



DECEMBER 2020

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

TRIBUNE

Christmas Worship at Holy Trinity

Saturday, December 19

- 5:00pm: *Festival of Lessons & Carols* with Communion* (in-person & livestreamed)

Sunday, December 20

- 7:30am: *Festival of Lessons & Carols* with Communion* (in-person)
- 9:00am: *Festival of Lessons & Carols* with Communion* (in-person & livestreamed)
- 9:00am–12:00pm: *Drive-thru Communion* in front of the church
- 11:15am: *Festival of Lessons & Carols* with Communion* (in-person)

Thursday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

- 3:00pm: *Children's Service with Communion and Virtual Pageant* (in-person & livestreamed, **limited seating, call the office to make your reservation**), Santa & Mrs. Claus will make a special appearance.
- 5:00pm: *Festival Eucharist* with special music (in-person & livestreamed, **limited seating, call the office to make your reservation**)
- 7:00pm–8:00pm: *Drive-thru Communion* in front of the Historic Chapel (with Santa & Mrs. Claus)
- 8:30pm: *Outdoor Celebration Eucharist* in front of the Historic Chapel, bring your lawn chair and a battery powered light
- 11:00pm: *Festival Eucharist* with special music (in-person & livestreamed, **limited seating, call the office to make your reservation**). Incense will NOT be used.

Friday, December 25 (Christmas Day)

- 10:00am: *Carols and Communion* in the Historic Chapel (**limited seating, call the office to make your reservation**)

Saturday, December 26

- 5:00pm: *Holy Eucharist* (in-person & livestreamed)

Sunday, December 27

- 7:30am: *Holy Eucharist* Rite I (in-person)
- 9:00am: *Holy Eucharist* Rite II (in-person & livestreamed)
- 9:00am–12:00pm: *Drive-thru Communion* in front of the church
- 11:15am: *Holy Eucharist* Rite I (in-person)

* This year we will do fewer lessons and carols but also have Communion. There is no sermon but a short explanation between the lessons and carols to tie the story together.

**“Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell.”**

From verse 2 of “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

**“Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room...”**

From verse 1 of “Joy to the World”

Jesus once spoke in the synagogue of his hometown of Nazareth. He stood up and read Isaiah 61:1-2, which begins with these words: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.” At the end of the reading he preached the shortest sermon in history when he said, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

“Incarnation” means that the Spirit of the Lord is indeed upon Jesus, but the Good News is even better than that! Because God is in Christ Jesus, God can be in you! Jesus is the embodiment of the New Covenant predicted by the prophets (See Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Ezekiel 36:26-27.) Our Messiah has come! The spirit from on high is now poured out upon us. We have a new covenant such that God’s law is “written on our hearts” and God has “forgiven our iniquities and remembered our sin no more!” In Christ we have received a “new heart” and a “new spirit.” Indeed, in the words of St. Paul, “If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.” (2 Corinthians 5:17-18)

An “incarnate deity” as mysterious and improbable as it might seem, has made possible an “inspired humanity.” To quote The Rev. William Porcher DuBose, the first priest to serve Holy Trinity in 1886, “God in Christ is only half the truth and mystery of the Incarnation; Christ in us is the full other half.”

The season of Advent is a season of expectation. As we remember the coming of the Baby Jesus into the world, we expect, once again that Christ will come into our lives, bringing peace and healing and joyful praise. As Christians we truly experience Christmas when we “practice the presence of Christ within.”

Remember this Christmas Season that “Christ lives within you.” Draw strength, in these difficult times, from the reality that Christ came into the world to love you, to help you and to heal you. Because Jesus was born in that stable in Bethlehem, God is available to you... to you personally. Ask for and receive his Spirit and receive healing for your soul.

Come to church and sing on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, or if you do not feel safe coming out then stay home and sing with us in your living room through online worship. We are doing all we can to make worship possible and safe. This Christmas we even plan to have outdoor worship in the parking lot of the church with the altar on the porch of the Chapel. The important thing is not so much where you worship at Christmas, but rather that you welcome Christ into your heart for healing and Peace. Remember and experience the last verse of “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”:

“Risen with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings, hail, the Sun of Righteousness! Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!”

Receive Christ at Christmas!

Fr. Steve and Rev. Pam



If you wish to place memorial flowers on the altar for Christmas, please fill out this form and return it with your donation to the church office, or you can place it in the offering plate **NO LATER than Thursday, December 17.** (Suggested donation: \$50) Questions? Contact Bonnie Register at 321-725-4711.

Given by: _____ Phone: _____ Sunday date requested: _____

CIRCLE ONE: In memory of: _____ In thanksgiving for: _____ In celebration of: _____



CHILDREN & YOUTH



ADVENT CRAFT DAY!

Join us on Sunday, December 13 at 10:30am in the Cub Café for an intergenerational day of Advent and Christmas crafting! If you would like to organize/lead a craft please contact Aaron Cain at acain@holyltrinitymelbourne.org by Friday, December 11. We look forward to enjoying this tradition with you in an open air setting for the safety of all! Questions, contact KC Crawley kccrawley@holyltrinitymelbourne.org.

Youth Christmas Yard Party! All youth are invited to our Annual Christmas Party on Friday, December 11 from 5:30 – 9:00 pm. This outdoor celebration will be held at the home of the Crawley's. We'll play games, hang out around the fire pit, and have dinner. Watch GroupMe and your email for dinner ordering information. Bring a wrapped pair of Christmas socks for our sock exchange game. Due to COVID we will play a little bit differently to avoid handling all the gifts!

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT!

Annual Children's Christmas Pageant – Y.E.S. News!

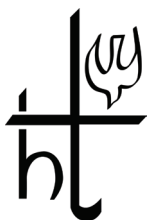
Planning and preparation for our Annual Christmas Pageant is underway. On Christmas Eve at the 3:00pm service we invite you to journey with Y.E.S. News Chief Correspondent Rachel Leah, as she covers one of the the most amazing breaking news stories of history, the birth of Jesus Christ! This year our pageant will be pre-recorded, much of it from the homes of the participants. At the time of printing it is still possible to get involved, so contact KC Crawley if your child would like to participate!

Youth Alpha Course

In November we launched a Youth Alpha course that will be completed on January 31. Co-led by KC Crawley and Gabrielle Knoblock, the group includes 8 youth who have been enjoying great conversation about deep faith topics on Sunday afternoons via Zoom. We will gather for our Alpha Retreat on Saturday, January 9 and invite your prayers for that gathering and the rest of our sessions together, that the Holy Spirit will move in our hearts and lead each person to a new place in their faith journey. For questions or information, contact KC Crawley.

YOUTH CALENDAR:

- Youth Group Christmas Yard Party - Friday, 12/11 at 5:30pm at the Crawleys'
- Craft Day - Sunday, 12/13 at 10:30am in the Cub Cafe
- Christmas Pageant Recording - TBA by email
- Sunday School Resumes - Sunday, 1/10 at 10:30am in the Cub Café
- Youth Group Resumes - Wednesday, 1/6 at 6:30pm at Lewis Hall



TRIBUNE

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

1830 South Babcock Street • Melbourne, Florida 32901

PHONE: (321) 723-5272 • FAX: (321) 723-6774

www.holytrinitymelbourne.org

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RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

Holy Trinity's Annual Meeting

Holy Trinity's Annual Meeting where we elect new Vestry members and review the annual report will be on Sunday, January 17 following the 9:00am service in the church. **Ministry Heads:** If you would like to submit a report for your ministry, please e-mail it to Patti in the office (ployd@holytrinitymelbourne.org) by Monday, January 4, 2021.

END OF THE YEAR GIVING

The last opportunity to place your 2019 offerings in the offering plate will be during worship on December 26/27. Contributions can also be taken to the church office or mailed and credited to 2019 giving if received or postmarked by Thursday, December 31, 2019. Thank you!

Stewardship Intentions to Date:

FOR 2020 (as of 12/8/2020)

203 pledges to God's Glory

20 new pledges

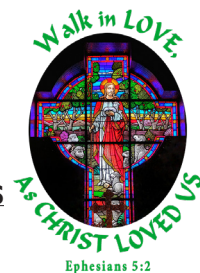
88 increased pledges

Total Pledged so far: \$487,609

COMPARE TO 2019 TOTALS

Number of Pledges: 239

Total Pledged: \$513,768



If you have not yet pledged - please prayerfully consider doing so. Make Holy Trinity your first priority in your charitable giving.

You may pledge online at

www.holytrinitymelbourne.org



Gifts from the Heart
Christmas Shop

Thank you to everyone who donated toys, goodies, gift cards, and money for Gifts from the Heart Christmas Shop and the Devereux Christmas Stockings! Your generosity will help make many children's Christmas more joyous!

