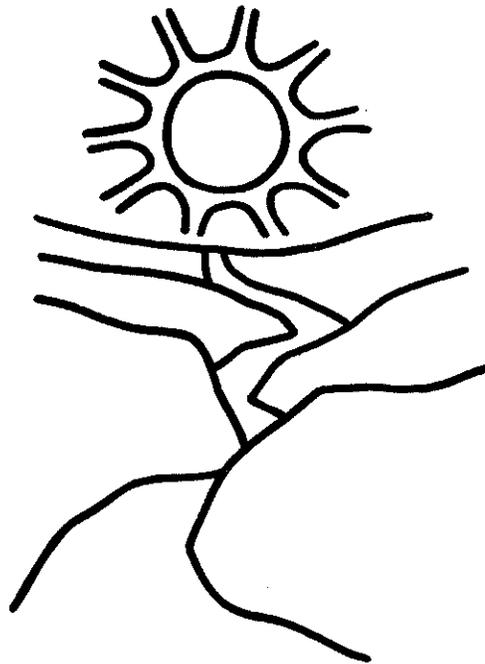


**CHURCH OF THE TRINITY
Coatesville
in the
Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania**

*Church of the Trinity is a congregation
rooted in the faith and love of Christ,
unified in diversity,
seeking to grow and nourish
the Trinity family and our Coatesville community.*



"He came to testify to the light."

December 17, 2023

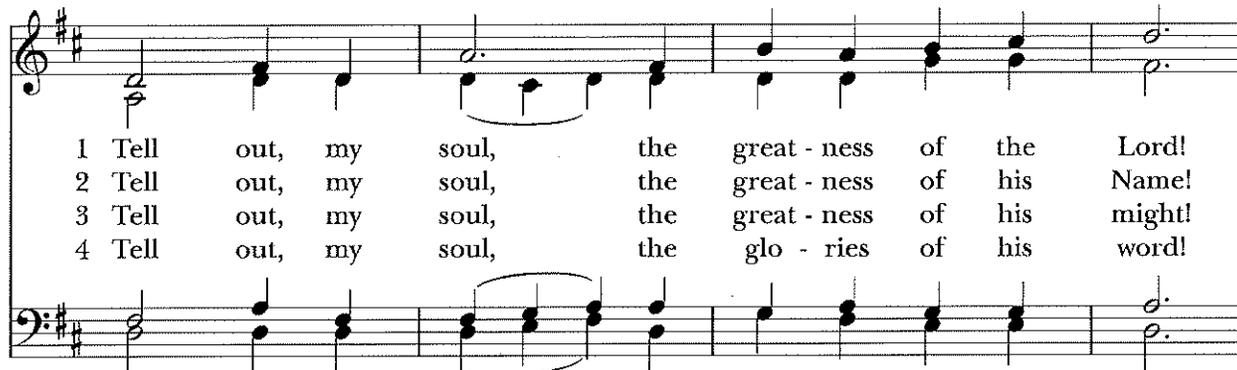
9:30 AM

The Third Sunday of Advent

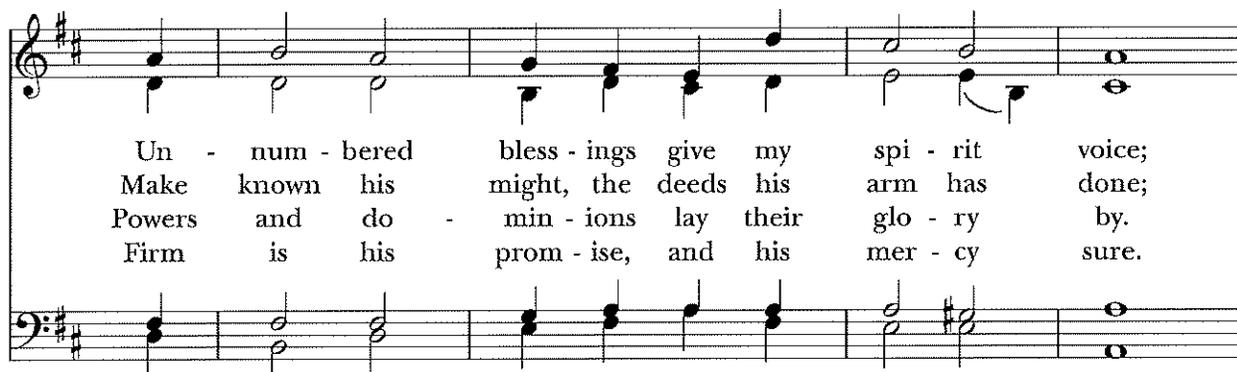
PRELUDE

Entrance Rite

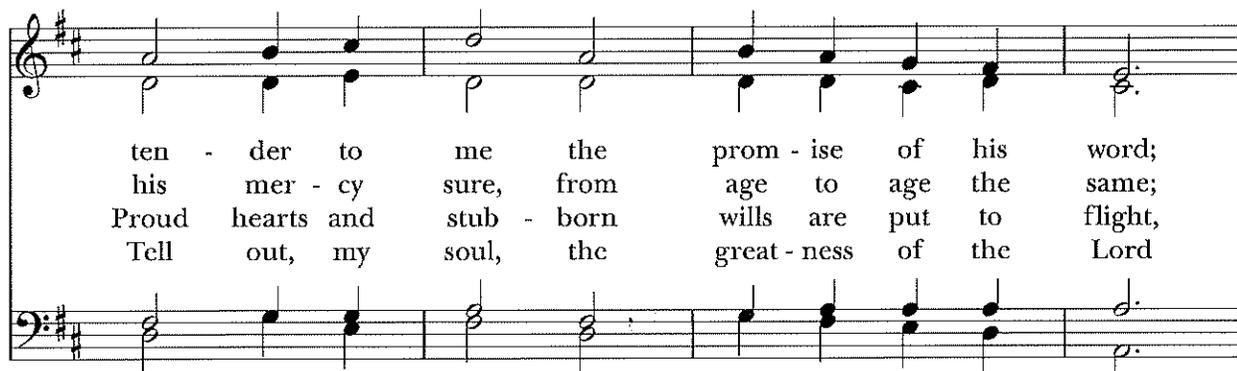
ENTRANCE HYMN *Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord (Birmingham) (H 437)*



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of his word!



Un-num-bered bless-ings give my spi-rit voice;
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
Powers and do-minions lay their glo-ry by.
Firm is his prom-ise, and his mer-cy sure.



ten-der to me the prom-ise of his word;
his mer-cy sure, from age to age the same;
Proud hearts and stub-born wills are put to flight,
Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord



in God my Sa-rior shall my heart re-joice.
his ho-ly Name—the Lord, the Might-y One.
the hun-gry fed, the hum-ble lift-ed high.
to chil-dren's chil-dren and for ev-er-more!

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (SEE HANDOUT/ATTACHED)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People You come to your people and set them free.

SONG OF PRAISE (THE HYMNAL 1982 #96) *Angels we have heard on high (Gloria)* (H 96)

Refrain

The musical score is written for a choir in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) with lyrics. The first system is the refrain, starting with 'Glo - ri - a'. The second system continues with 'in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - ri - a'. The third system concludes with 'ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.' The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - ri - a

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

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 for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

¹The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;

²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;

³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

⁸For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 126

Remain seated.

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

²Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

³Then they said among the nations, *
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

⁴The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

⁵Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

⁶Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

⁷Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (CHRIST IS COMING - LEVAS 6)

Christ is coming. Prepare the Way. Christ is coming. Prepare the Way.

Christ is coming. Prepare the Way. Christ is coming. Prepare the Way.

Christ is coming. Christ is coming. Christ is coming. Christ is coming.

Christ is coming. Prepare the Way. Christ is coming. Prepare the Way

GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” ²²Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said,

“I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,

‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ ”

as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON BY THE REV. SHERRY DEETS

A BRIEF MOMENT OF REFLECTION FOLLOWS THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

All rise as you are able.

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 remain standing.

Pleading for God's gift of a renewing Spirit, let us offer our prayers to God, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

That our lives may be songs of praise and thanksgiving rising from joyful hearts and proclaiming in every word we speak and gesture we make that God fills us with holy presence, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That all those in our world held in captivity or any form of slavery may find liberation from the chains that bind them and new freedom for their hearts, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That we may accept with courage God's anointing of our lives to share in the divine mission of rescue for the world, bringing justice and joy to all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That we may reverently offer in service to the world the ministry of light which we hold in fragile human hands, this sharing in the saving work of Christ the Light, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For this community, especially for those who suffer most, for the emotionally and physically ill, for the dying, for those who grieve, especially those listed that are near to our hearts, and those we now name silently or out loud (*a period of silence*):

Violet Armstead, Clair Armstrong, Angie Ashe, Bob Austin, Molly Baldwin, Marsha Barley, Marie Hyacinthe Bribal, Anthony Brogan, Walter Bryant, Carol, Carolyn, Lola Clarke, Betsy Comstock, Millie Connor, Didi, Dorothy, Andrea Dudley, Ellie, Charles Emmett, Morris Ferguson, Karen Fisher, Cassie Foreman, Kyla Foreman, Jacob Furlong, Bianca Giannotti, Linda Graber, Samantha Griggs, Sam Haak, Lillian Hadler, Susan Hanft, Scott Hansberry, Esther Harvey, Matt Hess, Janice, Danyell Jackson, Jay, Jennifer Jenkins, Pete Jennings, Diane Kitson, Jodi Lancaster, Alison Lauren, John and Lindsay, Lisa, Lisa Kivett, Sye Lamar, Melanie Lifer, Olivia Lyons, Paige McClean, Kevin McGloon, Bob and Jennifer McNeil, Mia, Mickey, Brian Miller, Tracy Mulligan, Bruce Murray, Adam Nolt, Jessica Nupponen, Meredith Olseski, Betty Peirce, Stan Pernsley, April Phillips, Ben Phillips, Antonia Planamento, Lynn Pullman, Arlene Purnsley, Michael Rayner, Jacob Rockoff, Thomas Rubinaccio, Dick Skoniczin, Shane, Thomas Shanley, Mary Shidlowksi, Erma Sinsabaugh, Barb Smelter, Stephen Smelter, Robin Spicher, Colby Stackhouse, Debra Stackwicz, Stephanie, Linda Still, Sue, Becky Swaggart, Dihona Talton and children, Evans Thompson, Tom, Tom Wagner, Vicki Romberger, Norman Walters, Cyndi Walters, Isaac Warnick, Sally Warren, Paul Wayne, Mary Nell Weiss, Chanel Wiest, Brendan Willauer, Ruby Williams, Donna Zahorchak

May we all, out of our own suffering, give comfort and support, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those who protect and serve, as well as their families: the police, the firefighters, emergency medical personnel and those serving in the military, especially those listed here that are near to our hearts and those we name silently or out loud (*a period of silence*):

Police: Lt Lori and Jeff Kistle, Marquis Costello

Military: PVT Austin Combs, PO2 Jason Combs, PO3 Andrew Combs, ICPT Corey Combs, Skylar Dantzler, MAJ Alex Deets, Petty Officer William Dowling, 1st LT Frank Furman, Jr., J. Andrew Hinkle, PFC Shane McWilliams, MGSgt Troy Meacham, Sgt Kaleel Pernsley, Specialist Jason Sage, CPT Jeremy Smith, LCDR Michael Sracic MC, and MSgt Rewa Price

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those in our parish family celebrating birthdays this week - Shane McWilliams, Miranda Croft and Pam Smyth, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That the mercy of God which lasts from age to age may wash over us and bless us and stir up in us the bold courage to be its faithful prophets in our world, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who will die this day, and for the beloved dead whom we have entrusted to you, especially for the Bentley and Stackwicz Family members, for whom the altar flowers are given; that you will be present to them, speaking your name in comfort and in power. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Send the Spirit of Jesus upon us, O God, that we may be your songs of peace and joy in this world. We pray in the name of the one who is our peace and joy. Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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.

The Priest stands and says

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

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

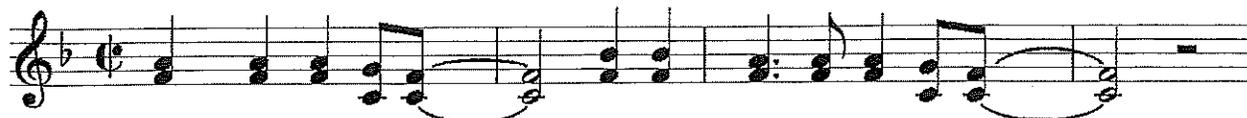
The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

OFFERTORY HYMN *Soon, Very Soon* (LEVAS 14)



1. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
2. No more cry - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
3. No more dy - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
4. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King; _____



1. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
2. No more cry - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
3. No more dy - in' there _____ we are goin' to see the King, _____
4. Soon and ver - y soon _____ we are goin' to see the King; _____

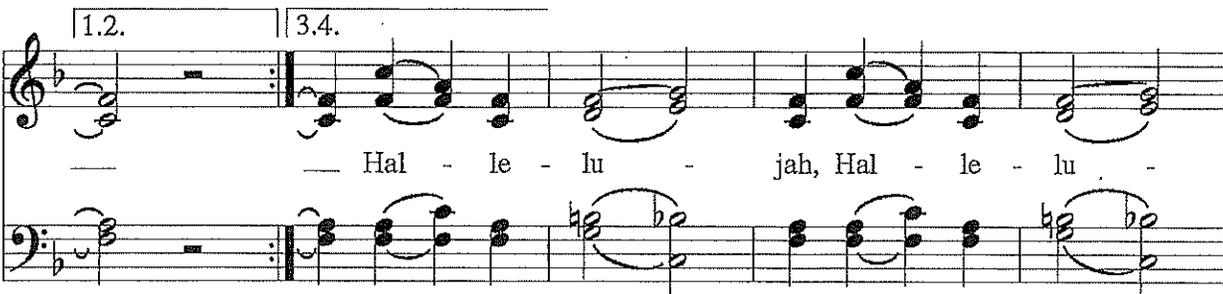




1. Soon and ver - y soon_____ we are goin' to see the King,
 2. No more cry - in' there_____ we are goin' to see the King,
 3. No more dy - in' there_____ we are goin' to see the King,
 4. Soon and ver - y soon_____ we are goin' to see the King;



Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!



Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu -



jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

THE HYMNAL 1982 SERVICE MUSIC #S 125

Celebrant and People

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.***

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said:

“Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the

everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Cyril, our Patron Saint, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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. *AMEN*

THE LORD'S PRAYER LEVAS #264

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now sing.

People and Celebrant

Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM

Alleluia! Be known to us Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.

Be known to us Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia!

INVITATION

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION HYMN *Wayfaring Stranger* (LEVAS 19)

1. I'm just a poor— way-far-ing stran-ger, I'm trav'-ling through this world be -
2. I know dark clouds will gath-er o'er me, I know my path - way's rough and
3. I want to sing— sal - va-tions sto-ry,— In con-cert with— the blood-washed
4. I'll soon be free— from ev - ery tri - al,— This form will rest— be - neath the

1. low;— There is no sick - ness, toil, nor dan - ger,— In that bright
 2. steep;— But gold - en fields— lie out be - fore me,— Where wea - ry
 3. band;— I want to wear— a crown of glo - ry,— When I get
 4. sod;— I'll drop the cross— of self - de - ni - al,— And en - ter

1. world— to which I go.— I'm go - ing there— to see my
 2. eyes— no more shall weep.— I'm go - ing there— to see my
 3. home— to that good land.— I'm go - ing there— to see my
 4. in— my home with God.— I'm go - ing there— to see my

1. fa - ther, I'm go - ing there no more to roam;—
 2. mo - ther, She said she'd meet me when I come;— I'm just a
 3. bro - thers, They passed be - fore me one by one;—
 4. Sav - ior, Who shed for me His pre - cious blood;—
 go - ing o - ver Jor - dan, I'm just a go - ing o - ver home.—

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

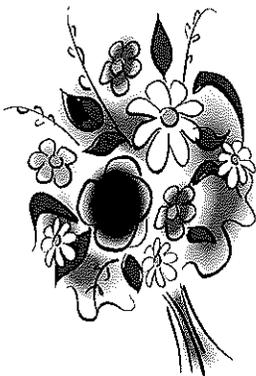
Celebrant and People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION HYMN *O come, O come, Emmanuel (Veni, veni, Emmanuel)* (H 56)

TODAY



The flowers are placed on the altar to the Glory of God
and in Loving Memory of the

Bentley and Stackwicz Family Members

by
Caroline Bentley

Announcements:

Thursday, December 21st at Noon, Healing Service via Zoom commemorating Lillian Trasher, Missionary in Egypt, 1961

Weekday Bible Study sign-up sheet. If you are interested in participating in an 11:30 am - 1:00 pm weekday Bible Study, please sign up on the clipboard in the back of the church. Check the days that you could be available. We hope to be able to start in the New Year. Thank you.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Dec 24 at 8 p.m., NO Sunday morning service.

Lessons and Carols with Communion, Sunday, December 31st at 9:30 a.m.

Teddy Bears for the Teddy Bear Ministry are available to give to someone who could use a little Trinity love.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE TRINITY
323 East Lincoln Highway
Coatesville, Pennsylvania 19320
610-384-4771

Office Email: Trinitycoates@aol.com
Website: www.trinitycoatesville.org

Parish Administrator Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday: Office Closed

Rector: The Reverend Sherry Deets
Home Phone: 610-380-0462
Email: revsherrydeets@aol.com

Organist and Choirmaster: Rachel Lee Anemone
Parish Administrator: Jamoca Harkins
Community Engagement Coordinator: Liz Hulse (liztrinity323@gmail.com)

VESTRY

Sr. Warden: Chris Haak
Jr. Warden: Dennis Dantzler
Treasurer: Minnie Kirwin

Greg Bentley
Nora Bush
Donna Fleck
Joseph Lee
Vic Shanley
Tom Swett
Betty Sullivan
Bill Terry
Michael Thompson

THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE OF JOY
Third Sunday of Advent

Leader: As the pace of life grows busier, louder and more insistent, we gather here to a quiet, holy spot where our hearts find rest, as we stop to contemplate and meditate and hope.

People: *O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie...*
(sung a cappella)

Leader: Today, we light the Bethlehem Candle of Joy, which is often pink to represent joy instead of the purple that represents our penitence and Christ's royal kingship. As the birth place of Jesus, Bethlehem is a unique symbol of life-changing joy. In a season filled with celebration, take some time this week to observe the small joys in your life: the smile of a child, the touch of a loved one, the smells of home, the kindness of friends. Delight in the quiet joys of this holy, happy season.

People: *O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie...*
(sung a cappella)

Leader: We relight the Prophet's Candle of Hope and the Angel's Candle of Peace and now light the Bethlehem Candle of Joy. As we do, let us renew our determination to live this season as people of hope and peace and joy.

All: *Gracious God, thank you for sending your son to Bethlehem and for the joy that event still brings. Help us make room in our busy lives for the Advent of your son, and rather than shuffle him to the stable of our hearts, let us prepare the banquet hall he deserves. Help us look within to discover the joy of this season. Keep us in the hollow of your hand and watch over us as we continue our journey towards Christmas. Amen.*

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