

Trinity Episcopal Church  
Collinsville, CT

December 28, 2025  
9:00 a.m.

# A Christmas Festival of



# LESSONS *and* CAROLS

*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:

[www.TrinityCollinsville.org](http://www.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.



## A Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols

We hope that the scripture readings, music and hymns in this service will warm your hearts and bring you peace and assurance of God's love for you through the gift of His Son, Jesus, born in Bethlehem.

The first Service of Christmas Lessons and Carols service took place in 1880 in Truro, England in a wooden shed that was serving as a cathedral while a new church was being constructed. The Bishop of Truro, E.W. Benson, wanted to create a service that told in a simple and beautiful way, the story of Christ's birth, the prophecies that foretold it, and the joy of those who learned of His birth.

In 1918, King's College, in Cambridge, England designed their Lessons and Carols service. And in 1928, King's College began broadcasting the service, which is heard around the world every Christmas Eve.



## Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 28, 2025

*(Hymns will be sung using the red hymnals in the pew racks.)*

Prelude

Opening Hymn O Come, All Ye Faithful (V. 1, 2, 3) #83

Welcome

The Bidding Prayer

**Presider:** Beloved in Christ, in this Christmastide, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in the manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this holy Child; and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this town.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**



## *The Lessons and Carols*

### Lesson I

A Reading from Genesis 3:1-15 Reader: Jim Stapleton  
*"Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden."*

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** Come Thou Long Expected Jesus #66

### Lesson II

A Reading from Isaiah 9:2-7 Reader: Ann Bierut  
*"Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah."*

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** O Come, O Come Emmanuel #56 v. 1, 7, 8

### Lesson III

A Reading from Isaiah 11:1-9    Reader: Diane Terry

*"The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown."*

**Reader:**     The Word of the Lord.

**People:**     Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming                    #81

### Lesson IV

A Reading from Luke 1:26-38    Reader: Sandra Thibault

*"The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary."*

**Reader:**     The Word of the Lord.

**People:**     Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came  
             #265 v. 1, 2, 4

### Lesson V

A Reading from Luke 2:1-7    Reader: Elaine Eno

*"St. Luke tells the birth of Jesus"*

**Reader:**     The Word of the Lord.

**People:**     Thanks be to God.

Hymn: O Little Town of Bethlehem

#79 v. 1, 2, 5

## Lesson VI

A Reading from Luke 2:8-16      Reader: Laurie Barnhart  
"The shepherds go to the manger"

Reader:      The Word of the Lord.

People:      Thanks be to God.

Hymn: While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks #94

## Lesson VII

A Reading from Matthew 2:1-12      Reader: Mimi McGill  
*"The wise men are led by the star to Jesus."*

Reader:      The Word of the Lord.

People:      Thanks be to God.

Hymn: *We Three Kings of Orient Are* #128 v. 1, 2, 5

*Here ends the Lessons and Carols*



Please stand for the Alleluia verse and the Gospel.



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

## The Gospel

John 1:1-8

**Presider:** The Holy Gospel of the Lord according to John.

**People:** 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 Nicene Creed**                      (*in unison*) **BCP 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 IV BCP p. 388 Reader: Mimi McGill

**Reader:** Let us pray for the Church and for the world.  
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.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**People:** Hear our prayer.

**Reader:** 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.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**People:** Hear our prayer.

**Reader:** 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.

Silence

**Lord, in your mercy**

**People:** Hear our prayer.

**Reader:** 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.

Silence

**Lord, in your mercy**

**People:** Hear our prayer.

**Reader:** 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.

Silence

**Lord, in your mercy**

**People:** Hear our prayer.

**Reader:** 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.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**People** Hear our prayer.

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

*(pause for the congregation to add their intercessions).*

*Silence*

**Reader:** Lord, In your mercy.

**People:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Reader:** In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, let us pray for Calvary St. George's, Bridgeport; St. Mark's, Bridgewater; St. John's, Bridgeport; and the children of the world and all ECCT ministries for children at risk. We also pray for the Anglican Church of Burundi.

**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.  
Amen.

**Presider:** 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 Offering

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

**Offertory Hymn:** Joy to the World

**#100**

## The Doxology

**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.

**Presider:** All things come of thee, O Lord,  
**People:** and of thine own have we given thee.  
**Amen.**

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

## The Lord's Prayer (in unison) BCP 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 Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
People: And also with you.

## Announcements

## The Blessing

Presider: May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless us in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten our hearts with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill us with joy, and make us heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give us his peace and favor. **Amen.**

May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon us and remain with us for ever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: Go Tell it on the Mountain #99

## The Dismissal

Presider: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

## Postlude

Music used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-71440. All rights reserved.

# 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.

Presider	Stan Moraski
Reader	Mimi McGill
Usher	Ann Bierut
Altar Guild	Deb Asaro, Linda Burgess and Nell Bonnett
Music	Francesco Blackmore, Director and The Trinity Choir

## Readers and the Committees Represented

Acolytes	Jim Stapleton
Altar Guild	Ann Bierut
Choir	Diane Terry
Readers	Mimi McGill
Outreach/Ushers	Elaine Eno
Vestry	Laurie Barnhart
Worship	Sandra Thibault

## December Worship Services

Sun, Dec 28	A Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols
9:00 am	Presider: Stan Moraski

## January Worship Services

Sun, Jan 4	Christmas 2
9:00 am	Service of the Word
	Presider: Stan Moraski

Sun, Jan 11	Epiphany 1, The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ
9:00 am	Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, Rite 2
	Celebrant: The Rev. Claudia Scheda

Sun, Jan 18	Epiphany 2
9:00 am	Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, Rite 2
	Celebrant: The Rev. Salin Low

Sun, Jan 25	Epiphany 3
9:00 am	Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, Rite 2
	Celebrant: The Rev. Claudia Scheda

## December Events Calendar

**Dec 29 – 30**      Canton Food Bank Closed

## January Events Calendar

**Monday, Jan 5**      Canton Food Bank Open  
6:00 -7:00 p.m.      Miriam's Closet Open

**Tuesday, Jan 6**      Canton Food Bank Open  
8:00-11:00 a.m.      Miriam's Closet Open

**Monday, Jan 12**      Canton Food Bank Open  
6:00 -7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, Jan 13**      Canton Food Bank Open  
8:00-11:00 a.m.

**Mon, Jan 19**      Canton Food Bank Open  
6:00 -7:00 p.m.      Miriam's Closet Open

**Tues, Jan 20**      Canton Food Bank Open  
8:00 – 11:00 a.m.      Miriam's Closet Open

**Wed, Jan 21**      Vestry Meeting  
7:00-8:00 p.m.

**Thurs, Jan 22**      Worship Committee Meeting  
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.      Memorial Room

**Mon, Jan 26**      Canton Food Bank open  
6:00-7:00 pm

**Tues, Jan 27**      Canton Food Bank open  
8:00 – 11:00 am



## **THE PARISH OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

P.O. Box 374 – 55 River Road

Collinsville, Connecticut 06022-0374

The Rev. Claudia Scheda, Rector 959-799-1515

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**

The Rev. Claudia Scheda, Rector

Francesco Blackmore, Director of Music Ministry

Carol Leichner – Communication Coordinator

Norman Robinson – Sexton

### **VESTRY**

Maryellen Prudhomme – Sr. Warden 860-463-6281 or

maryellenprudhomme@gmail.com

Bruce Quigley – Jr. Warden

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