Welcome to Trinity Church

The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King

November 22, 2026

Happy Thanksgiving, Trinity Church!

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays because of the way it unites Americans of all faiths and no religious faith in celebration of family, friendship, community, sharing, food and food traditions, hospitality, and gratitude.

But Thanksgiving can bring up conflicted or even negative feelings for some in the United States, particularly the Indigenous Peoples of this land. Thanksgiving is often commemorated as a banquet of friendship between the Pilgrim settlers and Native peoples. Unfortunately, the friendship extended by Indigenous Peoples would be returned with betrayal by later colonists and by the early republic. Native lands were stolen and Native people were killed and persecuted.

We can still celebrate the positive aspects of Thanksgiving, but we also need to remember our nation's history and seek justice and reconciliation. At Trinity, we have worked to bring awareness to the legacy of colonialism, first through the former Racial Justice Project and now through our chapter of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship. One result of that work is that we now recite a Land Acknowledgment Prayer at the opening of our annual Thanksgiving Eve service. This prayer recognizes the Lenape as the native residents of the land on which our church sits:

Creator, you made all people of every land. It is our responsibility to give thanks and respect to those who first occupied this land we are upon. We give thanks to the Lenape people, who lived on this land, also known as Lenapehoking, before the colonial period. We offer our respect to those ancestors who may be interred in this land. We are also thankful for the gifts of the People of the land. Creator, let us be of Good Mind to reconcile the mistreatment of this land and of those who have been displaced and mistreated. With thankful and respectful hearts we pray in Your name, Your Son the Peacemaker, and the Sacred Spirit. Amen.

If you are in town and available, I hope that you might celebrate Thanksgiving with your parish family at our reflective Thanksgiving Eve service, Wednesday evening at 6:30. You can also come the next day, from 11 am-1 pm, for a holiday community meal hosted by FEEDing Frenz. Then, Saturday, Rev. Tiff will lead a group of parishioners to volunteer at the hospitality tent at the Delaney Hall immigration detention facility, so that families separated from their loved ones can experience solidarity and a bit of holiday cheer while receiving grocery staples and other donated resources.

This Sunday is the Feast of Christ the King (also known as Reign of Christ Sunday), when we join with the church throughout the ages in affirming that Jesus Christ is Lord. From the very beginning of the Jesus Movement followers of the Way (as the early church was sometimes called) proclaimed these words, and when they did, they were also saying--rather subversively--that Caesar is not Lord, that, in fact, no human ruler is our Lord. As we celebrate Thanksgiving, may we commit ourselves to the Reign of Christ, a realm in which no one goes hungry, all have homes, and the strongest power is love.

Peace, Chase

Worship at Trinity

Powerful, joyful and Spirit-filled worship that is reverent, warm and inviting, with uplifting music and preaching!

Sundays:

8 AM **Holy Eucharist in the Church**
A gentle, said service (no music)

10 AM **Holy Eucharist in the Church**
Joyous, sung music

Monday-Friday:

7:30 AM **Morning Prayer said in the home M - F**
Resources available at www.TrinityNJ.com/Worship

7:30 AM **Friday - Morning Prayer in the Chapel**

Wednesdays:

6:30 PM **Holy Eucharist in the Chapel**
Healing Service first Wednesday of the month

Connect with Us

CONTACT US

Trinity Church, 503 Asbury Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712.
Tel: 732-775-5084 • Fax: 732-775-3865
Email: office@trinitynj.com • Web: trinitynj.com

In the case of an emergency, death or serious illness, contact the church office. There is a pastoral emergency option on the phone if no one is available to answer.

Find us on Facebook — Facebook.com/TrinityAP

Follow us on Instagram — Instagram.com/TrinityChurchAP (#TrinityChurchAP)

Breeze Online Giving

Venmo (@TrinityChurch)

Trinity Basics

PASTORAL SERVICES AND SACRAMENTS: Contact Jill Osis in the parish office for all non-emergency pastoral needs: Baptisms, the rite of Reconciliation of a Penitent (personal confession & counsel), Blessing of Marriage & Unions, communion for the sick and homebound, or visits to the hospital.

PANTRY & COMMUNITY SOUP KITCHEN: The Trinity Food Pantry is open Tuesdays from 10:30AM-1PM and on Saturday, a hot, sit-down meal is served from 11:30AM-12:30PM.
Questions? Contact Derek at Derek@TrinityNJ.com.

CHOIRS: Find out about our dynamic and growing choirs, contact Dr. Deborah Simpkin King at Deborah@TrinityNJ.com for information!

PARISH LEADERSHIP *(Vestry):*
Bill Presutti (warden) Wendy Jaghab (warden)
Brice Byham, David Clark, Gregory Curatolo, Donna Griffin, Megan Jones, Mary Perez, James Pillar, Andy Place, and Maria Tassiello. You may contact the vestry at: vestrywardens@trinitynj.com

Parish Staff

Clergy Staff:

The Rev. Chase Danford, Rector
Chase@trinitynj.com

The Rev. Tiff Campbell, Curate
Tiff@trinitynj.com

The Rev. Tom Conway, Assisting Priest
Tom@trinitynj.com

The Rev. Geoffrey Curtiss, Assisting Priest
geoffcurtiss@gmail.com

The Rev. Lucille Donahue, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor
Revlu@trinitynj.com

The Rev. Tom Pivinski, Assisting Ecumenical Pastor
TomP@trinitynj.com

Lay Staff:

Jennifer Berger Brown, Development Manager for Donor Relations
Jennifer@Trinitynj.com

Derek Bloom, Dir. of Community Engagement & Organizing
Derek@trinitynj.com

Jennifer Hakim, Office Assistant
Jen@Trinitynj.com

Deborah Simpkin King, Director of Music and Arts
Deborah@trinitynj.com

Kris Hlatky, Casework Manager
Kris@Trinitynj.com

Frankie Lane, Caseworker
Frankie@Trinitynj.com

Joe Mauro, Property Supervisor
Joe@trinitynj.com

Kenny Miller, Property Assistant

Siobhan Noland, Development Manager for Grants
Siobhan@Trinitynj.com

Jill Osis, Director of Operations
Jill@trinitynj.com

Courtney Pearson, Operations Manager
Courtney@trinitynj.com

Parish Prayers

Please keep the following people in your prayers this week:

Jackie Campanelli	Michael	Chris Tyree
Manal Miller	Elizabeth	Tim Higgins
Michael Isaccson	Russell Hubler	LuAnne
Tom Williams	Anthony	Christine Faughnan
Family of Joseph Clark Jr	Roberta Ball	Penny Allen
Jennifer Resnick	Lucas Deluca	Tom, Gary, and Linnea
Eva	Clemente Golia	Linda

If you would like to be added to the prayer list or would like to add someone else *(please get their permission first)*, please email prayer@trinitynj.com or call Wendy Jaghab at 732-616-8568 by the Tuesday before you would like the name to appear in the bulletin. Names will remain on the prayer list for 4 weeks, and can be readded upon request.



Prayer Team Ministry. During communion, those who would like someone to pray with them are invited to come to one of the prayer stations located in the back of the church. A member of the Trinity Prayer Team will say a prayer with you for yourself or someone else. You are welcome to sit or stand during the prayer. What is said at the prayer station is held in confidence by the person who prays with you. They cannot talk with you or anyone else about your requested prayer without your permission. The only exception is a person intending to harm themselves or someone else. Questions about this ministry? Contact Joanie McCoy, leader of the Prayer Team at 908-216-5529 or 732-780-3111 or PrayerTeam@TrinityNJ.com.

Trinity Cycle of Prayer During Morning Prayer this week, we will be praying for the following Trinity Parishioners and Friends

11/23	11/24	11/25	11/26	11/27
Stanley Ellison	Rachel & Jaiden Farrell	Leslie Feingold	Dawn Forgerson	Don Fornwalt

News & Notes

Thanksgiving Eve Holy Eucharist: November 25 at 6:30 pm

Please join us Wednesday, November 26th at 6:30pm as we gather to give thanks for the blessings of our lives at a Thanksgiving Eve communion service. This reflective, spoken (no music) service will take place in the church and all are welcome! This is a good opportunity to invite friends and neighbors of all faith backgrounds as we celebrate this shared civic holiday in the context of our church's liturgy. The Rev. Lisa Mitchell will be the celebrant and preacher, and Rev. Tiff Campbell will serve as deacon. Mother Lisa retired earlier this year as Rector of Christ Church in Shrewsbury, one of the most historic churches in our diocese.

World AIDS Day Program ~ Tuesday, December 1st at 7pm

Join us for our annual World AIDS Day program here at Trinity Church on Tuesday, December 1nd at 7pm, co-hosted by the church, the Center in Asbury Park, and the VNA's Prevention Resource Network. The theme this year is "Access." There will be several musical performances (including the New Jersey Gay Men's Chorus and Trinity's own Rand Hubiak), poetry, candlelight reading of the names of those who have passed, and brief reflections from community leaders. Free testing kits will also be available.

Episcopal Peace Fellowship Monthly Meeting: Today at 8:50am

On November 22nd, our Trinity EPF Meeting theme is “Healthy Eating During the Holiday Season”. Enjoy your holidays without sacrificing your healthy eating habits! Join Denise Surman, Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist for practical tips on portion control, making healthy food choices, and how to navigate holiday meals while enjoying your favorite treats without the guilt! 8:50am in the meeting room.

Advent and Christmas at Trinity

Advent Adult Education Opportunities: Sundays and Tuesdays

Come join Reverend Tiff and help us explore Advent in a new way. We will be meeting on Sundays in Advent from 9am-9:50am or Tuesdays from 2pm-3:30pm for a deeper conversation. We will be using the book: *Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent,* a four-week Christian book and study guide written by renowned biblical scholar and New Testament professor Amy-Jill Levine.

Overview & Themes

Focus: The book explores the biblical narratives surrounding the birth of Jesus in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, connecting them to their first-century Jewish context and Old Testament roots.

Key Topics Covered: The stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth; The role of women in first-century Jewish culture; Mary's visitation and the revolutionary themes of the Magnificat (Mary's song of praise); The historical and contextual realities of the census, the stable, the star of Bethlehem, the journey, and the flight to Egypt; The visit of the Magi

We look forward to journeying through this sacred season with you!

Advent Craft Project ~ Sunday, November 29 after the 10am Service

Please join us as we spiritually prepare for Advent on Sunday, Nov. 29 after the 10am Service. Be ready for fun twist on our Advent craft this year…..See you then!

Advent Bible Sharing ~ Wednesdays at 5pm During December
Note: Bible Sharing is Not Meeting on Wednesday, November 25

Please join us at Bible Sharing to observe the Advent Season together at 5 pm on Wednesdays beginning December 2nd! All are welcome to share in this Advent video series. Come for one or all four! We will slow down during this busy season on Wednesday afternoons together!

Advent Preaching Series

During our second annual Advent Preaching Series, each Sunday the sermon will be offered by a different member of our Trinity clergy and lay leadership team. November 29: The Rev. Tiff Campbell, Curate. December 6: Derek Bloom, Director of Community Engagement and Advocacy; December 13: the Rev. Geoff Curtiss, Assisting Priest; December 20: the Rev. Chase Danford, Rector.

Trinity Choir Joins Ember for GLOW: Healing and Connection! Sunday, December 6, 5pm

This December, our beloved Trinity Choir will join forces with Ember Choral Arts, under the direction of our own Deborah Simpkin King, for a special concert celebrating the power of music to heal, reconnect, and bring light into a sometimes-divided world. GLOW: Healing and Connection draws inspiration from Abraham Lincoln's call for "malice toward none, with charity for all." Through music rooted in American and African traditions, the concert journeys from sorrow and reflection toward reconciliation, hope, and exuberant joy. Trinity's singers will join Ember in two especially meaningful selections: *Hope for Resolution* and Kyle Pederson's moving arrangement of *Come By Here*. The Trinity Choir will also offer its own performance of Craig Courtney's *Wounded Alleluias*, a poignant expression of faith and praise in the midst of life's struggles. Come celebrate our Trinity singers, the joy of shared music-making, and the healing power of community! Admission is Pay-What-You-Will, but reservations are required, as seating is limited. Everyone is welcome, regardless of ability to contribute. While admission can be free, presenting these concerts is not! Your tax-deductible contributions help sustain the artistry and make these musical experiences accessible to all. Reserve your place and/or make a donation: https://www.emberarts.org/20262027-season

NJ Gay Men's Chorus Christmas Concert ~ Saturday, December 12 at 8pm

The NJ Gay Men's Chorus is back for their Christmas concert entitled "FRUITCAKE", featuring a joyful medley of campy fun, holiday favorites, and moving traditional pieces. Like the classic holiday treat, their concert is sweet, a little nutty, full of color, and rooted in tradition. All are invited to celebrate the holidays with boundless joy, a festive spirit, and a proud, unapologetic sense of community. Saturday, December 12, 2026, at 8PM. Tickets are $25 for adults, and $20 for seniors and students. Children under 12 are free. Visit njgmc.org, or contact the Chorus at (732)579-8449. Tickets are also available at the door on the night of the concert.

More News & Notes

ADA Accessibility Construction Progress

Construction continued this week on the renovation to the Asbury Avenue entrance, which will create a new platform connecting the front doors with a concrete ramp and steps. One might think putting up a ramp is a relatively easy task, but the crew actually had to do quite a bit of excavation in the front lawn in order to create a foundation for the ramp and the platform. The main entrance will remain closed for at least another Sunday, while the crew moves toward completion of this phase. We should have a working entrance with a ramp by the end of the month. While the front entrance work continued going on, other members of the crew began working on the frames for the 4-stop lift. This has taken up some of the space in the Food Pantry and the Undercroft, which we anticipated, and we will adjust as needed for this good cause. Unfortunately, it will be a few months before we have a working lift because of the long wait time in getting the equipment. Because equipment is taking up some of our parking lot, to ensure that worshippers who most need closer spaces can park in the lot, we are asking that if you can comfortably walk more than a block, please park on the street (and make sure to leave yourself a little extra time to find parking).

Celebrating Stewardship: The Ripple Effect: Each Act of Giving Creates Big Waves!

We have been working on wrapping up our fall stewardship campaign, "The Ripple Effect" There is still an opportunity to fill out an online pledge card linked in our Friday email blast or one of the envelope pledges located on your pews and at the back of the church. So far we have gathered 77 pledges - join together with your Trinity Community to make big waves!

Vestry Nomination Forms Available ~ Due by Monday, November 30th

At our Annual Meeting in January, we will hold elections for Vestry and Delegates & Alternates to Diocesan Convention. Open positions are: Vestrypersons (3 positions for three-year terms), Warden (1 position for a two-year term), and Delegates & Alternate Delegates (3 each) to Diocesan Convention and convocation meetings. Read a description of each position and qualifications on the nomination forms located on the info table at the back of the church. Interested in nominating yourself or someone else? Pick up a form and turn it in by Nov. 30th.

Children and Youth at Trinity ~ Join Us!

Sunday School - Join us each week as we explore God's presence in ourselves, our community, and our world! We will gather in the Sunday School room each week at 9:45am for fun and spiritual exploration and then rejoin our families after The Peace. For questions, contact Jill@trinitynj.com.
Nursery - Our Nursery is open every Sunday from 9:45am until the end of the service. The nursery will accept children aged 6 months through 4 years. The nursery is located at the end of the hallway in the office wing.

Bible Study with Fr. Geoff on Zoom ~ Mondays at 5pm

For the next four weeks we are focused on the early Hellenistic period. Alexander the Great has conquered the known world bringing the west into the east. The influence of Hellenistic culture on the formation of early Judaism is significant. Eventually this influence will lead to the Maccabean Revolt which is commemorated in the Feast of Hanukkah. This part of the Bible is rarely read, rarely understood, and rarely preached upon. However it is essential material for the understanding of Jesus' time. It is the period of time in which the Torah (Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, Leviticus and Deuteronomy) is beginning to be practiced in a formal way. Moses is introduced during this period both as an historical character as well as the one in whom the tradition is collated. We are reading parts of the Book of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs and some material from the Apocrypha: the Wisdom of Solomon, Judith and 1 & 2 Macabees. How do you adapt to the Empire that seeks to dominate and control what you think, believe and how you are to live your life knowing that freedom, forgiveness and mercy are not the values of Empire.Please contact lindacurtiss@gmail.com to be included. The sessions are recorded and will be sent along with other materials to those interested in participating.

Meaningful Witness at Delaney Hall

A reflection by Megan Jones, parishioner and volunteer

The news cameras are long gone. The protestors have moved on. The headlines have faded, and the attention of the outside world has shifted elsewhere. But the situation inside and outside Delaney Hall in Newark remains unchanged.

People are still being taken from their lives, their families, and their communities and held inside the detention facility. Whatever the political arguments may be, the human reality has not gone away. Behind those walls are people whose lives have been put on hold, families left wondering, and stories that most of us will never hear.

Last Saturday, three vehicles, packed to the brim with food and supplies, traveled up the Garden State Parkway from Trinity Church. Nine volunteers stepped out of those cars and into a place where time seems to stand still.

There were no television cameras waiting for us. No reporters asking questions. No crowds gathered to make a statement. Just nine people who decided that even though the spotlight had moved on, the need had not.

And then there were the truckers. One after another, big rigs traveling along the roadway sounded their horns in support of the people held inside of Delaney Hall. It was impossible not to feel the significance of those moments. The people inside may not be able to see the roadway, the passing trucks, or the people standing outside. But they can hear. They can hear those horns. And I couldn't help thinking that, for someone sitting inside those walls, that sound might mean more than we will ever know. It might be a reminder that the outside world hasn't forgotten them. That someone knows they are there. That someone cares. Sometimes, the difference between giving up and finding the strength to keep going is simply knowing you haven't been forgotten. Perhaps those horns carry exactly that message.

We unloaded the cars, carried supplies, and did what we could do. It may seem like a small thing in the face of something so enormous. A few cars of food. A handful of volunteers. A few hours of our lives. But perhaps that is exactly where faith and humanity meet: in the willingness to show up, even when no one is watching.

I kept thinking about how easy it is for the rest of us to return to our routines. To go home, make dinner, answer emails, go to work, and move on with our lives. Meanwhile, just beyond those walls, people wait. Their circumstances have not changed simply because the cameras have stopped rolling.

Saturday reminded me that compassion cannot be dependent on headlines. Justice cannot be something we care about only when it is trending. And our responsibility to one another does not expire when public attention disappears.

Nine volunteers left Trinity Church on Saturday with three carloads of supplies. But I know we brought something else with us, too: a reminder that these people have not been forgotten.

The cameras may be gone. The crowds may be gone but we are not done showing up.
And neither should we be.