



HOLY TRINITY
ANGLICAN CHURCH

Proclaim. Exalt. Serve.

The Third Sunday in Advent
December 14, 2025
Holy Communion

WELCOME

Welcome!

We're so glad you've joined us this morning. Whether you've been following Christ for years or are investigating the Christian faith for the first time you are welcome at Holy Trinity.

As an Anglican church our time together in worship is shaped by ancient liturgies accompanied by old hymns, new choruses and the preaching of God's word. On most Sunday mornings we share Holy Communion together, but on the final Sunday of each month we worship following the service of Morning Prayer. Our services come from the Anglican Church in North America's 2019 Book of Common Prayer. Everything you need to know for our service—like when to sit or stand, song lyrics, corporate prayers and readings can be found here in your bulletin.

Our nursery is open during the whole service for children up to 5 years old. There is a "Little Sanctuary" for nursing moms and young children in between the exit doors on the side closest to the nursery. Kids grades K-5 will be invited to their own time of bible teaching before the sermon. All leaders are vetted and trained folks who will love your kids well! Please make sure you have checked in your son or daughter at the check-in station near the young children's wing.

Want to know more about us? Please complete one of the welcome cards located on the large table in the Courtyard Lobby, or speak with a member of our clergy after worship. Thanks again for visiting with us this morning. I look forward to meeting you!

Yours in Christ,



Rev. Dr. John Yates III

A SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRELUDE

Be thou my vision, Daniel Pinkston

WELCOME

INTROIT

O savior, rend the heavens

*O Savior, rend the heavens wide! Come down, come down with mighty stride.
Unbar the gates, the doors break down; unbar the way to heaven's crown.*

*O Dayspring, dew from heaven send. As gentle dew, O Son, descend.
Drop down, you clouds, and torrents bring, to Jacob's line rain down a King.*

OPENING HYMN

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art:
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king,
Born to reign in us for ever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Officiant: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel.

People: **For he has visited and redeemed his people.**

Officiant: Surely the Lord is coming soon.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY *(prayed together)*

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.

HYMN *(all sing)*

O come, O come, Emmanuel

O come, thou Key of Dav—id, come, and open wide our heaven—ly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to mis—ery.

Refrain: *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emma—nuel . . . shall come to thee, O Israel!*

O come, thou Dayspring from— on high, and cheer us by thy draw—ing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds— of night, and death’s dark shadow put— to flight.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSON *(please sit)*

The New Testament: Colossians 1:9-20

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Red Bible, page 983

People: Thanks be to God.

Children’s Worship

Children grades K-5 are invited to join the teachers and follow the cross at the front of the sanctuary for their own time of kid’s worship. They will return to the sanctuary during the announcements.

THE GOSPEL SONG

There is one gospel

There is one Gospel on which I stand
For all eternity,
It is my story, my Father’s plan:
The Son has rescued me!
Oh what a Gospel, oh what a peace!

My highest joy and my deepest need.
Now and forever, He is my Light,
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

There is one Gospel to which I cling,
All else I count as loss.
For there where justice and mercy meet,
He saved me on the cross.
No more I boast in what I can bring,
No more I carry the weight of sin,
For He has brought me from death to life,
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

And in this Gospel the church is one,
We do not walk alone.
We have His Spirit as we press on
To lead us safely home.
And when in glory still I will sing
Of this old story that rescued me,
“Praise to my Savior, the King of life!”
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

And when in glory still I will sing
Of this old story that rescued me,
“Praise to my Savior, the King of life,”
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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THE GOSPEL

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 1:1-9, 18

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

Red Bible, page 886

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Caleb Burr

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 *(all are invited to sit or kneel)*

Reader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, “hear our prayer.”

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God.

Silence

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: **Hear our prayer.**

For all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and especially within the Diocese of the Carolinas.

Silence

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: **Hear our prayer.**

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others.

Silence

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: **Hear our prayer.**

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

Silence

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: **Hear our prayer.**

For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service.

Silence

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty and most merciful God, you have told us not to think of ourselves only, but to remember the needs of others. We pray for all in want or need, for all who have strayed from your way, for the sick in body or mind, for the poor and lonely, for those in distress and despair or any other adversity especially Jonie Bowie; Larry Crumpler; Gay Eatman; Woody Eatman; Julie Gilbert; Laci Hamilton; Jim Harris; Frank Hill; Liz Holzner; Ann Johnson; Julia Kane; Anne Keller; Holland McPeake; Mary B. Raiford; Margaret Steed; Brittany Swanger; Tom Vestal; Ed Weems; Don Whitworth; and Warren Williamson.

Heavenly Father, we praise you for the birth of Sallie Elkins Caison to Arrington and John. For all those expecting the birth of a child, especially Haylee and David Block; Madi and Matt Couch; Tessa and Matt Goodrich; Kirsten and Oleg Kakhovsky; Leah and Josh McArdle; Caroline and James Wiley; and Emily and Niko Zant.

We pray for our loved ones serving in the military, especially Jeb Baker; Samuel Bedor, Chase Duncan, Brennan Hodges and Mitch Snyder— keep them safe, enfold them with your protection and fill them with courage each day.

Please add your own petitions or thanksgivings silently.

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

(Congregation begins with a moment of silent confession.)

**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.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him:

*Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.
Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:1-2

THE PEACE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY

1 Peter 2:9

Officiant: You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Creator of the stars of night, John Scott;
Kristin Foster, clarinet*

*Creator of the stars of night, Thy people's everlasting light,
O Jesus, Saviour of us all, Regard thy servants when they call.
Thou, grieving at the bitter cry Of all creation doomed to die,
Didst come to save a ruined race With healing gifts of heav'nly grace.*

*Thou camest bridegroom of the bride, As drew the world to evening tide,
Proceeding from a virgin shrine, The Son of Man, yet Lord divine.
At thy great name, majestic now, All knees must bend, all hearts must bow,
And things in heav'n and earth shall own. That thou art Lord and King alone.*

*To thee, O holy One, we pray, Our judge in that tremendous day,
Preserve us while we dwell below, From ev'ry onslaught of the foe.
All praise, eternal Son, to thee, Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore, And Spirit blest, forever more. Amen.*

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS AND GIFTS *(Doxology)*

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

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.**

(please remain standing)

Heavenly Father, we lift our hearts to you as we gather at your table. You are worthy at all times and in all places to receive glory, honor, thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord: For He is Your living Word from before time and for all ages; by Him you created all things, and by Him you make all things new.

When we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death you, in your tender mercy, gave Your Son, Jesus Christ, to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, offered once and for all time, for the sins of the whole world. By His death He reconciled us to you, satisfying your just demands. By His rising to new life He has secured eternal deliverance for His people.

We thank You Father, that on the night before He died, Jesus took bread; and when He had given You thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." After the meal, He took the cup, and again giving You thanks He gave it to His disciples, saying, "Drink from 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." Therefore Father, we thank You for these gifts of bread and wine. By the power of your Holy Spirit we pray that all who eat and drink them, believing our Savior's word, may share His body and blood. **Amen.**

(please kneel or sit)

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

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 PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS *(prayed by all)*

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your abundant and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under your table;
but you are the same Lord
whose character is always to have mercy.
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Friends, at just the right time, when we were weak and unable to help ourselves Christ Jesus died for the ungodly. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Jesus Christ died for you and feed on Him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Receiving Communion: The ushers will guide your row either to the front of the church or to the rear via the center aisle. Please extend your hands to receive the wafer, which you will then dip in the chalice. Once you have received Holy Communion, please return to your seat via the side aisle. Gluten-free wafers are available.

During Communion two prayer ministers will be available to pray with anyone who would like prayer for any reason. They will be stationed in the Prayer Corner, which is in the left transept.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Once he came in blessing (sung by soloist at 9:00, choir at 11:00)

*Once he came in blessing, all our ills redressing;
Came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy;
bore the cross to save us, hope and freedom gave us.*

*One who thus endureth bright reward secureth.
Come, thou, O Lord Jesus, from our sins release us;
Let us here confess thee till in heaven we bless thee.*

Ten Thousand Reasons (sung by all)

*Chorus: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul.
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy name.*

**The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning.
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes. Chorus**

**You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing:
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. Chorus**

**And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come.
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore. Chorus x 2**

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The Lord is my Light (Psalm 27) (sung by all)

*Lord, You are my shelter,
God of my salvation, I am not forsaken,
Lord, my shield and protector,
Waiting on Your promise,
I will see Your goodness, O Lord. (repeat)*

The Lord is my light and my salvation,
Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life,
Of whom shall I be afraid?

*Chorus: Lord, You are my shelter,
God of my salvation, I am not forsaken,
Lord, my shield and protector,
Waiting on Your promise,
I will see Your goodness, O Lord.*

When troubles arise, no foe can harm me,
You are my peace, You are my peace.
You lift me above the raging storm,
You conquer my enemies. *Chorus*

One thing I have asked: to see Your beauty.
This I will seek, this I will seek,
To dwell in Your house, to walk in Your ways,
Your presence is all I need. *Chorus*

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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father,
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.

VESTRY ELECTION

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lo! He comes with clouds descending

Lo! he comes with clouds descending, once for our salvation slain;
Thousand, thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.

Yea, amen! let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the power and glory; claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Officiant: Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth rejoicing in the good news of Christ!

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

*Immediately following the service we invite any who
desire confidential prayer for any reason to come to the left transept area
to pray with a member of our healing prayer team.*

Holy Trinity Anglican Church
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(919) 833-4202
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9-5; Fri 9-4

**For calendar, ministry info, and other
resources visit:**
www.htcraleigh.org
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The Rev. Dr. John W. Yates III, Rector
The Rev. Claudia Greggs, The Rev. Caleb Burr,
The Rev. Jason Palacio, The Rev. Tripp Gordon, The Rev. Philipa K

Holy Trinity is a member of the Anglican Church of North America, Diocese of the Carolinas.

Senior Warden: Skip Orser Junior Warden: George T. Barnes

Class of 2026: Chris Calvert, Willa Kane, Katie Moye

Class of 2027: Susan Fonville, Skip Orser, Lee Perry, Sam Pierce

Class of 2028: George T. Barnes, Brian Lane, Mark Roberts, Chris Schollaert

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