin. Deadline for Christmas memorials is Wednesday, December 18th. Thank you.

**The Lucia Festival** is on Sunday, December 8 at 1 pm at Old Swedes Historic Site. The festival is held in Old Swedes Church. Please go to [www.oldsvedes.org](http://www.oldsvedes.org) for more information and ticketing.

**'Tis the season for giving**—The “giving” trees are up in the lobby at Trinity Church! The tree by the nursery is for donations of hats and mittens for the families in need in our community. On the tree next to the parish office are tags for gift cards for the residents of Epiphany House and Clark House to provide gifts for their children. Please take a tag and return it with the items requested in a Christmas card by Monday, December 16th. You can bring them with you on Sunday mornings or during the week to the parish office.

**GREENS WORKSHOP:** Set aside some time for making small arrangements of greens for the windows at Trinity—and enjoying the company of others in a shared project. The Greens Workshop will be held on Saturday, December 21, from 9:30-11 in the kitchen. Please bring gloves and clippers. Come and bring a friend; no experience is needed! Questions? Call Ashlin Bray at 302-658-5821.

**Matching Grant Opportunity**— Similar to last year we have an opportunity to qualify for the Jessie Ball duPont Match Grant. The match is based on online donations, using Realm (Realm Connect) directly or by simply scanning the QR code in the bulletin, received during November and December with a maximum match of \$500 for each person. We look forward to your support.

**FREE HOLIDAY CONCERT: ENCORE CHORALE OF WILMINGTON** – Come ring in the spirit of the holiday season with music and joy on Wednesday, December 11, at 7:00 pm, at Trinity, when The Encore Chorale of Wilmington, a 50-member vocal ensemble, under the direction of Trinity’s Director of Music, David Simmons, presents a FREE holiday concert featuring both sacred and secular holiday classics. It’s “The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year!”

**SPECIAL MUSIC for GAUDETE SUNDAY - December 15!** The third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is Latin for "rejoice." This Sunday marks the beginning of the third week of Advent, when the music is marked by a lighter mood and a heightened sense of joyous anticipation. To celebrate this special Sunday marking the half-way point of Advent, the 10:00 am Service of Worship will feature special music by the choir, violin, clarinet and tambourine. The choir will present Edward Kee's buoyant, dance-like "When Will Messiah Come?" and Hal H. Hopson's reflective setting of the Nordic Hymn "Will Not Day Come Soon?" Join us for this musical celebration of the Advent season!

**MUSIC & DRAMA ON CHRISTMAS EVE! The 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Service Of Eucharist** will feature the traditional re-telling of the nativity story as the children of our congregation, costumed as shepherds, wisemen and angels, present Trinity’s annual Christmas Pageant during our earliest Christmas Eve Service. **The 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service of Eucharist** will feature the full Trinity Choir as well as a brass quartet, violin, flute, handbells, and timpani. The choir will present Steven Ottomanyi’s lush setting of “On Christmas Night,” Douglas Wagner's joyous and dramatic "Christmas Gloria," and Stephen Holcomb's transcendent choral setting of Howard Thurman’s poignant Christmas poem "The Work Of Christmas." Come early and enjoy the Pre-Service Recital, which begins at 5:45 pm and features Christmas selections for organ, brass, flute, violin and handbells!



## LOS POSADAS Schedule 2024

*All Posadas start at 7 pm, except Christmas Eve is at 8 pm. Those held at Trinity are held in the dining room.*

- 12/16 Held at Trinity Church – Hosted by Isabel Zúñiga
- 12/17 Held at 1109 Pleasant Street, Wilmington 19805—Hosted by Lucia Vasquez
- 12/18 Held at Trinity Church—Hosted by Daniel Urueta
- 12/19 Held at Trinity Church—Hosted by Sylvia Sandoval and Maria
- 12/20 Held at Trinity Church—Hosted by Gloria Ortiz
- 12/21 Held at 107 Livingston Avenue, Wilmington 19804—Hosted by Trini & Alberto Carranza
- 12/22 Held at 212 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Wilmington 19805—Hosted by Esperanza Alarcon
- 12/23 Held at Trinity Church—Hosted by Gerardo & Elena Plasensia
- 12/24 Held at Trinity Church—Hosted by Fernando Herrera & Angelica Morales