The Second Sunday of Advent The Church of the Holy Trinity 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist and every mountain and hill Shall be made low Rittenhouse Square Y taley shall be filled prepare the way of JOY make hispaths straight RING WIDE OPEN HEARTS WIDE OPEN DOORS December 5, 2021

What's Happening This Week:

Sunday, December 5	11:00 am Advent II Service 5:00 pm Sunday Meal
Monday, December 6	5:30-9:30 pm Private Rental Rehearsal
Tuesday, December 7	5:00 pm Tuesday Meal
Wed., December 8	10:00 am Staff Meeting
	12:15 pm Advent Organ Meditation
Thursday, December 9	4:30-10:00 pm Private Event
Friday, December 10	Rectors' Day off
Sunday, December 12	11:00 am Advent III Service
	5:00 pm Sunday Meal
Mark your Calendars:	
Tuesday, December 21	5:30 pm Decorate the Church for Christmas
Friday, December 24	4:00 pm Blessing of the Creche
	8:00 pm Lessons and Carols
Saturday, December 25	10:00 am Christmas Communion Service

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.

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Prelude

Nun Komm, der Heiden, BWV 659

Johann Sebastian Bach

THE ENTRANCE RITE

The Entrance Hymn: 76 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Winchester New



The Opening Acclamation

OfficiantBlessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.PeopleAnd blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

Officiant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no 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.

The Kyrie



The Collect of the Day

- *Officiant* The Lord be with you.
- *People* And also with you.

Officiant 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. **Amen.**

The people sit.

The First Lesson: Malachi 3:1-4

James Otwell

Reader A reading from the book of Malachi

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Canticle of Zechariah Benedictus

setting by John Weaver

Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel. You have come to you people and set them free. You have raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of your servant David.

The congregation and choir then sings:



You have come to your peo-ple and set them free.

Through your holy prophets your promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us, to show mercy to our forebears,

and to remember your holy covenant.



You have come to your peo-ple and set them free.

This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham: To set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship you without fear, holy and righteous before you all the days of our life.



You have come to your peo-ple and set them free.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare a way

to give the people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.



You have come to your peo-ple and set them free.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.



You have come to your peo-ple and set them free.

The Second Lesson: Philippians 1:3-11

Shreve Simpson

Reader A reading from the book of Philippians.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Standing, as able.



Remain standing.

OfficiantThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.""

OfficiantThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher. **The Sermon**

The Reverend Rachel Wenner Gardner

Standing, as able. The Nicene Creed

All 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, Advent

- *Leader* In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, remind us that you are always with us, that like Joseph we might always be eager to fulfill your will, and be eager to pray:
- Leader O God, in days to come the mountain of your house will be established, and your joy shall reign. We pray for the church; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Daniel, our bishop, for John and Rachel our clergy, and for all serving on vestry, volunteers, children, youth, and all leaders who are not ordained; that you might teach us your ways and that we might walk in your paths.
- *People* Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.
- *Leader* Out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and you, O God, shall judge between the nations. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth.
- *People* Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.
- Leader In your Kingdom, O Lord, wolves lie down with lambs and children play with serpents without fear. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind, especially: Vincent, the Ayrey Family, the Cohen Family, the Phillips Family, Grace, Scott, Jeff, Eddie, Alexandra, The Loffer Family, Edwina, The Spencer Family, Kara, Megan, Leonard, Barbara, Peyton, Peter R, The Scott Family, Abby, Andy, Andrew, Sue, Tommy, Lynn, Mike, Parke,

Peter, David, Bill, Tricia, Robert, Michael, and Charles, that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs.

People Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.

Leader In your Kingdom, O Lord, even the wilderness and dry land are glad and rejoice. We pray for those who rejoice this week as they celebrate this week and give thanks for all the things we enjoy; for those celebrating birthday, anniversaries, or other celebrations; that we might all obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing might flee away.

People Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.

Leader In the fullness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary. And his name was Emmanuel: God With Us. We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer.

People Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.

Officiant O Christ, hear our prayers, restore us, and show us the glorious light of your countenance, that we might be saved. Come Lord Jesus.

The Confession & Absolution

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

Silence may be kept.

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. *Officiant* 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

Officiant The Peace of the Lord be always with you

People And also with you.

You are invited 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 any physical connections before offering that kind of peace.

The Parish Notices

Each Wednesday in Advent (12/8, 15, 22) we will be offering Advent Organ Meditations at 12:15 in the sanctuary, featuring our music staff and the first half of our organ project (known as the Chancel Organ).

Help us decorate the church for Christmas – December 21, 5:30 – 7:30 pm. All ages are welcome.

Our Stewardship Campaign, Gifts Given and Gifts Received, kicked off this month. You will hear from the Vestry and fellow parishioners over the next few weeks about this theme. We need your gifts of presence, talent, and enthusiasm this year, as well as your financial support, as we rebuild from the last year and a half. Offering a pledge to the church helps us to budget for the coming year. Recurring gifts help us to have reliable and steady income throughout the year. If you would like to make a pledge, you can fill out a card in the back of the church or pledge online: https://tinyurl.com/CHT2022pledge. You can also set up a recurring gift online at: https://tinyurl.com/CHTgiving2022. Thank you for your support and generosity!

If you wish to give a gift today, we encourage you to do so during the Offertory Anthem. You can do this by texting CHT DONATE to 73256 or Pressing Learn More on our Facebook Page or, if you are watching on our website, you can click the donate button on the top of the page.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory Sentence

Officiant Lift up your heads, O gates; be lifted up, you everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

J. S. Bach

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, Der Jungfrauen Kind erkannt, Des sich wundert alle Welt, Gott solch Geburt ihm bestellt. Come now, Savior of the heathens, the Virgin's child made known, at which the whole world marvels how God assigned him such a birth.

Standing, as able

The Offertory Hymn: 75 There's a voice in the wilderness crying

0 There's a in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, 1 voice а 2 0. Zi tid - ings, on, that bring-est good get thee 3 but the word of our God_ en du - reth, the_ call from the ways un trod: Pre pare in the des - ert а des - o - late the heights and sing! Pro claim to up to a midst____ arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the of o. way. high - way for God! The_ high a our ple com - ing Like the the of their King. peo he will right na tions, and the wrong. He shall val leys shall be ex alt ed, the flowers of the field like they. per ish, his. feed flock like a shep - herd, the hills brought straight all lof - ty low; make the crook ed works de pomp grass our cay, the power and of lambs he'll gent ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll pla where the Lord God our go! ces may na tions shall___ pass like a dream___ a way; lead them. and_ bring them___ safe to his fold.

The Great Thanksgiving

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 We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:





Celebrant Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace,

you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

Then the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friend. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again he gave thanks to you, 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."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Jesus 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



Celebrant These are God's holy gifts, for God's holy people.

AllMy Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament
of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually
into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and
unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

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 Hymn: 67 Comfort, Comfort ye my people

Psalm 42



Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Loving God, 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, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. **Amen**

The Closing Hymn: 54 Savior of the nations, come!

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland



The Advent Dismissal

Officiant Life is short. We do not always have time to gladden the hearts of those who walk with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661

J. S. Bach

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Please visit our website: <u>www.htrit.org</u> 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 <u>here</u>. You can also sign up to give weekly with REALM (<u>www.htrit.org/give</u>). **Join our E-List:** Sign up at <u>www.htrit.org</u>



PARTICIPANTS

The Reverend John Gardner, *Celebrant* The Reverend Rachel Wenner Gardner, *Preacher* Sally Griffith, *Prayers* James Otwell & Shreve Simpson, *Readings* Martha Lipscomb, *Virtual Greeter*

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, Samual 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, Martha Lipscomb, and Emily Stromberg

