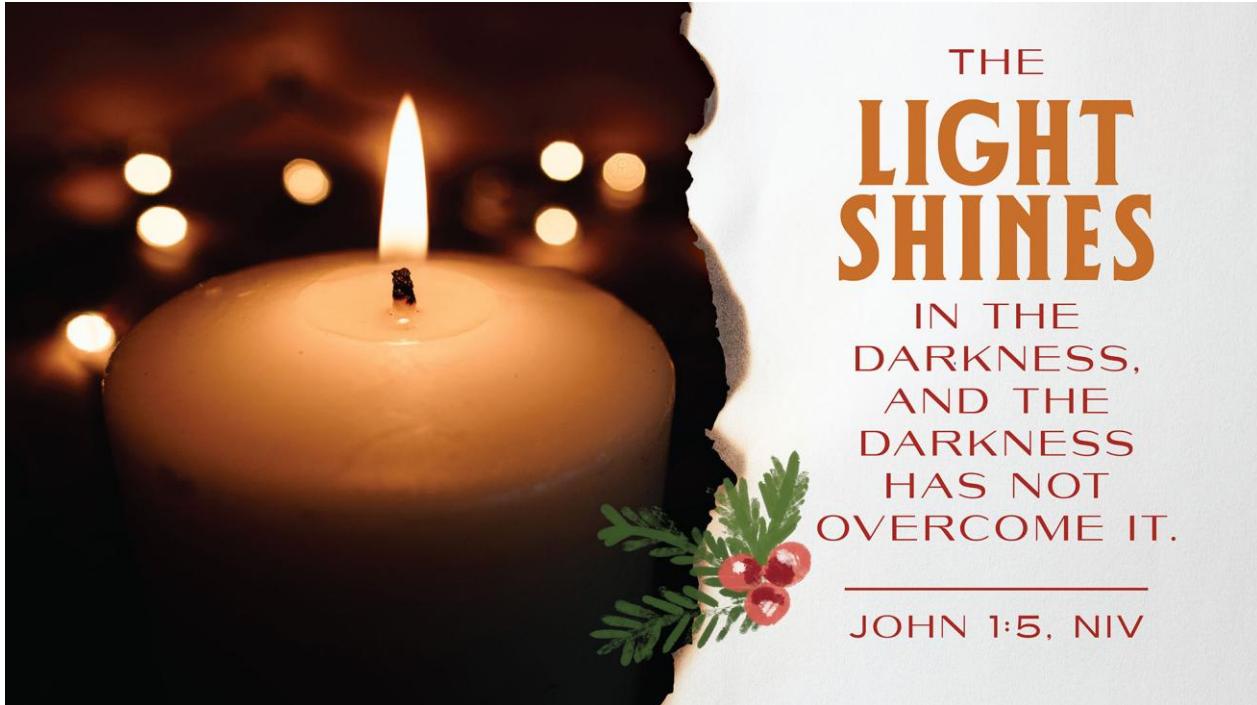


TRINITY CATHEDRAL
OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW JERSEY



**DECEMBER 28, 2025 – FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY – YEAR A
FAMILY SUNDAY
10:00 AM - THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO**

CELEBRANT & PREACHER - THE VERY REV. RENÉ JOHN

**Our Vision:
A visible agent of God's love in Christ, joyfully embracing all people.**

801 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08618
Phone (609) 392-3805; Fax (609) 392-2305
www.TrinityCathedralNJ.org
The Very Rev. René Rory John, Dean

WELCOME! We're honored that you're worshipping with us today. If you're not familiar with our Episcopal worship service, we hope this service bulletin will help. Masks are optional within the Cathedral buildings. Please use the hand sanitizer that is provided throughout the building before and after touching any surfaces. Thank you for helping us to remain as safe as possible while enjoying in-person worship.

Please stand as indicated and be seated for lessons

Prelude

Dr. Kerry Heimann, organ

All stand, as able

Processional Hymn

Hymnal # 82

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: 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.**

All sing

Hymnal # S-278

Gloria in Excelsis

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated

First Reading

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (61:10-62:3)

Jerusalem rejoices because of what the LORD has done. She is like a bride dressed for her wedding. God has clothed her with salvation and victory. As surely as seeds sprout and grow, The Sovereign LORD will save his people, and all the nations will praise him. I will speak out to encourage Jerusalem; I will not be silent until she is saved, and her victory shines like a torch in the night. Jerusalem, the nations will see you victorious! All their kings will see your glory. You will be called by a new name, A name given by the LORD himself. You will be like a beautiful crown for the LORD.

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

Remain seated; sung by the Choir
Psalm 147:13-21

Cantor: Susan Remmers

Refrain



The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

from *Gradual Psalms for the RCL*, ed. Bruce E. Ford, Church Publishing Incorporated

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;
For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.
He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

Refrain

He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.
He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

Refrain

He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?
He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

Refrain

He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments.

Hallelujah!

Refrain

Remain seated

Second Reading

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Galatia (3:23-25; 4:4-7)

But before the time for faith came, the Law kept us all locked up as prisoners until this coming faith should be revealed. And so the Law was in charge of us until Christ came, in order that we might then be put right with God through faith. Now that the time for faith is here, the Law is

no longer in charge of us. But when the right time finally came, God sent his own Son. He came as the son of a human mother and lived under the Jewish Law, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might become God's children. To show that you are his children, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who cries out, "Father, my Father." So then, you are no longer a slave but a child. And since you are his child, God will give you all that he has for his children.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

All stand, as able

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal # 324

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Remain standing

The Gospel: John 1:1-18

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning the Word already existed; the Word was with God, and the Word was God. From the very beginning the Word was with God. Through him God made all things; not one thing in all creation was made without him. The Word was the source of life, and this life brought light to people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out. God sent his messenger, a man named John, who came to tell people about the light, so that all should hear the message and believe. He himself was not the light; he came to tell about the light. This was the real light—the light that comes into the world and shines on all people. The Word was in the world, and though God made the world through him, yet the world did not recognize him. He came to his own country, but his own people did not receive him. Some, however, did receive him and believed in him; so he gave them the right to become God's children. They did not become God's children by natural means, that is, by being born as the children of a human father; God himself was their Father. The Word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. We saw his glory, the glory which he received as the Father's only Son. John spoke about him. He cried out, "This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'He comes after me, but he is greater than I am, because he existed before I was born.'" Out of the fullness of his grace he has blessed us all, giving us one blessing after another. God gave the Law through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. The only Son, who is the same as God and is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

All stand as able and say together

A Statement of Faith based on Galatians 3:26-28

Celebrant: Let us renew our pledge to work for unity, justice, and peace.

We are all children of God.

There is no longer Jew or Greek.

There is no longer slave or free.

There is no longer male and female.

For we are all one.

We believe Jesus lived for this and died for this.

We pledge ourselves with God's help and the support of each other to make this become a reality.

Remain standing

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Remain standing

Prayers of the People

The Lector and People pray responsively

Deacon: God has clothed all things with mercy and prepared the earth as for a wedding by taking on our flesh in Christ. Trusting in that mercy, let our prayers join the festival, saying: O God, mighty God, merciful God, hear our prayer.

Lector: For the churches, that this assembly and all assemblies may be cradles for the word of Christ, filled with harmony and witnessing with thanksgiving, O God, mighty God, merciful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Lector: For the bishops and all the leaders of the church, that in word and deed they may show forth the love and pity with which you clothe creation and all its peoples, O God, mighty God, merciful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: We remember God's holy catholic church, including Sean, our Presiding Bishop and Primate; Sally, our Bishop; René, Dean of this Cathedral; Bruce, John, Peter and Noel, priest associates; Christopher, our Deacon, along with all other ministers in this congregation, lay and ordained; Sarah, the Archbishop-Elect of Canterbury, Philip, the Archbishop-Elect of the West Indies, and all Anglican Christians around the world, especially the Anglican Church of Canada; and for our brothers and sisters in this diocese, including Joe Morris, Sylvestre and William, retired Bishops; and the Church of the Holy Innocents in Beach Haven. O God, mighty God, merciful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Lector: For refugees and for those who experience a pitiless world, that you may bring them to places of safety they may call home, O God, mighty God, merciful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: We remember before you those who are sick, or in any other special need, especially the residents of Hamilton Grove Care and Rehabilitation Center; along with **the People of Ukraine and Russia, the People of Israel, Palestine and Iran, the People of Haiti, Amarachi Ngozi Okere, Andrew McDonald, Virginia Barbarin, Darryl Francomacaro,**

Vicky Jones, Mike Bernardo, the Kneeland family, the Jolly family, Kim Wittmann, Elizabeth Rzasa, Tatiana Schlossberg, Angelica, Geoffrey, the Bovie family, the Beckstrom family, the Dietz family, the Fleury family, Andrew Wolfe and the Wolfe family, Janet Harrington, Georgianna Aiken, the Jacobs family, Comfort Sparks, Taras Pavlovsky, Jimmy More, Donald Brokate, Ernie DeMarie, Homer Zacharoudis, David Coulier, the Tavel family, Sonia Smith & the Smith family, G. Lopez & family, the Reiner family, and Christopher Henderson. O God, mighty God, merciful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Lector: For all families, that their common life may be marked by mutual honor, respect, and forgiveness, and that homes may become places of hospitality to the stranger, O God, mighty God, merciful God, ,

People: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: We remember those with whom we give thanks, especially those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this week: **Julia Bestman, Samuel & Anastasia Richards, Eanna (EJ) O'Suilleabhain, Wolo Bestman and John Gabbidon.** O God, mighty God, merciful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: We commend to your prayers this day all persons deployed in the service of our country. May they dwell safely under the protection of Almighty God. O God, mighty God, merciful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Lector: For the victims of family violence, that you quickly bring relief, justice, and healing, O God, mighty God, merciful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Deacon: We remember those who have died, especially the victims of violence in our neighborhoods, and the victims of the ongoing wars around the world. O God, mighty God, merciful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Lector: For the earth which you honored in the incarnation of your Son, and for us creatures, that a spirit of joy in its goodness and care for its future may be poured out upon us all, O God, mighty God, merciful God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Silence, as the people add their own petitions.

Celebrant: Rejoicing with all the saints, with Mary and Joseph, with Stephen, John, and all the Holy Innocents, we commend these prayers and all our life to you, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

BCP p. 360

Please remain in your pew for the Peace.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Holy Communion

Please remain seated while Ushers collect the offertory

Offertory Solo

Dr. Kerry Heimann, organ

Offertory Hymn

LEVAS # 27

Away in a Manger

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, food donations to the Cathedral Food Pantry, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or Celebrant.

The Great Thanksgiving:

Eucharistic Prayer A

Chalice bearer: Bobbie Powell

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.

The Celebrant proceeds . . .

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father almighty, 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 perfect Man 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:

Celebrant and People:

Hymnal # S-128

Sanctus

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues . . .

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to

you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord 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 he 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray . . .

Celebrant and 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,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

Fraction

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Then may be said . . .

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Hymnal # S-165

Agnus Dei

Celebrant: 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.

All Baptized Christians are welcome to make their Communion at the Lord's table.

Communion Solo

Dr. Kerry Heimann, organ

The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant and People:

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

Recessional Hymn

Hymnal # 100

Joy to the World

Blessing

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.**

Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Dr. Kerry Heimann, organ

**TRINITY CATHEDRAL OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW JERSEY
DECEMBER 28, 2025 ~ FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY**



Following Christ, joining the Cathedral – We invite you to accept the invitation to follow Christ, to become a Christian and to become a member of Trinity Cathedral. We encourage you to fill in one of the pew cards and place it in the offering plate, or please contact one of the clergy.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lectors for the 10:00 am Mass on 1/1 are:

Tony Wootson, Judith Miller & Fay Manicke (chalice bearer – Margaret Nartey)

The Lectors for the 10:00 am Mass on 1/4 are:

John Gummere, Cn. Terry Cooper & Howard Ebersole (chalice bearer – Margaret Nartey)

The Ushers/Greeters for Sunday, 1/4 (1st Sunday) are:

Veronica Ngwayah (Greeter/Usher) & Edward Greenfield (alternate)

2026 Stewardship Update: We have received 65 pledges, totaling \$255,204, representing an average pledge of \$3,926 per family. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

If you would like a pledge card, please see an Usher.

The Cathedral annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 18th after the 10:00 am Mass (one Mass only that Sunday.) - If you are the Chair of a Commission or other organized Cathedral group, please have your report for the meeting booklet turned in to the office no later than Wednesday, January 7th. Please E-mail it to Patrice at patriceattrinity@aol.com. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else for a position on the Vestry, please speak with Chinweze Ahaghotu, Cn. Paul Cooper or Dean John. There is a handy form you can use to turn in your names; find one on the literature table in the Cathedral (the “ship table”).

If you are looking for a way to become more involved with the operation of our Cathedral, please see the volunteer bulletin board just inside the parking lot doors. Here you will find posted opportunities to volunteer at the Cathedral, big and small. If you would like to advertise a volunteer opportunity, you can create your own flyer or use the form on the literature table in the main hallway.

The next Food Pantry distribution date is – Saturday, January 10th (2nd & 4th Saturdays this month) from 9-11:00 am. Each Thursday, we distribute hot dinners “to go” from 4:15–5:30pm at the Overbrook Avenue entrance as a satellite location for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen.



**And the Word
became flesh and
dwelt among us ...**

John 1:14, ESV

THIS WEEK'S CATHEDRAL SCHEDULE

TODAY (12/28)

10:00 am
10:30a – 12:30p

First Sunday after Christmas Day ~ Family Sunday

Rite II Eucharist in the Cathedral (+ livestreamed, when available)
Full Gospel Community Church service - CHP

Mon. (12/29)

Pre-K & Urban Promise closed through January 1st

Wed. (12/31)

Bible study on break

Thurs. (1/1)

10:00 am

All offices closed

New Year's Day Mass with Dean John

Sun. (1/4)

8:30 am
10:00 am

After 10am Mass
10:30a – 12:30p

Second Sunday after Christmas Day

Rite I Eucharist in All Saints Chapel (in-person only)

**Rite II Eucharist in the Cathedral (+ livestreamed,
when available) with the Trinity Strings**

Confirmation class - GR

Full Gospel Community Church service - CHP



The Cathedral office will be closed on Thursday, January 1st. Staff will be in for varied and limited hours through January 2nd; please call the office before visiting.