



# The Church of the Holy Trinity

An Episcopal Church in the Diocese of New York

December 10, 2023 at 6:00 PM  
**The Second Sunday of Advent**

## Welcome to Holy Trinity

This leaflet includes an order of service for worship and other important information.

**Assistance.** If you need assistance in any way, an usher at the entrance can help you. Restrooms are located in the Mission House building basement, accessible through the Cloister Corridor or across the garden and into the westernmost building.

**New to Holy Trinity?** We would love to be able to greet you properly. Please fill out a visitor card, located in the pews, and place it in the offering plate or give it to one of the clergy or ushers.

**Giving.** As Christians, we believe that all we have, from our talents, to our energy, to our financial resources, is a gift from God. If you would like to know more about how to give of your talents and energy, please let a member of our clergy know and they will gladly connect you with the various ministries of the parish. You can make a financial gift through the offering plate, online at [holyltrinity-nyc.org](http://holyltrinity-nyc.org) or by texting COHT316 to 73256.

**Our Mission.** To show and share the love of God.

**Our History.** Since 1899 The Church of the Holy Trinity has opened its doors to those of the Anglican Faith, of other faiths, and of no faith. Through hospitality, service, and worship, we seek to “do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.”

## Praying for Jerusalem

*Navigating Advent images in prayers & music*

A few weeks ago, our Gradual Hymn before the Gospel began with the verse, “Jerusalem, my happy home, when shall I come to thee? When shall my sorrows have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?” I stumbled over the rest of that hymn as I tried to reconcile our idealized version of Jerusalem (which we get from the Revelation of John and two thousand years of theology and religious imagery) with the current reality of Israel, Jerusalem, Palestine, and Gaza.

Adam Koch and I have wrestled with the strangeness of our religious imagery versus the war-torn Holy Land. As we move through Advent, we’re going to be reading, praying, and singing, “O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel.” We’ll probably sing about the Messiah as “Israel’s strength and consolation,” and we will continue to draw on the deep symbolism of Jerusalem, Israel, Bethlehem, and other terms that will perhaps reverberate in strange, if not painful, ways for us, given contemporary issues.

Especially at this time, I invite you to allow God into this tension around language, imagery, and symbolism. Notice when a word calls you more deeply to prayer or action. Pause when it feels uncomfortable and meditate on the associations that come to mind. And through all our words, may God use this Advent season to prepare us for the King of Love to be born anew within us and throughout our world.

*The Rev. John F. Beddingfield, Rector*

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Prelude

*See I Am Near*

### Welcome

### Opening Song

*All Who Hear*

*All who are able, are invited to stand*

Verse 1        A desert voice calls out / lend him your ear your heart  
                  Though we are scattered stones / we're not alone

Verse 2        So we the road prepare / for heaven's eternal heir  
                  At last our savior's near

Chorus 1       Let all who hear make way / and may these hearts  
                  Prepare a place

Verse 3        What is this grace divine / that earth and sky align  
                  With leveled souls laid bare

Chorus 2       Let all who hear make way / and may these hearts  
                  Prepare a place / for God with us  
                  Will come to save / and surely he shall comfort those he loves  
                  And so we wait

## Opening Acclamation

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

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

## Trisagion

Celebrant Holy God,

People **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

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen**

## The First Lesson from Scripture

*Isaiah 40:1-11*

*All may be seated*

Lector A reading from the Book of Isaiah

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Lector            The Word of the Lord

People            **Thanks be to God**

## **Gradual**

*See I Am Near*

See I am near says the Lord / See I make all things new (x3)

## **The Gospel**

*Mark 1:1-8*

*All who are able, are invited to stand*

Minister        The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

People            **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Minister        The Gospel of the Lord

People            **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

## **The Sermon**

*All may be seated*

**John Beddingfield**, *Rector, The Church of the Holy Trinity*

## **Prayers of the People**

*A vocalist sings the refrain before the prayers. Then interspersed throughout the prayers all sing the refrain .*

Refrain      **Kyrie eléison / Christe eléison / Kyrie eléison**

*(Lord have mercy / Christ have mercy / Lord have mercy)*

## **The Peace**

Celebrant      The peace of the Lord be always with you

People      **And also with you**

*A sign of Christ's peace is offered without touch and while keeping distance.*

## **Announcements**

# **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

## **Offertory Song**

*Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

*All may be seated*

Verse 1      Comfort / comfort now my people / tell of his peace with no end

Comfort / comfort those in darkness

Tell them that God's pardon waits for them

Chorus        The glory of the Lord / now on earth is shed  
                  In deserts far and near / he will raise what's dead  
                  His peace has been spoken / his word is never broken  
                  The kingdom of our God is now here

Verse 2        Straight shall / straight shall be what's crooked  
                  Making all the rougher places plain  
                  Let your / let your hearts be humble  
                  Befitting our God's glory and His reign

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

*All who are able, are invited to stand*

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 God thanks and praise**

Celebrant     ...lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

People        **Holy holy holy / 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 / hosanna in the highest**

Celebrant     ...therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People        **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Celebrant ...through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast, alleluia.**

*It is the tradition here at the Church of the Holy Trinity to invite all who wish to come forward to receive Holy Communion, the sacrament of the Body and the Blood of Christ in the form of bread and wine. Follow the directions of the ushers and the practice of your fellow worshippers. If you would like to receive a blessing, please come forward at the same time, and cross your hands over your chest to indicate that you wish to receive a blessing only.*

## **Eucharistic Song**

*Tend*

Verse 1 In the landscape of my life / you don't rush through any season  
You always take your time / a careful hand a gentle guide  
You take what's dead away / and you prune what's running wild

Chorus Be the gardener of my heart / tend the soil of my soul  
Break up the fallow ground / cut back the overgrown  
I won't shy away / I will let the branches fall  
So what you want can stay / and what you love can grow

Verse 2        Through the winter I'm still alive / what you've planted in the dirt  
Is ever reaching to the light / you prepare me for darkened times  
You'll sustain what you have started / and you'll teach me to abide

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

*All who are able, are invited to stand*

Minister        Let us pray.

People        **Loving God, whether we are in your church or joining online from another place, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, and renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

*The Celebrant blesses the People, and the People respond: Amen*

## **Closing Song**

*Prepare Him Room*

*All who are able, are invited to stand*

Verse 1        O behold / the mystery now unfolds  
See the star / shine on the virgin foretold  
Angels sing and light up the sky  
Hope rings out in a newborn's cry  
Swing wide you ancient gates / for Christ is born today

Chorus        Prepare him room / prepare him room  
Let the King of Glory enter in



Verse 2        God with us / the promise has come to be  
                  This the one / the prophets were longing to see  
                  In the darkness a blazing light / to the hungry the words of life  
                  His kingdom now is near / for those with ears to hear

Verse 3        O our hearts as busy as Bethlehem  
                  Hear him knock / don't say there's no room in the inn  
                  Through the cradle cross and grave  
                  See the love of God displayed  
                  Now he's risen and he reigns / praise the name above all names

## **The Dismissal**

*A minister dismisses the people.*

Minister        Let us go forth in the name of Christ

People         **Thanks be to God**

## **Postlude**

*Winter Snow by Audrey Assad*

## IN OUR PRAYERS

**We pray for** Liz, James, Helen, John, Joe, Sandra, Bill, Pat, Frances, Harry, Brian, Susan, Tom, Sean, Mitchell, Bea, Iris, John, Paul, Nancy, Emma, Judy, Mary, Megan, Jackie, David, and Slade who is gravely ill.

**Praying with our Link Parish in London** of St. Stephen with St. John. We especially pray for SSSJ this fall, as they highlight various community partner ministries and donate ten percent of their offerings to a different organization each week.

**Keeping our Prayer List Current.** Names remain on the list through the end of the calendar month, but are refreshed for the first Sunday of each month.

## HOLY GOSSIP

Sunday, December 3, 2023 attendance: 8:00 AM: 5; 11:00 AM: 84; 6:00 PM: 29 . . . Remember to join us at Coffee Hour this Sunday for a Potluck Lunch and Advent Crafts. If you can, please bring something to eat and share and a few dollars to donate for the craft supplies . . . The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be on Sunday, January 28, 2023, after the 11:00 a.m. worship service. We will elect a warden and new general members of the vestry, as well as hear reports from various parts of our 2023 church life. Biographies of candidates for vestry may be found in the back of the church.

**Christmas Flowers & Music.** We invite you to dedicate the flowers and music to the memory of your loved ones, or in thanksgiving for blessings. (There are so many!) Please use one of the “Universal” envelopes from the information tables in the church, including the names to be listed “In Memory of...” or “In Thanksgiving for,” and whether your contribution is to be used to support flowers, music, or both. You can also contribute online. The list of names remembered and honored will be

included in the Christmas bulletins. Please place your envelope in the Sunday collection or send it to the parish office to the attention of Erlinda Brent. You can also contribute online and use the MEMO line to add names for remembrance or thanksgiving.

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC

**Are you interested in singing in the Holy Trinity Choir?** If you or somebody you know (singers do not need to be members of Holy Trinity) would be interested in joining the Holy Trinity Choir, please email Adam Koch: [apkoch@holytrinity-nyc.org](mailto:apkoch@holytrinity-nyc.org).

**The Advent Wreath.** Holy Trinity follows the popular custom of using a wreath with four candles during this season leading to Christmas. The green represents creation and a reminder that even in the dead of winter, new life is taking shape. The candles sometimes represent particular themes or prophets, but primarily, they represent increasing light, as we add a candle each Sunday. The rose-colored candle is lit on the Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday, when we also especially remember the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

**Choir and Music Sponsorship.** If you would like to give the gift of music, please complete the form that can be found at the back of the church or visit the church website to complete the interest form. If you have any questions, please reach out to Adam Koch, Director of Music, via email or by calling the church office. Thank you for your continued support of music at the Church of the Holy Trinity!

## STEWARDSHIP

It's not too late to pledge!

Stewardship packets are in the back of the church, and it's also possible to make a pledge on the church website. To date, we have received 74 pledges totaling \$299,990.40. Our goal for 2024 is \$350,815.

## LEARNING AND GROWING

**Adult Christian Education at 9:30 AM in Draesel Hall.** December 10 - *Nativities: Mothers and Babies in the Hebrew Bible* with Helen Goodkin

**Forward Day-By-Day.** Copies of the Nov/Dec/Jan edition of the daily prayer guide, *Forward Day by Day* are available on the wall shelves in the church.

## OUTREACH & SOCIAL JUSTICE

**(Holy Trinity Neighborhood Center, Inc.)**

**HTNC** - HTNC serves sit-down, cooked meals to our neighborhood guests who join us on Saturdays at 5:15 PM. To volunteer by helping to cook or set up, come to the basement of the Mission House (the large building to the west of the main church) Saturday between 3:00 PM and 3:30 PM. Last Saturday, HTNC served 82 neighbors! Contact Joe Lipuma. (jlipuma27@gmail.com)

**Toys for Children and Youth at Freedom House,** now through **December 19.** Freedom House is a domestic violence shelter for women, men and children. They serve families and single individuals, some with disabilities. Since the beginning of Freedom House many years ago, Holy Trinity has helped families and children at Freedom House with gifts for Christmas. We provide the gifts and then Freedom House parents are able to give the gifts to their children.

In the back of the church, there is a board decorated with Christmas lights. Each light bears the name and age of a

child who is a resident of Freedom House. There is also a list of age-appropriate suggested gifts. We invite you to choose a tag or two, and purchase gifts. Wrap the gift, and place it in the box in the back of the church, or bring it to the parish office!

## COMMUNITY LIFE

**TODAY: Advent Potluck & Crafts**

Sunday, December 10: Advent Crafts & Potluck, Draesel Hall. Join us after the 11:00 AM service to share food, have some laughs, maybe sing a carol, and make an ornament (or two), as we usher in the Spirit of the Season at our Advent Crafts Potluck Sunday. Please bring something to eat or drink (with some to share). Donations will be welcome at the door.

**Greening of the Church.** Wednesday, December 20. We'll gather at 6:00 PM for Evening Prayer and then we'll share a potluck dinner while we decorate the church for Christmas. Greens will be hung, bows attached to wreaths, lights put on trees, and poinsettias arranged and waters. The more "elves" the better. Join us.

**Yoga at Holy Trinity.** Join us for yoga in the main church on Tuesdays from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM. All levels are welcome. The class is free, though donations are welcome and go to support the programs of HTNC. For questions, contact registered yoga teacher and parishioner Liz Poole at lizpoolenyc@hotmail.com.

## GET INVOLVED

**Acolytes:** Susan Valdes-Dapena; susan@valdes-dapena.net

**Altar Guild:** Alden Prouty; alden.prouty@gmail.com

**Choir & Music:** Adam Koch directs the 11:00 AM choir: apkoch@holytrinity-nyc.org. Calvyn du Toit leads the 6:00 PM band: calvyn@protonmail.com

**Holy Trinity Neighborhood Center** (lunch, dinner, shelter or other programs): www.htncnyc.org

**Lectors** (serve as readers in worship services): Yvonne O'Neal; Yvonne.oneal@gmail.com

**Sunday School:** Oluyemisi Ariyibi sennyb@yahoo.com

**Trinity Cares** (assists with such tasks as grocery shopping, dog walking, or escort to a doctor, or to church): Patsy Weille; highlandmb4@gmail.com

**Ushers** (volunteer to greet people at worship services and offer hospitality): Liz Poole; lizpoolenyc@hotmail.com

**Yoga at Holy Trinity** Liz Poole:  
lizpoolenyc@hotmail.com

## PARISH CLERGY & STAFF

**The Rev. John F. Beddingfield**, D.Min., Rector  
jfbeddingfield@holytrinity-nyc.org  
212-289-4100, ext. 204

**The Rev. Deacon Pamela Tang**, Deacon  
pmtang38@gmail.com

**The Rev. Canon J. Douglas Ousley**  
Hon. Asst., ousleyjd@yahoo.com

**The Rev. Margaret (Margie) Tuttle**  
Hon. Asst. mtuttle3054@gmail.com

**Adam P. Koch**, Director of Music & Organist  
212-289-4100, ext. 209; apkoch@holytrinity-nyc.org

**Calvyn du Toit**, Sunday Evening Musical Director,  
calvyn@protonmail.com

**Erlinda Brent**, Parish Secretary  
212-289-4100, ext. 201, ebrent@holytrinity-nyc.org

**José Cornier and Ozell Ryant**, Sextons

## The Vestry (with year of term ending listed)

### *Wardens:*

Christopher Abelt (2023)

Jeanne Blazina (2025)

### *General Members of the Vestry:*

Hal Barth (2024)

Paul Chernick, secretary (2025),

Lydia Colon (2025)

Leona Fredericks (2023)

Jean Geater (2023)

Scott Hess (2024),

Joseph Lipuma (2024)

Marlin Mattson (2025)

Fabio Mejia (2025)

Liz Poole (2024)

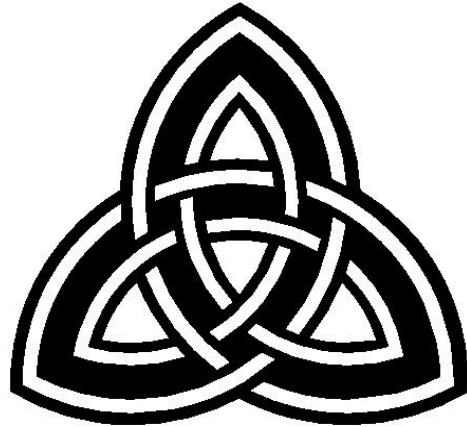
Donald Schermerhorn (2023)

Christine du Toit, treasurer (2023)

## **A Brief but Complicated History of The Church of the Holy Trinity**



The original Church of the Holy Trinity, founded by the Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, Jr. in 1864, stood at 42nd Street and Madison Avenue. He was followed by the Rev. Dr. Wilbur F. Watkins, and the Rev. Dr. E. Walpole Warren. In the early 1890s, as Holy Trinity sought to move northward, the possibility developed for Holy Trinity to combine with St. James Church. Serena Rhineland, who wanted to build a church as a memorial to her father and grandfather, bought out her relatives to amass a parcel of land on East 88th Street, and plans began to take shape for a new mission church. In 1897, St. Christopher's Mission House, the first building of the Holy Trinity complex, was dedicated. The old Holy Trinity building in midtown sold for \$750,000, which allowed \$200,000 to create an endowment for the new Holy Trinity, and the remainder of the money to go to St. James, who could then retire the mortgage on its new church building. When the rector of St. James retired, the former rector of Holy Trinity became rector of St. James, and the Rev. Dr. James B. Chalmers, became the first vicar of Holy Trinity's new incarnation. After Dr. Chalmers, Holy Trinity was led by vicars, the Rev. Samuel Dorrance, 1919-1926; the Rev. Dudley St. Stark, 1926-1932; the Rev. William J. Dietrich, 1932-1940; and the Rev. James A. Paul who began as vicar but was made the first rector with Holy Trinity's independence in 1951.



The Church of the Holy Trinity

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[www.holytrinity-nyc.org](http://www.holytrinity-nyc.org)