

# Fourth Sunday of Advent



24 December 2023

8:00 am

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
WAUWATOSA, WISCONSIN

# *Holy Eucharist, Rite I*

*Celebrant & Preacher:* The Rev. Debra Trakel

Opening Acclamation & Collect for Purity.....p. 323, BCP

## The Collect of The Day

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson.....2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

When the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

From Psalm 89 (*read in unison*)

Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing;  
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.  
For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever;  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.  
“I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:  
‘I will establish your line for ever,  
and preserve your throne for all generations.’”  
You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people:  
“I have set the crown upon a warrior  
and have exalted one chosen out of the people.  
I have found David my servant;  
with my holy oil have I anointed him.  
My hand will hold him fast  
and my arm will make him strong.  
No enemy shall deceive him,  
nor any wicked man bring him down.  
I will crush his foes before him  
and strike down those who hate him.  
My faithfulness and love shall be with him,  
and he shall be victorious through my Name.  
I shall make his dominion extend  
from the Great Sea to the River.  
He will say to me, ‘You are my Father,  
my God, and the rock of my salvation.’”

The Gospel.....Luke 1:26-55

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be

afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.’ Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’ The angel said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.’ Then Mary said, ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her. In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.’ And Mary said, ‘My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.’

Homily.....	The Rev. Debra Trakel
The Nicene Creed .....	p. 326, BCP
The Prayers of the People.....	p. 328, BCP
The Confession and Absolution.....	p. 331, BCP
The Peace	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE OFFERTORY

*Currently Trinity Church does not "pass the plate," and continues to receive monetary offerings of checks and/or cash via an offering plate on the small table in the center aisle at the rear of this worship space. You are welcome to place your offering in the collection plate either prior to or following the liturgy. If you'd like to make a donation electronically, please see the QR code elsewhere in this bulletin. The Wardens and Vestry thank you for your continued generosity and support of Trinity Church.*

*The following words are said at the Presentation of the Offering:*

*Celebrant:* All things come of thee, O Lord.

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER I.....p. 333, BCP

THE LORD'S PRAYER.....p. 336, BCP

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*At the time of Communion, the Bread will be distributed from a single, standing station in the center aisle. If you wish to receive wine from the Common Cup, please proceed to your left. If you wish to continue receiving wine in the individual, compostable cups, please proceed to your right. It is permissible to receive the wine from a chalice/cruet bearer who is on the opposite side of the church from your seat -- simply cross the aisle. There is no "intinction" in this liturgy.*



**All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion.  
If you desire to receive gluten-free bread, please ask the priest, and  
a host will be provided.**



POST COMMUNION PRAYER.....p. 339, BCP

The Dismissal

# Welcome!

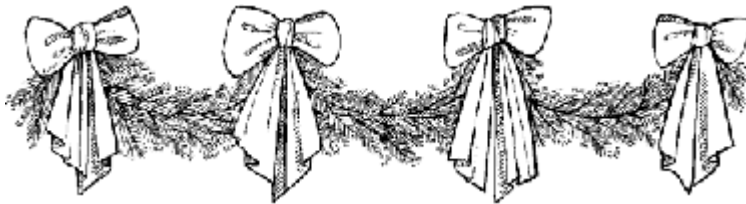
It is good to have you worship with us today.  
If you are visiting or are new to Trinity, please sign the guest book in the Narthex and/or fill out the pew pamphlet in your pew and place it in the offering plate.

*We give thanks for the parishioners celebrating birthdays this week, especially:*  
Carlynn Higbie, Laurie Demmon, Cynthia Parman, Everett Zepecki-Davison

*We also give thanks to those parishioners celebrating anniversaries this week.*

*We also pray for:*

Michael, John, Sandi, Caleigh, Paul, Ian, Sandy, Julia, Ann, Patty, Lynn, Scott, Jym, Pat, Joann, Mike, Dan, Jennifer, Lynn, Peter, Leslie, Eric, Penny, Cecilia, Jean, April, Cheryle, Ray and Lori, Cris, Sebrina, Sonya and Jessie, Brian, Finnegan, Sarah, Judy, Lauri, Bob, Marlene, Tom, and Maureen.



# Trinity Calendar

## **4 Advent, December 24**

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
No Christian Formation or Adult Forum

## **Christmas Eve**

4:00 pm Family-Friendly Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
8:00 pm Festival Choral Holy Eucharist, Rite II

## **Nativity of Our Lord, Monday, December 25**

10:00 am Liturgy of the Nativity

## **1 Christmas, Sunday December 31**

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
No Christian Formation or Adult Forum  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
Fellowship

## **Wednesday, January 3, 2024**

7:00 pm Zoom Bible Study, Chapters 29-32

## **Friday, January 5,**

6:00 pm Twelfth Night Party

## **1 Epiphany, January 7**

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
9:00 am Christian Formation/Adult Forum  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
Fellowship

## **Monday, January 8**

6:30 pm Men's Fellowship



NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE  
READINGS

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalm 147

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

John 1:1-18

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
1717 Church Street  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213  
Phone (414) 453-4540  
[churchoffice@trinitywauwatosa.org](mailto:churchoffice@trinitywauwatosa.org)



**Please welcome our guest celebrant  
and preacher,**

**Reverend Debra Trakel!**



The Rev. Debra Trakel began her career as a clinical social worker. She has worked as a medical social worker, as a correctional social worker (including a time as the supervisor of the Sex Offender Unit for Milwaukee county), and as an organizational social worker for the state Departments of Natural Resources, Transportation and the Lottery. After gaining the appropriate credentials she was licensed to practice psychotherapy which helped to put her through seminary. She is trauma certified and certified as a mediator in the state of Wisconsin. After attending Seabury-Western Theological Seminary she was ordained in 1995 and began serving parishes in the Diocese of Milwaukee. She has gained an expertise in Canon law. For the last six years she has also been serving the Bishop's staff and churches within the Greater Milwaukee Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) as an interim and as a consultant to troubled churches. Most recently she served for a year and a half in our diocese as the interim Rector of Saint Boniface. Mother Debra is joyfully married to Carlynn Higbie, a long time member of Trinity. They live at Luther Manor in Wauwatosa with their ridiculously spoiled dog, Kirk. They enjoy spending time with their family, particularly their four beloved grandchildren.

## Christmas Eve Liturgies

Sunday, December 24

4:00 pm Family Friendly Holy Eucharist, Rite II\*

8:00 pm Festival Choral Holy Eucharist, Rite II

\*The Family Friendly service (4:00 pm) will feature bulletin artwork from the Trinity Sunday School, a reading of the Christmas Story by Trinity young people, and congregational singing of favorite Christmas Carols.

## Christmas Day Liturgy

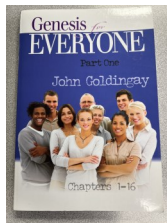
Monday, December 25, 2023

10:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Nativity, Rite II



---

7:00 pm Wednesday, January 3, 2024 Zoom Bible Study  
We will continue our study of Genesis, chapters 29-32



**Mark Your Calendars!**  
**January 5, 2024**  
**6:00 pm**  
**“Twelfth Night Party”**



Come one! Come all!

Join in the fun of celebrating the last hours of the Christmas season as a parish community!

We will gather in the Parish Hall on the evening of the Twelfth Day of Christmas (Friday, January 5, 2024), to conclude the holiday season with a potluck dinner, king cake, non-alcoholic wassail, Christmas "crackers," the reading of the story of the Magi, Christmas caroling, and the burning of the Christmas greens.

The theme of the potluck is "food from the East," (and you get to define how far "east" the food you're bringing represents -- for example, Philly steak sandwiches, or shepherds pie, or hummus or egg rolls all represent localities east of Milwaukee!).

The king cake and wassail will be provided. For this event, we're asking that only non-alcoholic beverages be on offer, but NA beer is certainly welcomed. Please let us know if you are planning to attend and how many folks you'll be bringing by signing up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040E4EAEA62EA3F85-46933681-trinity>

Need more details or want to help in the planning and set up?

Contact Emily Watkins ([jimandemily@gmail.com](mailto:jimandemily@gmail.com)) or Gary Manning ([tosapriest@gmail.com](mailto:tosapriest@gmail.com)).

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Men's Fellowship Group

Men's Fellowship Group will meet **Monday, January 8, at 6:30 pm** in the Parish Hall. All men are welcome to join Gary Manning and Joe Thulin for a time of fellowship. Please let Gary Manning ([tosapriest@gmail.com](mailto:tosapriest@gmail.com)) know if you are planning to attend so that he can procure the correct amount of food for the evening.



---

## The Book of Common Prayer Order



We will place an order for 90 copies of The Book of Common Prayer in January to replace some of the well used books in the pews. Donations in the amount of \$25 per book are appreciated. A remembrance plate with your name and the name of your loved one can be inserted into each book you donate. Please make your check out to Trinity Church with "Book of Common Prayer" on the memo line.

---

Scan the QR code with your mobile device to use Vanco, Trinity Church's online giving platform. By using this web-based service you may set up automatic withdrawals from your checking account or make automatic payments on your credit card. [Vanco Payment Solutions](#) will process one-time contributions for gifts to Trinity as well.

