

Trinity Episcopal Church, Collinsville, CT
Sunday, December 14, 2025, 9:00 a.m.
The Third Sunday in Advent
Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, Rite 2



*Lighting the Advent Wreath
The Shepherd's
Candle of Joy*

MISSION STATEMENT: "With God's love, we joyfully welcome and nourish all; with God's help, we serve our community and beyond."

Welcome to Trinity

We welcome all who worship with us at Trinity Episcopal Church in Collinsville, CT -- those here in our sanctuary and those who join us by live-streaming.

Please know that your presence and your prayers are a beloved gift to this faith community. We pray that you sense the love of Christ, the stirring of the Holy Spirit, and God's presence here.

Live-Streaming on the Web

To join our services by live-streaming, go to our website:

<https://trinitycollinsville.org>

Scroll down to the section that says "Join us on Sundays", click on "Worship with Us", then click on the service to watch.

From "Join us on Sundays", you can also access the Bulletins and Readings for the service and the Book of Common Prayer.

Sunday, December 14, 2025
The Third Sunday in Advent
The Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, Rite 2
Celebrant: The Rev. Claudia Scheda

Prelude

Opening Hymn On Jordan's Bank #76

Words: John Chandler, Music: William Henry Monk

1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.

2 Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let each heart prepare a home
where such a mighty guest may come.

3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.

4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.

5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
whose advent doth thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit evermore.

Welcome

Celebrant: As we are now in the season of Advent,
we'll begin our service with Lighting the
Advent Wreath.

Lighting the Advent Wreath – The Shepherd's Candle of Joy

Reader	Sandra Thibault
Candle Lighting	Ann Bierut
Choir Sings	O Come, O Come Emmanuel, verse 5

Opening Acclamation

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

People: And blessed be His Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for Purity (in unison)

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.

Trisagion

S102

(sing this three times)

Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

The First reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not
even fools, shall go astray.

No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 146:4-9

Reader: Happy are they who have the God of
Jacob for their help! whose hope is in
the LORD their God;

People: Who made heaven and earth, the
seas, and all that is in them; who
keeps his promise for ever;

Reader: Who gives justice to those who are
oppressed, and food to those who
hunger.

People: The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind;
the LORD lifts up those who are
bowed down;

Reader: The LORD loves the righteous;
the LORD cares for the stranger; he
sustains the orphan and widow, but
frustrates the way of the wicked.

People: The LORD shall reign for ever, your
God, O Zion, throughout all
generations. Hallelujah!

The Epistle

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient.

Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged.

See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

All stand for the Alleluia verse



Al-le-lu-ia; A-lle-lu-ia; Al-le-lu-ia.

The Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

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

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?"

Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf

hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.

This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’
“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Claudia Scheda

(A period of silence is kept)

Choir Anthem Freedom is Coming

Music: Michael Engelhardt

The Nicene Creed (in unison)(all 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.

Choral Call to Prayer O Lord, Hear My Prayer

Words and Music: Francesco Blackmore

The Prayers of the People Form III BCP p. 387

Reader: Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

People: That we all may be one.

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

People: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Reader: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

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

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

People: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

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

People: That our works may find favor in your sight.

Reader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People: That they may be delivered from their distress.

Reader: Give to the departed eternal rest.

People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

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

People: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Reader: We pray especially for those on our intercession list _____, and for those named here.

(pause for the congregation to add their intercessions).

Reader: In your mercy.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, let us pray for St. Stephen's, Bloomfield; St. George's, Bolton, and Trinity, Branford. We pray for those who advocate at the local, state, national, or global level for the poor, the lonely and the oppressed, and for Swords to Plowshares. We pray for Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for peace in the world: God of peace and justice, we pray for peace in the world, especially in the Middle East, in Ukraine and Russia, and

in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment, and compassion to guide their decisions. We pray for all in these wars who have died, are wounded or missing. We pray for all who grieve, live in fear, and wait anxiously for the return of their loved ones. We pray for those who protect and defend our country. May your kingdom of justice and peace reign throughout the world.

Celebrant: 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.**

The Confession BCP 360

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

(Please kneel as you are able.)

All: 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 humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we might 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

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with
you.

People: And also with you.

Announcements

The Offering

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

Offertory Hymn Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers #68

Words: Laurentius Laurenti; Music Llangloffan

1 Rejoice! rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear!
The evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising,
and soon he will draw nigh;
up, watch with expectation!
at the midnight comes the cry.

2 See that your lamps are burning,
replenish them with oil;

look now for your salvation,
the end of sin and toil.

The marriage-feast is waiting,
the gates wide open stand;
rise up, ye heirs of glory,
the Bridegroom is at hand!

3 Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, thou Sun so longed for,
above this darkened sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption,
and ever be with thee!

·The Doxology Old 100th Hymn 380 Verse 3

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

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: And of thine own have we given thee.
 Amen.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B BCP p.367

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.**

Celebrant: 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 and great 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 say this hymn to proclaim

the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

S124

**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.

(The people stand or kneel.)

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,

**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 [_____ and] 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,

**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

(A period of silence is kept.)

Angus Dei

S161

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.

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.

(Gluten-free wafers and small cups of wine are available at the altar rail.)

Communion Hymn Hark! The Glad Sound #72

Words: Philip Doddridge, Music: Richmond

1 Hark, the glad sound! the Savior comes,
the Savior promised long:
let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.

2 He comes, the prisoners to release
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.

3 He comes, the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure;
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.

4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with thy beloved Name.

Postcommunion Prayer BCP p. 365

Celebrant: 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.

The Blessing

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 Ghost, be
among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn Tell Out, My Soul #437

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith, Music: Birmingham

1 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has
done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy Name—the Lord, the Mighty One.

3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia

Postlude

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The Altar Flowers and the Sanctuary Lamp
are Given to the Glory of God.

Celebrating the Worship Service

The People of God gathered in Trinity Church
and at home.

Celebrant:	The Rev. Claudia Scheda
Crucifer:	Gary Nicksa
Ministers of Communion:	Leslie Dehey and Gary Nicksa
Reader:	Robin Mengual
Usher:	Robin Mengual
Altar Guild:	Deb Asaro, Linda Burgess and Nell Bonnett
Music:	Francesco Blackmore, Director and The Trinity Choir

December Worship Services

Sun, Dec 14 Advent 3 Celebration of the Holy Eucharist,
Rite 2
9:00 am Celebrant: The Rev. Claudia Scheda

Tuesday, December 16, 6:30 pm
Celebration of The Rev. Claudia Scheda's

New Ministry at Trinity

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan, will preside.
Many Episcopal Clergy will attend this celebration.

Sat, Dec 20 Blue Christmas
4:00 pm A service for those experiencing grief or
sadness during the holidays.
Celebrant: The Rev. Claudia Scheda

Sun, Dec 21 Advent 4 Service of the Word, Rite 2
9:00 am Presider: Stan Moraski

Sun, Dec 24 Christmas Eve, Celebration of
4:00 pm the Holy Eucharist, Rite 2
Celebrant: Rev. Claudia Scheda

Sun, Dec 25 Morning Prayer at St. John's
10:00 am

Sun, Dec 28 Christmas 1 – Lessons and Carols
9:00 am Presider: Stan Moraski

December Events Calendar

Mon, Dec 15 6:00–700 pm	Canton Food Bank open Miriam’s Closet open Mimi McGill attending
Tues, Dec 16 8:00–11:00 am 8:30-11:00 am	Canton Food Bank open Miriam’s Closet Open Maryellen Prudhomme attending
Wed, Dec 17 7:00–800 pm	Vestry Meeting
Mon, Dec 22 6:00–700 pm	Canton Food Bank open
Tues, Dec 23 8:00–11:00 am	Canton Food Bank open
Mon, Dec 29	Canton Food Bank Closed
Tues, Dec 30	Canton Food Bank Closed

THE PARISH OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Email: rectorstjohntrinity@gmail.com Facebook: RevClaudiaScheda
(Sabbath Day: Monday)

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Email: office@trinitycollinsville.org Phone: 860-693-8172

WORSHIP

Sundays at 9 a.m. – Livestreamed / In-Person

Please visit our website for more information

STAFF

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Jim Stapleton – Treasurer

Heather Garvin – Clerk

2026: Jack Henne, Laurie Barnhart, Mimi McGill

2027: Ann Bierut, Lisa Bogush

2028: Stan Moraski

TRINITY NURSERY SCHOOL 860-693-4615

Lee Ann Delaney, Kathryn Gentile, Wendy Young