

The Church of the Holy Trinity

Rittenhouse Square

Christmas Day

10:00 AM

Holy Eucharist with Carols



WIDE OPEN HEARTS
WIDE OPEN DOORS

December 25, 2021

Gentle Reminders for our Guests today:

As a community in Christ, we are called to work together to create an inclusive worship experience that is **safe for everyone** – ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.



As a gentle reminder, **please wear your masks at all times over your mouth and nose** when inside of the Church and its adjoining property. We ask that you gently remind your neighbors to do the same when necessary.

During **the Peace**, we invite you to connect with your neighbors by waving, showing the peace sign, or using fist or elbow bumps. Please be sure that your neighbor is comfortable with physical connections before offering that kind of peace.



Children are welcome to join us for worship services today! We do not mind little voices and noises that children naturally make, so don't worry if they are not sitting perfectly still and silent! That's not normal! We do ask that all family members sit together throughout the service.

Cell Phones: Please make sure your cell phone is **turned off or turned to silent** during the service Thank you!

Offering: We will not be passing a plate today, you can give to the church by dropping your envelope or money in the plate located near the table with the bulletins. You can also text **CHT DONATE to 73256.** or use the Realm app on your phone.



Communion will be given in the form of bread only. The priest will bring the bread to you in your seat. We ask that you please use the individual hand sanitizer before receiving and stand in your pew to indicate your desire to receive communion.

Thank you for joining us today and helping us with your cooperation.

Together — we'll get through this.

CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00 AM

Prelude

Improvisation on 'Puer Natus Est'

Everett Tittcomb

THE ENTRANCE RITE

All stand and sing

The Entrance Hymn 83: O come, all ye faithful

Adeste Fideles

¹ O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him,
born the King of angels.

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

² God from true God, and
Light from Light eternal,
born of a virgin, to earth he comes!
Only-begotten Son of God the Father:
Refrain:

³ Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest:
Refrain:

⁴ Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
Refrain:

The Opening Acclamation

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

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

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you o secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria: Hymn 96

Gloria

¹ Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
gloria in excelsis Deo.

² Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song?

Refrain:

³ Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Refrain:

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen**

The people sit.

THE WORD OF GOD

The First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

Reader A reading from Isaiah:

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. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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. 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96: Hymn 100

Antioch

¹ Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

² Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

³ No more let sins and sorrows grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

⁴ He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

The Second Lesson

Titus 2:11-14

Reader A Reading from Titus:

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God**

All stand as able and sing

The Sequence: Hymn 91 Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light

Ermuntre dich

The image shows a musical score for Hymn 91, 'Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light'. The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: 'Break forth, O beau - teous heaven - ly light, and ush - er in the morn - ing; O shep - herds, greet that glo - rious sight, our Lord a crib a - dorn - ing. This child, this lit - le'. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

help - less boy, shall be our con - fi - dence and joy, the
power of Sa - tan break - ing, our peace e - ter - nal mak - ing.

The Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" 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." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The people sit.

The Sermon

The Reverend John Gardner

Silence may be kept.

The Nicene Creed

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.

Christmas Prayers of the People

Leader Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus:

Gracious God, as a star rose, and drew people from great distances to Bethlehem that they might greet the Christ-child; Draw us, your Church, and all of your people to you-that we might be the Church and the People who you call us to be.

People **Merciful God, hear our prayer**

Leader As you gave Mary your Holy Spirit, filling her with the delight of your Presence; Fill us with your Spirit, and renew our lives.

People **Merciful God, hear our prayer**

Leader As Gentiles streamed to Jesus' Light, and Kings to the brightness of his rising; Draw our nation, our President, and all in authority, to His brightness.

People **Merciful God, hear our prayer**

Leader As angels sang 'glorias' to you and proclaimed peace on earth, and goodwill among all peoples; Bring us your peace, and bring an end to terror and strife.

People **Merciful God, hear our prayer**

Leader As shepherds were drawn away from their flocks by night; Draw those who do not know you yet to the knowledge and love of you.

People **Merciful God, hear our prayer**

Leader As Jesus was born in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn; Be especially present with those who have nowhere to lay their head, those who are vulnerable, and those who are hungry.

People **Merciful God, hear our prayer**

Leader As the Holy Family gathered together in Bethlehem, and traveled together to far off lands; Bless all families, especially the families of our parish, and protect those who travel.

People **Merciful God, hear our prayer**

Leader As your son came to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of Life Eternal; Give to the departed eternal rest and let Light perpetual shine on them.

People **Merciful God, hear our prayer**

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others especially those on our prayer list: Grace, Scott, Jeff, Eddie, Alexandra, The Spencer Family, Kara, Megan, Leonard, Barbara, Peyton, Peter R, The Scott Family, Abby, Andy, Andrew, Sue, Tommy, Lynn, The Welsford Family, Mike, Parke, Peter, David, Bill, Tricia, Robert, Michael, Charles, Sister Ann, Judy, Ava, David and Clarice, that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs.

People **Merciful God, hear our prayer**

Celebrant O Lord our God, may the Light and Hope of this season, and of our Son's Incarnation, reassure our hearts that you are among us, that you hear our prayer, and that you will be with us always, even to the end of the age. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth we pray.

All **Amen**

The Confession

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All **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 Absolution

Celebrant 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.**

Stand

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

Parish Notices

Please be seated.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. (*Isa. 52:9-10*)

Offertory Anthem

Torches, Torches, Run with Torches

John Joubert

Torches, torches, run with torches	Ah, Roro, Roro, my baby
All the way to Bethlehem!	Ah, Roro, my love, Roro;
Christ is born and now lies sleeping;	Sleep you well, my heart's own darling
Come and sing your song to Him!	While we sing you our Roro.

Sing, my friends, and make you merry
Joy and mirth and joy again;
Lo, He lives, the King of heaven
Now and evermore. Amen

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

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 It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus *Sung by the choir*

In a setting by J. S. Bach

Holy, holy, holy Lord, 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.

The people remain standing or kneel.

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith;

People

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

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

All **AMEN**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:
All **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 Breaking of the Bread

The Fraction Anthem: S-152

Cantor
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

All
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us

All
keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ was born for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Distribution of Communion

Communion will be given in one kind only (bread). Those who wish to receive communion should sanitize their hands and stand in their pews. The priest will give communion to the choir and organist first, and then will bring it to the congregation in their pews. If you need a gluten-free wafer or prefer a blessing for yourself or your child, please let the priest know when they come to your pew.

The Communion Motet

The Holly and the Ivy

English Traditional

The holly and the ivy,
When they are both full grown;
Of all the trees that are in the wood,
The holly bears the crown.

*O, the rising of the sun,
And the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir.*

The holly bears a blossom,
As white as any flow'r,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
To be our sweet Savior.

The holly bears a prickle,
As sharp as any thorn,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
On Christmas Day in the morn

The holly bears a berry,
As red as any blood,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
To do poor sinners good

The holly bears a bark,
As bitter as any gall,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
For to redeem us all.

The people stand or kneel

The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Celebrant As Christ's incarnation gathered all things earthly and heavenly into one, may you also be filled with peace and goodwill to join with the divine; and the blessing of God be with you on this blessed day and forever.

All Amen.

The Dismissal Hymn: 107 Good Christian friends, rejoice

In dulci jubilo

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth to see Jesus incarnate in the world.

People **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Rhapsodie sur des Noels

Eugène Gigout

**The Christmas flowers in the Church
are offered to the glory of God
and in thanksgiving and loving memory of the lives of...**

In Memory of Adam and Edna Cunningham by: Reauchean Williams

*In Memory of Jeannetta Drysdale Lee Burger and W. Atlee Burpee, Jr. and Anne Mitchell
by: Murray Richards Richey*

**We also graciously thank those who donated Advent wreaths,
and any other flowers...**

*Martha & Thomas Lipscomb
Jon Sagle & Amy Perkins*

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Please visit our website: www.htrit.org for more information about services and activities at The Church of the Holy Trinity.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Giving: There are several ways to still give at CHT. You can text, CHT DONATE to 73256 or scan the QR code. Standard text message rates apply. You can give electronically [here](#). You can also sign up to give weekly with REALM (www.htrit.org/give).



Join our E-List: Sign up at www.htrit.org

PARTICIPANTS

The Reverend John Gardner, *Celebrant*
The Reverend Rachel Wenner Gardner, *Preacher*
Christopher Jungers, *Readings*

STAFF

The Rev. Rachel Wenner Gardner & The Rev. John Gardner, *Rectors*
Donald R. Meineke, *Director of Music*
Fatimah Lane, *Director of Operations*
Ella Christy, *Rentals Manager*
Sarah Mammano, *Communications Coordinator & House Manager*
Dr. Benjamin Leiby, *Associate Organist*
Demetrius Swinson, *Assistant to the Director of Operations*
Daniel Cooper, *Media Coordinator*
Kile Smith, *Composer-in-Residence*
Dr. Stephen Framil, *Musician-in-Residence*
Dr. John French, *Organist/Choirmaster emeritus*

The Choir of Holy Trinity: Gail Caruso, Carl Ellinwood, Franny Geller, Andrew Gutknecht, Alyson Harvey, Kate Nicole Hoffman, Samuel Keeler, John Miles, Titus Muzi, Ellen Peters, Aimee Pilgermayer, and Kelly Rubinsohn

VESTRY

Oscar Gunther, *Rectors' Warden*
Michael Uftring, *Accounting Warden*
Nancy Rasmussen, *Clerk*
Vestry Members - Gail Caruso, Sally Griffith, Gordon P. Henderson, Simson Hui, Martha Lipscomb, Greg Maughan, Madelyn Mignatti, and Emily Stromberg



**THE CHURCH OF
THE HOLY TRINITY**
RITTENHOUSE SQUARE