

**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 was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him”

December 31, 2023

9:30 AM

Service of Lessons and Carols

A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas

Prelude

Entrance Hymn: 1982 Hymnal #102 (vs 1-3) *"Once in Royal David's City"*

Then, all standing, this bidding prayer is said.

Beloved in Christ, this day it is our duty and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, and to go in heart and mind to Bethlehem, and see this thing which has come to pass, and the Babe, lying in the manger. Therefore let us hear again from Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days until the glorious redemption brought us by this holy Child; and let us make this house of prayer glad with our carols of praise. But first, because this of all things would rejoice Jesus' heart, let us pray to him for the needs of the whole world, and all his people; for peace upon the earth he came to save, for love and unity within the one Church he did build; for goodwill among all peoples, for those celebrating birthdays this week- Betty Sullivan, Kristina Rosa and Liz Hulse. And particularly at this time, let us remember the poor, the cold, the hungry, the oppressed and the sick, 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, Esther Gaffney, 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 Shidlowski, 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

For those who mourn, the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all who know not our Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love. Lastly let us remember the deceased, Jane Scott and Charles Hewes Moore, Annie Scarlett and S. Horace Scott, for whom the altar flowers are given, and Evelyn Weyrich, for whom the side altar flowers are given, and all those who rejoice with us, but rest upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude who no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one. Amen.

First Lesson

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

GENESIS 3: 8-15, 17-19

⁸ They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹² The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." ¹⁴ The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
 cursed are you among all animals
 and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
 and dust you shall eat
 all the days of your life.

¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman,
 and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
 and you will strike his heel."

¹⁷ And to the man he said,
"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife,
 and have eaten of the tree
about which I commanded you,
 'You shall not eat of it,'
cursed is the ground because of you;
 in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
 and you shall eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹ By the sweat of your face
 you shall eat bread
until you return to the ground,
 for out of it you were taken;
you are dust,
 and to dust you shall return."

After the reading: Thanks be to God.

1982 Hymnal #112 (vs 1-4)

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Second Lesson

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

GENESIS 22:15-18

¹⁵ The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶ and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, ¹⁸ and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

After the reading: Thanks be to God.

1982 Hymnal #83 (vs 1-3)

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

Third Lesson

The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

ISAIAH 9:2, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷ His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

After the reading: Thanks be to God.

1982 Hymnal # 104 (vs 1, 2 & 4) "A Stable Lamp is Lighted"

Fourth Lesson

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

ISAIAH 11:1-4, 6-9

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

After the reading: Thanks be to God.

1982 Hymnal # 81 "Lo, how a Rose e'er Blooming"

Fifth Lesson

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

LUKE 1:26-35, 38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."
²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.
³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² 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. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"
³⁵ 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^[c] will be holy; he will be called Son of 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.

After the reading: Thanks be to God.

1982 Hymnal # 96 (vs 1-2) "Angels We Have Heard on High"

1982 Hymnal #87 (vs 1-3) "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Sixth Lesson

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

LUKE 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

After the reading: Thanks be to God.

1982 Hymnal #89 (vs 1-2)

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

1982 Hymnal #101

"Away in a Manger"

Seventh Lesson

The shepherds go to the manger.

LUKE 2: 8-16

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah,^[a] the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host,^[b] praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

After the reading: Thanks be to God.

LEVAS #24 **"Rise Up Shepherds and Follow"**

LEVAS #21 **"Go Tell it On the Mountain"**

Eighth Lesson

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

MATTHEW 2:1-11

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men^[a] from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

After the reading: Thanks be to God.

1982 Hymnal #79 (vs 1-3)

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

1982 Hymnal #115 (vs 1-2)

“What Child is This?”

Ninth Lesson (*congregation stands*)

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

JOHN 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ 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.

After the reading: Thanks be to God.

1982 Hymnal #109 (vs 1-3) "The First Nowell"

Prayer (*All remain standing.*)

Minister: The Lord be with you

People: And with thy spirit.

Minister: Let us pray.

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come to be our judge; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

All: Amen

The Passing of the Peace

Announcements

The Offertory

The Offertory Hymn

1982 Hymnal # 105

"God Rest You Merry Gentlemen"

The Great Thanksgiving for Christmas¹

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.*

Holy God, our Source and Ending, Alpha and Omega, we give thanks to you! You have called all creation into being, setting the earth on its foundations. You have spread out the heavens like a tent, and set a boundary to the seas, you have filled the world with your creatures and called all things good. The heavenly beings are your messengers night and day, and with them we sing and give glory to you:

The Hymnal 1982 Service Music #S125

***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!***

In these latter days, God leaned toward the earth and spoke to us by a Son, Jesus the Beloved. Born of our sister Mary and the Holy Spirit, guarded by our brother Joseph with fatherly care, Jesus came among us as a baby, humbly born, cradled beside the beasts and warmed by their breath, human as we are, in need of human love. Yet kings bowed down before him, bringing gifts and emperors were troubled by his reign – this Child in whom all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell. This Word of God made flesh and full of grace was sent to deliver us from our sin, from the power of evil and the fear of death. As a servant, Jesus emptied himself of might upon the cross, and as the risen Anointed One is enthroned at God's right hand to bring mercy and justice to all the earth at the end of days. And so, rejoicing in all God has done for us, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Celebrant and People:

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

The Celebrant continues

Holy God, as you visited us in the birth of Jesus, visit us now by the power of your Spirit in these creatures of bread and wine, making them for us the Body and Blood of Christ, the banquet of heaven here on earth, as we remember how Jesus took bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to his friends, saying,

“Take, eat, This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” and after supper, took a cup of wine and blessed and gave it to them, saying:

“Drink this, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Blessed God, shed your grace brighter than starlight on us that we may bear your good tidings to all and renew the weary world in your name: the name of Emmanuel – God-With-Us, to whom we give honor and glory in joy, now and forever. ***Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer LEVAS #264

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to 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 and 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, for ever. Amen.*

The Breaking of the Bread

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

People: *Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia!*

The Priest invites the people to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All who seek God are welcome at God's Table.

Communion Hymn:

1982 Hymnal # 111

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

The Post Communion Prayer

*Mysterious God, we thank you for feeding us with yourself;
and for making yourself known to us
in the holy child Jesus, the Christ.*

*Let us carry within our hearts your Holy Spirit,
that same Spirit which was in Jesus,
so that we may help bring your peace to all the earth
in Jesus' Name. Amen.*

The Christmas Blessing

Closing Hymn

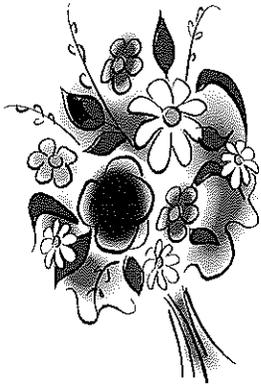
1982 Hymnal #100

"Joy to the World"

¹ Jennifer Phillips is the Vicar of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Kingston, Rhode Island. Jennifer wrote this Eucharistic Prayer for Christmas.

TODAY

Welcome Danny Farah, Guest Pianist



The flowers are placed on the altar to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of

*Jane Scott and Charles Hewes Moore,
Annie Scarlett and S. Horace Scott*

by
Mrs. John Batley

The flowers are placed on the side altar to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of my sister

Evelyn Weyrich

by
Victor J. Shanley III

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, January 4th at Noon – Healing Service via Zoom commemorating William Passavant, Prophetic Witness, 1894

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:

Mon & Wed: 1 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Tues & Thurs: 4 p.m. – 7 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