

TRINITY CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF ASBURY PARK, NJ

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2025

Holy Eucharist at eleven o'clock in the evening

Prelude Christmas Carol Variations for flute and piano

Introit *Gaudete*

Traditional; J. David Moore, arr

Translation:

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary. Rejoice!

While Nature wondered, God has been made human.
The world has been restored by Christ's reigning.

Hymn "O come, all ye faithful"

All who can please stand

Adeste Fidelis

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2. God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3. See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
4. Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,
5. Sing, choirs of a - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion
6. Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

Hymn continues on next page

1. come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2. lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3. leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
 4. we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;
 5. sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
 6. Je - sus, to thee be glo - ry given;

1. come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2. on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 3. we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 4. who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?
 5. glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
 6. Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy and living God.

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

Celebrant The Word became flesh and dwelt among us;

People **And we beheld Christ's glory.**

The Collect for Purity

Said together

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.

Hymn "Angels we have heard on high"

Gloria

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright-ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the remaining lines. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves, with each line of music corresponding to a line of text. The music is simple and homophonic, with the four parts moving in parallel motion.

Hymn continues on next page

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

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

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

Collect for Christmas

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah (9:2-7)

Please be seated

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.

At the end of the lesson, the reader says, The Word of the Lord
All Reply, Thanks be to God.

Anthem "Cantate Domino"

Pitoni

Sung in Latin:

Sing to the Lord a new song, his praises in the assembly of the faithful!
Let Israel be glad in the Lord, the sons of Zion rejoice in their King!

The Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Titus (2:11-14)

Please be seated

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.

At the end of the lesson, the reader says, The Word of the Lord
All Reply, Thanks be to God.

All who can please stand

Carol

Hymn "It came upon the midnight clear"

The image displays a musical score for the hymn "It came upon the midnight clear". It is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass) and piano accompaniment. The score is organized into four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano line. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines, with some words hyphenated across lines. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes, providing harmonic support for the vocal parts.

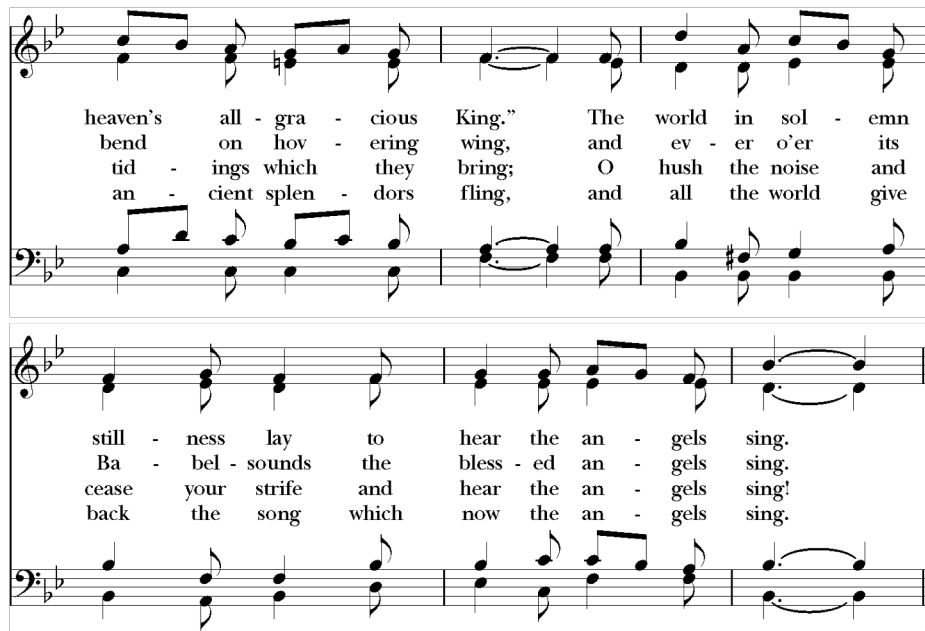
1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that
2 Still through the clov - en skies they come with
3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the
4 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by

glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing
peace - ful wings un - furled, and still their heaven - ly
world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heaven - ly
pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -

near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;
hymn have rolled thou - sand years of wrong;
cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from
a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they
and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its

Hymn continues on next page



heaven's all - gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn
bend on hov - ering wing, and ev - er o'er its
tid - ings which they bring; O hush the noise and
an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give

still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
Ba - bel - sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!
back the song which now the an - gels sing.

The Holy Gospel Luke (2:1-20)

All who can please stand

At the Announcement, all say **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.

The Reader says, The Gospel of the Lord.
All Reply, Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Hymn "Joy to the world!"

Antioch

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

Hymn continues on next page

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Sermon

Please be seated
 The Rev. Chase Danford

The Nicene Creed

All who can please stand

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 truly human.
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],
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

All who can please stand

The Prayers of the People

Adapted from the Church of England's Common Worship

Leader

Let us pray to Jesus our Savior.

Christ, born in a stable,
give shelter to all who are without a home,
Jesus, Savior,
hear our prayer.

Christ, for whom the angels sang,
give the song of your kingdom to all who weep.
Jesus, Savior,
hear our prayer.

Christ, worshipped by the shepherds,
give peace on earth to all who are oppressed.
Jesus, Savior,
hear our prayer.

Christ, before whom the wise knelt,
give humility and wisdom to all who govern.
Jesus, Savior,
hear our prayer.

Christ, whose birth makes all things new,
grant us forgiveness of our sins and the grace of the Holy Spirit.
Jesus, Savior,
hear our prayer.

Christ, whose radiance filled a lowly manger,
give the glory of your resurrection to all who rest in you.
Jesus, Savior,
hear our prayer.

**Jesus, Savior, child of Mary,
you know us and love us,
you share our lives
and hear our prayer.
Glory to you for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant concludes with a collect

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. **Amen.**

The Peace

Greet one another in the name of Christ.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

Please be seated

The Offering

Offertory Anthems *A Maiden most gentle* French traditional melody; Andrew Carter, arr.

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing:
Of Mary the mother of Jesus our King.

Refrain: Ave Maria.

How bless'd is the birth of her heavenly child,
Who came to redeem us in Mary so mild.

Refrain

The archangel Gabriel foretold by his call
The Lord of creation, and Saviour of all. *Refrain*

Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and
rare,

And marvelled in awe at the babe in her care.

Refrain

Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray;
Sing praise to the Saviour, sing endless 'Ave.'

Refrain

Gesu Bambino

Pietro Yon

James Splond, bass

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows Upon
a winter night
Was born the Child, the Christmas Rose, The
King of Love and Light.

The angels sang, the shepherds sang, The
grateful earth rejoiced,
And at His blessed birth the stars Their
exultation voiced:
"O come let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord."

Again the heart with rapture glows To greet the
holy night
That gave the world its Christmas Rose, Its King
of Love and Light.

Let ev'ry voice acclaim His name, The grateful
chorus swell
From paradise to earth He came That we with
Him might dwell.
"O come let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord."

The Great Thanksgiving

All who can please stand

Eucharistic Prayer B, Book of Common Prayer

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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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 perfectly human 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Proulx

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The tempo/mood marking *mf* is placed above the first staff. The lyrics are in French. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might." The second staff contains: "Heav'n_ and earth_ are full_ of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -". The third staff contains: "san - na in the high - est. Blest is he who comes in the name_ of the Lord. Ho -". The fourth staff contains: "san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and ties. The final note of the fourth staff is a whole note G5.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.

Heav'n_ and earth_ are full_ of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -

san - na in the high - est. Blest is he who comes in the name_ of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant proceeds We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into 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 disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

Celebrant and People

We remember Christ's death,

We proclaim Christ's resurrection,

We await Christ's coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. Amen.

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

Our Father (or Mother/Parent), **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.**

At the Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Invitation

At the Communion



The sacrament of Holy Communion is a profound and central part of our worship. In it we receive God's promise to set aside all that separates us; we strengthen our union with Christ and one another; and we experience a foretaste of the time when all creation will share the feast God has prepared for us. All who seek a deeper relationship with God in Jesus Christ are invited to join us at the Lord's Table.

Follow the usher's direction to communion. Receive the bread in open palm. Wine is available in the silver chalice, and non-alcoholic grape juice in the wooden cup. You may receive the wine by taking a sip or touching your wafer to the wine. For the grape juice, please only touch the wafer to the juice. If you would like a blessing in lieu of communion, indicate so by crossing your arms over your chest. Gluten free wafers are available, please ask the clergy for one if desired. Please let the usher know if you need the Celebrant to come to your pew to administer communion.

Anthem *See Amid the Winter Snow*

Dan Forrest

Alleluia.

See, amid the winter's snow, Born for us on earth below.
See the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.

Refrain: Hail, thou everblessed morn,
Hail redemption's happy dawn,
Sing through all Jerusalem:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem." Alleluia.

Lo, within a manger lies He who built the lofty skies,
He, who, throned in light sublime, sits amid the cherubim. *Refrain*

Sacred infant, all divine, what a tender love was Thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss, down to such a world as this. *Refrain*

Depending on length of communion, the congregation and choir may also sing the following hymn

Hymn 115 "What Child is this?"

Greensleeves

Post Communion Prayer

All who can please stand

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn "Silent night"

Stille Nacht

All who can, please kneel for the hymn. As the lights dim, handheld candles will be lit.

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Hymn continues on next page

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
 heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. born! birth. Sleep Christ, in hea - ven - ly peace.
 the Sa - vior, is born! Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Blessing

Remain kneeling

Celebrant

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

All who can please stand

Mendelssohn

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

Hymn continues on next page

with the an-gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right-eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

Dismissal *People's Response:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia

Postlude *In dulci jubilo* (BWV 729)

J.S. Bach (1685 – 1750)

Instrumentalists

Dr. James Balmer, organ

Bruno Mayoria, flute

Pete Saleh, percussion

Trinity Church Vision Statement

“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God...For if we love one another, God abides in us, and God’s love will be perfected in us.” (1 John 4:7, 12)

Love is at the very core of Trinity Church. Through our faith and ministry, we seek to share Jesus Christ’s unconditional, revolutionary love for all of God’s creation and people. We demonstrate love in action by respecting the dignity of all, practicing radical hospitality, standing in solidarity with the marginalized, advocating for peace and justice, dismantling structural racism and every system of oppression, embracing inclusivity, maintaining our sacred space as a spiritual and physical sanctuary, and pursuing ecological sustainability. Strengthened by joyful worship, prayer, lifelong spiritual formation, stewardship of resources, pastoral care, and fellowship, we commit to follow Jesus in the Way of Love.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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