

Trinity Church  
First Sunday of Advent + Brunch  
November 28, 2021

**WELCOME AND LITURGY OF GATHERING**

Leader: Reading of [Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19](#). This is the word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

*Trinity is fostering a haven of belonging where wanderers and wonderers gather to discover and embody the love of Jesus in the world.*

**COMMUNAL SINGING**

**Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus**

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see Thee, Dayspring of on high appear  
Come thou promised rod of Jesse; Of thy birth we long to hear  
On the hills the angels singing; News, glad tidings of a birth  
Go to him your praises ringing, Christ the Lord has come to earth

Come to earth to taste our sadness; He whose glories know no end  
By his life he brings us gladness; Our redeemer, shepherd, friend  
Leaving riches without number; Born within a cattle stall  
This the everlasting wonder; Christ was born the Lord of all

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal spirit, rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

**O Come O Come Emanuel**

O come, O come Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appears  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee O Israel

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by Thine advent here  
Disperse the gloomy of night  
And death's dark shadow put to flight  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee O Israel

O come, Desire of nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind  
bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease  
fill all the world with heaven's peace  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee O Israel

### **COMMUNITY CONFESSION**

Leader: Today marks the first Sunday of Advent, the season in which we celebrate the coming of Christ made flesh in the person of Jesus - the incarnation at a particular time and place, among people, and within the ever-unfolding story, as the way of love. Christ continues to come to us in the particularities and in the shadows.

Reading - [Jeremiah 33:14-16](#)

Prayer & Candle Lighting: We come to know you, Holy One, as Wisdom Incarnate, as Flickering Flame, as Spirit of Life, as Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, Enfleshed. You come to us as the Stranger, and the Strange. Often we do not recognize you. Often we turn away from your gifts and your demands. Yet you come to us in Wilderness, in the Impossible Made Possible, in Silence and Singing and Sighs Too Deep for Words. You abhor dominance, mastery, fear, and control. You are made known to us in Vulnerability, and Courage, and Divesting from the Powers of Empire.

**ALL: God of Hope, forgive us when we're too distracted or stubborn to hear your voice. We come to you this Advent in need, with longing, in pain, captive to fear, desiring a more just world, a more livable life for all of us, for the earth, for every living thing caught and held in this inescapable network of mutual interdependence we call this one wild and precious Life. We long for you. We long for healing. We long for liberation. We long for different systems and patterns of relating. May we hear your prophets' call and respond.**

Leader: Friends, this is the good news: God loves us deeply and never gives up on us. And so, this Advent, we pause. We breathe. We pray. We dig deep. We reach out. We rise up. We remember. We vision. We sit with the pain. We stay with the trouble. We wait, expectant. We light candles. We labor. We open to You, and to one another, and to the Sacred Mystery that is Emmanuel, God-With-Us, Love Incarnate, Divinity Enfleshed.

**ALL: Praise God! We will continue listening for God's voice and respond faithfully!**

Leader: The Hope of God-With-Us does not come as guaranteed outcome, or predetermined plan, or promise of a happy ending. Hope cannot be imposed from on high. Hope cannot be commanded. The Hope of God-With-Us is courageous, risky, unfolding, indeterminate. The Hope of God-With-Us is collective, liberating us from deadly complacency. Hope is gestating in darkness; it comes unexpectedly. Hope invites our expectation, and demands our participation. Prepare the way, for hope with courage. May Hope be birthed among, within, and through us, this Advent.

**ALL: Amen.**

*\*PreK-5th grade children will remain in the Gathering today. Materials for children are available and we understand that their presence means they will be heard; no need to worry about their vocal contributions.*

### **ADVENT REFLECTION**

The Incarnation as Particularity of Time

[Jeremiah 33.14-16 & Luke 21.25-36](#)

*\*For discussion prompts visit the series page here.*

### **PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S TABLE LITURGY**

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord, who is our refuge and stronghold. For the health and well-being of our nation and world, that all who are fearful and anxious may be at peace and free from worry: Lord, hear us,

**ALL: Lord, graciously hear us.**

Leader: For the isolated and housebound, that we may be alert to their needs, and care for them in their vulnerability: Lord, hear us,

**ALL: Lord, graciously hear us.**

Leader: For our homes and families, our school communities and young people, and all in any kind of need or distress: Lord, hear us,

**ALL: Lord, graciously hear us.**

Leader: For a blessing on our local community, that our neighborhoods may be places of trust and friendship, where all are known and cared for: Lord, hear us,

**ALL: Lord, graciously hear us.**

Leader: We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God.

**ALL: Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.**

Leader: As we begin once more an Advent season, we wait and watch for the small glimpses of God-glory breaking in, breaking out, sprouting, shooting, bearing fruit, making a Kingdom, remaking the world.

**ALL: We tell the story that God invites each of us into: Christ came to dwell among us; Christ lived to show us the way; Christ died to set us free from sin; Christ was raised to break the power of death and will come again to bring us the wholeness for which we long.**

Leader: Where two or more of us are gathered, O Lord, there you have promised to be.

**ALL: And here we are.**

Leader: And so, here are you. Take joy, O King, in our feast. Nothing good and right and true will be lost forever. All good things will be restored. Feast and be reminded!

**ALL: Take joy, O King!**

Leader: Now beloved, prepare your hearts and give yourself wholly to this celebration of joy, to the glad company of saints, to the comforting fellowship of the Spirit, and to the abiding presence of Christ who is seated among us both as our host and as our honored guest. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, take seat, take feast, take delight!

**ALL: Amen!**

### **BRUNCH FELLOWSHIP & OFFERING OF WORSHIP**

Let's feast! Consider how your conversation might spur one another to naming and sharing the good news at home, work place or school, family, Trinity ([Offering Basket](#)), neighborhood and world.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Thanksgiving Address.** This week we acknowledge that while many of us do still observe Thanksgiving, we are pretty terrible at practicing gratitude and have much to learn from indigenous siblings who have been here on this land for centuries. As we connect with Creator and return to the 'adamah, consider greeting the natural world, a practice of gratitude, with the Thanksgiving Address - a gift from some tribes to those of us that haven't been given the opportunity to love and learn about Creation in this way. You may find various versions online, but here is one to [read](#).

**Website updates** are being made ([www.indytrinity.org](http://www.indytrinity.org)). You may recognize some of the folks in the updated photos. If you prefer that you or anyone in your household not be pictured, please email Melissa ([melissa@indytrinity.org](mailto:melissa@indytrinity.org)).

**Advent** begins on today. The sermon series and resources for observing Advent are posted online at [www.indytrinity.org/advent](http://www.indytrinity.org/advent).

**Divine Hours** weekdays during Advent. Over the last couple years we have made our way through the Advent season together by gathering virtually on weekdays to center ourselves around the anticipation of the incarnation of the Christ as well as support one another during this joyous, contemplative, and sometimes difficult time. Each morning during Advent we will be participating in the morning prayers of the Divine Hours by Phylis Tickle, reflecting on poems from Mary Oliver, and listening to music that Trinity is sharing throughout this season. Join us weekday mornings at 7am on [Zoom](#) or catch up throughout the day on [FB](#) or [YouTube](#). Questions? email [joel@indytrinity.org](mailto:joel@indytrinity.org)

### **Holiday Schedule:**

Christmas Eve Gathering @ 5:30pm  
No Gathering December 26th  
January 2nd Brunch Gathering @ 10am

### **DEPARTING BENEDICTION**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

*(Some liturgies adapted from [lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com](http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com), [enfleshed.com](http://enfleshed.com), and [Every Moment Holy](#))*

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**Land Acknowledgement.** We acknowledge that the land on which we gather for worship was stolen from the Myaamiaki people of the sovereign Miami Nation, who were driven out of the area and of their native lands by genocide, force (through broken treaties and laws imposed upon their nation), and systematic dispossession. (ref: [Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery, Trinity Church](#))

**Gathering Hosting Schedule.** As an act of service and care, please join staff, leaders, and others from your parish in hosting Sunday Gatherings. These are great times to connect and welcome others to converse while serving as well. Arrival at 9:45am is great, 9:30am is super helpful for assisting with audio equipment and/or indoor set up. Cleaning up on the back end should only take 10-15 minutes. The hosting checklist is in the Trinity office. Thank you!

### December

5th: Broad Ripple

12th: Fishers

19th: North/Carmel

24th/Christmas Eve: Elders

26th: *No Gathering*

January

2nd (Brunch, but no audio equipment): Midtown/Downtown

9th: Broad Ripple

16th: Fishers

23rd: North/Carmel

30th: Midtown/Downtown