

# First Sunday of Advent

## November 29, 2020



**Church of the Holy Trinity**

6001 A Street, Lincoln, NE 68510

402-488-7139

[www.holytrinitylincoln.com](http://www.holytrinitylincoln.com)

The Rev. Dr. Clay Lein, Rector  
The Rev. Samuel R. Boman, Pastor Emeritus  
The Rev. John Long, II, Deacon  
The Rev. Dan B Coffman, Deacon  
Loretta Love, Music Director & Organist  
Nancy Youngman, Hand Bell Choir Director

***Welcome to all worshippers today.***

*No matter where you come from or what you're going through*

*No matter what you believe or what you doubt*

*No matter what you feel or just don't feel today*

*No matter whom you love*

*You are welcome into this space to be met by a God*

*Who knows you by name, who knows your heart,*

*Who knows your mind, and*

*Who wants to have a relationship with **you**.*

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Book of Common Prayer (red book) is abbreviated **BCP**, The Hymnal (blue book) is abbreviated **H**, and Wonder, Love and Praise (green book) is abbreviated **WLP**.

**WELCOME**

**OPENING MUSIC**

*“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”*

Loretta Love

**OPENING SENTENCE**

**BCP p. 355**

Watch, for you know not when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning; lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. *Mark 13:35, 36*

**COLLECT FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

**BCP p. 159**

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

**CONFESSION OF SIN**

**BCP p. 79**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*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.*

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.*

**FIRST READING:****Babette Dickinson****Isaiah 64:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
 so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
<sup>2</sup> as when fire kindles brushwood  
 and the fire causes water to boil—  
 to make your name known to your adversaries,  
 so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
<sup>3</sup> When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
 you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
<sup>4</sup> From ages past no one has heard,  
 no ear has perceived,  
 no eye has seen any God besides you,  
 who works for those who wait for him.  
<sup>5</sup> You meet those who gladly do right,  
 those who remember you in your ways.  
 But you were angry, and we sinned;  
 because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
<sup>6</sup> We have all become like one who is unclean,  
 and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
 We all fade like a leaf,  
 and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
<sup>7</sup> There is no one who calls on your name,  
 or attempts to take hold of you;  
 for you have hidden your face from us,  
 and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
<sup>8</sup> Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;  
 we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
 we are all the work of your hand.  
<sup>9</sup> Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,  
 and do not remember iniquity forever.  
 Now consider, we are all your people.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            Thanks be to God.

**PSALM 80:1-7***Said in unison***BCP p. 701**

*1        Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
 shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.*

*2        In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
 stir up your strength and come to help us.*

*3        Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.*

*4        O LORD God of hosts, \* how long will you be angered  
 despite the prayers of your people?*

5 *You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.*

6 *You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.*

7 *Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

**SECOND READING:**

**Bill Waddell**

**Mark 13:24-37**

<sup>24</sup>“But in those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
<sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>26</sup> Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup> Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

<sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup> Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup> It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.

<sup>35</sup> Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup> or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup> And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            Thanks be to God.

**HOMILY**

The Rev. Dr. Clay Lein

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMN**

***“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”***

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*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.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*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.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

*said in unison*

**BCP p. 96**

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

**THE PRAYERS**

**BCP p. 54**

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

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*said in unison*

**BCP p. 54**

*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,  
forever and ever. Amen.*

## **RITE I - SUFFRAGES A**

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
R. *And grant us thy salvation.*  
V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
R. *And make thy chosen people joyful.*

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R. *For only in thee can we live in safety.*

V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;  
R. *And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*

V. Let thy way be known upon earth;  
R. *Thy saving health among all nations.*

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R. *Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R. *And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.*

## **COLLECT FOR BRYAN EAST HEALTHCARE WORKERS**

Healing God, have mercy upon us this day. Provide your guidance and protection to all who care for the sick around the world. We pray especially for the medical professionals at Bryan East as they care for those impacted by COVID. Give them courage and peace as they put themselves at risk. And encourage them with your gracious presence in all they do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

## **COLLECT FOR PEACE**

**BCP p. 55**

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us, thy humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **PERSONAL PRAYERS**

*A time of silence for each of us to offer prayers for all those on our hearts this day.*

## **PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM**

*said in unison*

**BCP p. 102**

*Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.*

Officiant Alleluia, Alleluia, Let us bless the Lord.  
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & BLESSING

CLOSING MUSIC "Watchmen, Tell us of the Night" Loretta Love



Altar græzens are given to the Glory of God and in Thanksgiving for the life and service of Sheppard Perkins by Marlene Perkins and their children, Malia Pope and Shane Perkins.



**This week we pray for:** Sarah & Holly; the repose of the sould of Ron and for healing; Leanne and Duane; the Repose of the soul of the Very Reverend Gary Young; Jackie H; the repose of the soul of Susan W. and for her loved ones; Vera R.; Suzanne M.; Mark; Bob N.; Roger G.; Mike S.; Saun, Crystal, & Bailey; Lori; Jack and Ashlyn; Larry B.; Sissi & Don; Jan H.; Shannon; Diane S.; Bob & Ellen S.; Mary Catherine; Marla; Lisa; Gretchen; the husband and son of Lori; Ann D.; Rev. Sam; Russ J.; Michael S.; Karen E.; Larry B.; Amy; Dee; Eddie K.; Dow C; Mike J; Don M. & Jenny; Kathryn & Michael; Mark; P.; Bill K.; Dulcie B.; Dennis; Mike; Susie; Kris.; Anna J.; Darlene B; Mike & Beth;. and his family; Ellie; Hanney; Tom; Jane; Lee H; Will; Sue F.; Mary K.; Pastor Tim B.; Candace F.; Tiffany; Jerry and Mary; Mary P.; Maggie and Megan; Ray C.; Mary L; Rosemary; Ann W.; Glenda H.; Ann H.; Fr. Gearhart; Anne G.; Wayne; Janet G; Dick Bost.

**In Thanksgiving we pray for December Birthdays**

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 JoMac Machmer        | 20 Jeanne Bishop        |
| 3 Robert Bishop        | 21 Jack Campbell        |
| 4 Sue Fenster          | 23 Brick Paulson        |
| 5 Sally Bates          | 29 John Long III (Jack) |
| 5 Spencer Wasserburger | 31 Jane Hanson          |
| 7 Lisa Visger          | 31 Pat Sim              |



**In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for** St. Augustine's, Elkhorn; The Rev. Benedict Varnum, Deacon David Holmquist, Deacon Patricia Sheldon; University and College outreach.

**In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for** Pray for the Lusitanian Church (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury); The Rt Revd Jorge Pina Cabral - Bishop of the Lusitanian Church.

**Prayer Chain** Prayer requests for Holy Trinity's prayer chain are always welcome. Our plan is to include them on our list for a total of four weeks unless more time and prayer are needed, and we certainly understand that is sometimes the case. Please keep us updated concerning those for whom you request prayers by contacting Marilyn Dorf at (402) 489-3104 or [marilyndorf@gmail.com](mailto:marilyndorf@gmail.com) (please note Marilyn's new email address) or the church office holytrinity10@yahoo.com or 402-488-7139.

# Holy Trinity Announcements



## **Just a Reminder - Please DO Send in Your Pledge!**

There's still time! Please do turn in your pledge for 2021. Our hope is that we will have a solid commitment from the people of Holy Trinity for this next season of our life together. Your pledge will help the Vestry discern what we can do in 2021.

Even if you can only pledge a little – please do pledge as a sign of your desire to see our amazing church grow stronger in the next year. Here's the easiest ways to do that:

- 1) **Mail** your pledge back to us in the envelope we sent you.
- 2) **Email** it to [HolyTrinity10@Yahoo.com](mailto:HolyTrinity10@Yahoo.com) and let Nicole know your pledge information.
- 3) **Call** us: Nicole 402-488-7139 or Rev. Clay 402-613-9557.

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## **God Has Been Providing Through YOU!**

Through the challenges of this past year God has held us together and sustained our ministry. It's part of his love and faithfulness. Yet it is important to remember that God has been doing that through YOU! Through all of us.

That happens first through prayer. **Thank you** for all of your prayers for the people of this faith community and for our church. God has answered. It also happens through countless hours of volunteer effort. People have served diligently to keep our church running and to bring the beauty of Holy Trinity to the wider world. Honestly, our online presence has never been stronger. **Thank you** for all your work.



## Pledge Update! We Are Nearing Our 2021 Pledge Goal

Thank you to all who have pledged their support for this next year. It's a pivotal year for us. This will be my first full year as the rector of Holy Trinity. We will slowly move past the pandemic and begin to regather for worship and ministry. In times like this God's church has always had a profound impact. 2021 will prove to be the same.

**As of November 27 we have received 77 Pledges for \$211,000.**

We are well on our way towards matching last year's levels. This outpouring of support promises a solid foundation for what God has next. Thanks again for being part of it.



### Making Christmas Special for the Kids at McPhee Elementary

**We are a church that “Blesses Others!”** We’ve been doing that since the beginning. Our tradition in the season of Advent has been to bless the families of McPhee Elementary.

We are partnering with David Everett and the staff at McPhee to provide a special Christmas experience for the students and families that call McPhee home.

McPhee Elementary is located in the shadows of our state capitol. It is home to many needy families; in fact 90% of its population qualifies for free or reduced lunches.

This year we are collecting Walmart Gift Cards with less than a \$50 value. Feel free to send us a check marked “McPhee.” Or you can drop them off at the church, mail them or give us a call and we’ll come get them. We need them by December 13<sup>th</sup>.

## Join us for a Holy Trinity Advent Devotional – Then SHARE It!!!

This Advent we have a chance to join together as we wait for Christmas. Each day of Advent we will be sending out an inspirational photo and verse. It will be simple, beautiful and meaningful.

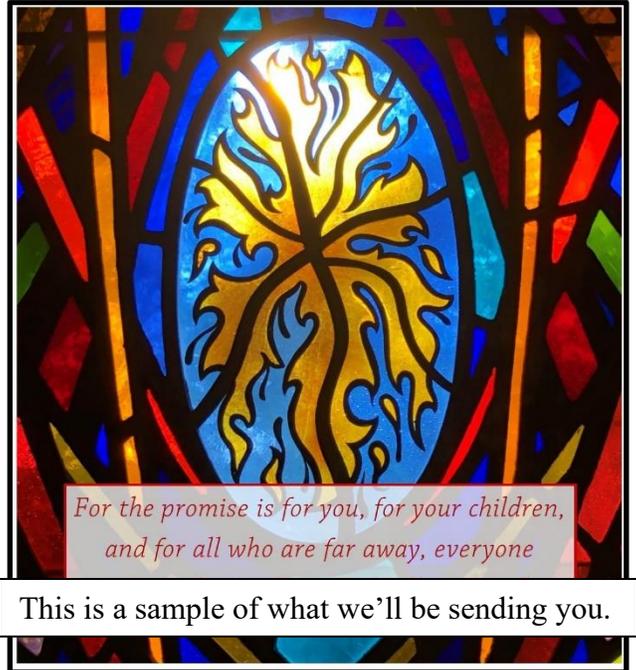
We will be sending these out to whomever asks for them. If you would like to be included in these daily emails then please email the church at:

[HolyTrinity10@Yahoo.com](mailto:HolyTrinity10@Yahoo.com)

The one thing that we ask is this:

**Please SHARE it with others!**

On Facebook just hit the “Share” button under the post. If you get it via email simply forward it to someone you think might be blessed by it.



## Three Christmas Open Houses at Holy Trinity

There is nothing more beautiful at Christmas than to see our church decked out with all the colors and symbols of the season. Evergreens, candles and poinsettias stir our hearts and bring back memories of our loved ones.

We will be opening our Sanctuary for socially distanced visits giving parishioners a chance to sit and soak in the beauty of the season. We are planning on three Open Houses in the Sanctuary to give everyone room to spread out. Please pick one and then join us. Our plan is to have them on:

**December 20<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 3:00 pm.**

**December 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 – 7:00 pm.**

**December 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00 – 7:00 pm.**

***“Come, Let Us Adore Him!”***





***Remembering & Celebrating Loved Ones  
at Christmas***

During this Advent season as we anticipate the joy of Christmas, consider remembering and celebrating your loved ones on Christmas through a gift of flowers. Your donation for flowers may be in any amount.

If you wish to make this gift of flowers and would like your inscription to appear in the Christmas service bulletin, please provide information below.

**To allow us time to print the bulletin, this information together with your donation check should arrive in the Church Office no later than Sunday, December 20** (the fourth Sunday in Advent).

1. Is your gift in: (a)\_\_\_\_celebration (b)\_\_\_ thanksgiving (c) \_\_\_\_memory

2. Print Name of Person(s) you are honoring (*include first and last name*):

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3. Print Name(s) of those making gift (*include first and last name*):

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4. Please make your check payable to The Church of the Holy Trinity-Episcopal and note in the memo line that your gift is for “Christmas Flowers”

Mail your check and this completed form (postmarked by December 13<sup>th</sup> to allow time to get to the church) or drop it off by Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Church of the Holy Trinity  
6001 A Street  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68510.

If you have any questions, please call Nancy Stara at 402-489-0739