



TRINITY *21 December 2025*

ABOUT TRINITY

Trinity is a growing Anglican Church in Lafayette. Our mission is to live the gospel through worship, friendship, and scholarship.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

We welcome children in the sanctuary – their sounds are the sign of a growing church!

COVER ART: *Anderson Carman*

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 24	5:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Thursday, December 25	10:00 AM	Christmas Morning Communion Service
Sunday, December 28	10:00 AM	First Sunday in Christmastide Service
Wednesday, December 31	2 - 4 PM	New Year’s Ball & Caroling
Sunday, January 4, 2026	5:00 PM	Twelfth Night Bonfire

December Diaper Drive ~ Bring diapers (**sizes 4+ only**) to put under our Christmas Tree to benefit the Diaper Collective of Louisiana and pregnancy centers in our area.

New Year’s Eve Ball & Caroling ~ Come join us at Sunnyside Farm (1370 Duchamp Road in Broussard) on Wednesday, December 31, from 2-4PM for dancing and carols! Afterwards, all are invited to the home of Anne Leber (415 Espasie Road in Youngsville) for a potluck dinner and New Year’s countdown!

“Twelfth Night” Bonfire - We will celebrate Epiphany on Sunday, January 4, at 5PM with a bonfire, hot cocoa, and apple cider. Bring your live Christmas tree to burn in the bonfire!

	Old Testament	Responsive Reading	New Testament
<i>This Week</i>	Eric Carlson	Shawn Howren	Lisa Frugé
<i>Next Week</i>	Bill Cober	Diane Bartlett	Andreas Atwi

All stand and sing the **THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
Who orderest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the law,
In cloud and majesty and awe. (*Refrain*)

O come, thou Rod of Jesse free,
Thine own from Satan's tyranny.
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave. (*Refrain*)

O come, thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path of misery. (*Refrain*)

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight. (*Refrain*)

O come, Desire of Nations, bind,
In one the hearts of all mankind.
Bid thou our sad divisions cease
And be thyself our King of Peace. (*Refrain*)

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear. (*Refrain*)

THE ACCLAMATION

Priest The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand.

People **We will repent and believe the good news.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

+ + +

GABRIEL ANNOUNCES TO MARY (*Luke 1:26-38*)

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

ALL SING

**The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
With wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
"All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady." Gloria!**

**"For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
All generation laud and honor thee,
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
Most highly favored lady." Gloria!**

JOSEPH TAKES MARY TO BETHLEHEM (*Matthew 1:18-21, Luke 2:1-5*)

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

SOLOIST SINGS

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years, are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together, proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

JESUS IS BORN AND LAID IN A MANGER (*Luke 2:6-7*)

And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

ALL SING

**Away in a manger no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay
The cattle are lowing the baby awakes
But little lord Jesus no crying he makes
I love thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.
Be near me, Lord Jesus I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

ANGELS APPEAR TO THE SHEPHERDS (*Luke 2:8-15*)

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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, and on earth peace
among those with whom he is pleased!"

CHILDREN SING

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strain
Glo - o - o - o - ria, in excelsis Deo (X2)

Shepherds why this jubilee?
Why this joyous strain prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be?
Which inspire your heavenly song?
Glo - o - o - o - ria, in excelsis Deo (X2)

THE SHEPHERDS VISIT BABY JESUS (*Luke 2:16-20*)

When the angels had gone the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem to see what has happened.' So the shepherds went to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph. The baby Jesus was lying in a manger as they had been told. Then the shepherds returned to their sheep, praising God for sending his Son to be their Savior, and telling everyone what they had seen.

ALL STAND AND SING

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.
Down in a lowly manger, the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.**

THE THREE KINGS TRAVEL TO BETHLEHEM (*Matthew 2:1-9*)

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

“And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was.

CHILDREN AND CHOIR SING

**We three Kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star**

**O! Star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light!**

THE THREE KINGS VISIT BABY JESUS (*Matthew 2:10-11*)

When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

ALL SING

**What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?**

***Refrain:* This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!**

**Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.**

Refrain

**So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.**

Refrain

Here we applaud all of our actors!

THE HOLY FAMILY GOES TO EGYPT AND NAZARETH (*Matthew 2:12-15, 19-23*)

And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way. Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.” And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

+ + +

All sit for **THE WELCOME**

COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and as we are sorely hindered by our sins from running the race that is set before us, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 7:8-16

Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’”

THE RESPONSIVE READING

Isaiah 22:20-25

In that day I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah,
and I will clothe him with your robe,

and will bind your sash on him, and will commit your authority to his hand. And he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah.

And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David.
He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.

**And I will fasten him like a peg in a secure place,
and he will become a throne of honor to his father's house.**

And they will hang on him the whole honor of his father's house,
the offspring and issue, every small vessel, from the cups to all the flagons.

**In that day, declares the Lord of hosts, the peg that was fastened
in a secure place will give way, and it will be cut down and fall,
and the load that was on it will be cut off, for the Lord has spoken.**

THE NEW TESTAMENT

Revelation 1:17-20

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand for

THE SEQUENCE HYMN

**Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**

THE GOSPEL

John 14:1-6

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

People **Glory be to thee, Lord Christ.**

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

THE REV'D DR. PETER JOHNSTON

+ + + + + +

SERMON NOTES

+ + + + + +

THE OFFERTORY AND DOXOLOGY



+ *“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:21)*

+ *Use this QR Code to give from your phone.*

+ *Visitors should feel no obligation to give.*

All stand to sing

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE COMMUNION PRAYERS

Priest The Lord be with you

People **And with thy spirit**

Priest Lift up your hearts

People **We lift them up unto the Lord**

Priest Let us give thanks unto our Lord God

People **It is meet and right so to do**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, forever praising thee and singing

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of 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.

Hosanna in the highest.

All sit or kneel

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou did give thine only son, Jesus Christ, to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world, and did institute, and in his holy gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

Here the Priest circles the altar and faces the people

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore, Lord Jesus, according to thy commandment, we with these gifts make that memorial; remembering thy blessed passion and precious death, thy mighty resurrection and glorious ascension.

Priest Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Come thou, Holy Spirit, descend upon us and fill this place, that we who in faith receive these gifts of bread and wine may partake of the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Here we present unto thee ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice, that dying to ourselves, we might live in Christ.

By Him, with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be thine, Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER AND THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

Priest In the words that Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

People **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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Priest The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

People **We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

+ *All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion.*

+ *Wine is distributed, grape juice is on the pedestal.*

+ *To receive a blessing instead of communion, cross hands in front of chest.*

LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.**

**King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav'nly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
That the pow'rs of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away.**

**At his feet the six-winged seraph,
Cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
Lord Most High!"**

EVEN SO, COME

All of creation, all of the earth

Make straight a highway, a path for the Lord.

Jesus is coming soon.

Call back the sinner, wake up the saint

Let every nation, shout of Your fame.

Jesus is coming soon.

***Refrain:* Like a bride waiting for her groom,**

We'll be a church ready for You.

Every heart longing for our King,

We sing – even so come, Lord Jesus come.

There will be justice, all will be new,

Your name forever, faithful and true.

Jesus is coming soon.

Refrain

So we wait, we wait for You.

God we wait, you're coming soon.

Refrain

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Priest Let us pray.

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

All stand to sing **JOY TO THE WORLD!**

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.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns:

Let us our songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

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.

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 PEACE AND THE BENEDICTION

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with your Spirit.**

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Priest May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope: and the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

As we go, we share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The Keys We Are Given — Dominion and Stewardship

In *2 Samuel 7* and *Isaiah 22:22*, authority over the house is entrusted by God and symbolized by keys—the power to open and shut. *What “keys” has God placed in your hands right now (authority, resources, access, responsibility)?* How are you called not only to guard and close, but also to open doors for the good of others?

2. False Keys — What Cannot Open the Door

Isaiah's image assumes that some doors will not open, no matter how much effort is applied. *What “keys” do people—including ourselves—often trust to give life, meaning, or security that ultimately cannot open that door?* How does this help explain the frustration and restlessness we experience?

3. The True Key — Christ and the Cross

In *Revelation 1:18*, Jesus holds the keys of death and Hades, and in *John 14:6* He declares Himself to be the way to the Father. *What does it mean that access to God comes not through effort or possession, but through Christ Himself?* How does the Cross shape our understanding of how the door is opened?

4. Prayer Prompt — Trusting the Key and Using Our Keys Faithfully

Take time to pray in response to these Scriptures:

Pray by naming where you have trusted false keys, by entrusting yourself more fully to Christ as the true Key, and by asking for wisdom to use the keys God has given you in ways that reflect His rule and hospitality.

TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH

WORSHIP | FRIENDSHIP | SCHOLARSHIP

The Ven. Dr. Peter Johnston, Rector

The Rev'd Scotty Weeks, Deacon

Mr. Riley George, College & Young Adults

Ms. Lisa Frugé, Communications

Mr. Bill Cober, Rector's Warden

Mr. David Brammer, People's Warden

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