

Trinity Church

Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts



As an open and affirming congregation
the Mission and Purpose of Trinity Church is to



Gather as God's people.
Grow in faith, love and service.
Go into the world as disciples and apostles.

TRINITY CHURCH

December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

10:00 AM

We welcome all of you to our worship service this Sunday!

Enter in stillness...Know that the Lord is God.

Listen in reverence...it is God who has made us.

Sing with delight...it is God who hears.

Speak with conviction...there is no other God.

Depart in peace...it is God's gift for you.

Serve with joy...it is your gift to God!

Please be mindful of those sensitive to fragrances.

PRELUDE – *In Dulci Jubilo (In Sweet Rejoicing)*, op. 70 nr. 4, Flor Peeters

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING HYMN #216

“LO, HOW A ROSE E’ER BLOOMING” (VV 1 & 2)

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

Arise and be bold, good news of hope is here!

The warm glow of the Divine lightens our hearts.

Here we are together; not alone. We join with the cloud of witnesses here, there, elsewhere, and everywhere. On this first Sunday in Advent, we will dream and imagine a different future, a rising-up and life-flourishing one. We are witnesses to hope.

(The first candle is lit.)

Our habit of hope and hoping finds sustenance and meaning in God’s promise of fullness of life.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.. **God-of-righteous-dreaming, lighten our hearts with an enlarged imagination to dream new possibilities: to imagine a world where transformation will happen, where creation is mended and restored, and where exiles and strangers will find a home. Become in our lives the way to what we need, to what we can become, and to what we can do. Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN #211

“O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL” (VV 2 & 4)

TIME FOR ALL AGES

FIRST READING

JEREMIAH 33:14-16

*GOSPEL READING

LUKE 21:25-36

SERMON – “Hope”

Pastor Benjiman Durfee

MUSICAL INTERLUDE – *Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele (Adorn yourself, O dear Soul)*, J. G. Walther

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

Our loving God, 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Trusting in the sure promises of Christ, and grateful for the Spirit’s sustaining power, let us bring our offerings to God.

OFFERTORY MUSIC – *Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ (Praise be to You, Jesus Christ)*, J. Pachelbel

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit one. Amen**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Let us pray... **God of righteousness, you have saved us from the worst the world can do and have promised to redeem the whole creation when Christ comes again. In faith and hope we offer our gifts, that we may be part of what you are doing in the world even now, as we watch for Christ’s coming in glory. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

using Musical Setting C from UMH 17

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray... **We thank you, God, for breaking into our world and pouring into our lives and our experiences. We thank you, God, for this meal of thanksgiving and the stories of love, grace, and hope that it tells. Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN #213

"LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES" (vv 1 & 2)

*BENEDICTION AND DISMISSAL

adapted from *Liturgies Alive, Models of Celebration*

Advent is our season of waiting for the coming of Jesus. But long ago he came already. So, what are we waiting for, then? For his real coming to you, to me, to our world. Where is his kingdom among us? How can people see whether he is here? Can they see him in us, in our communities? This is what we are waiting for, or rather, what Christ is waiting for. Christ is waiting for our active preparing of his love and justice among people. But he will do it with us. Let Christ come and activate us, with the blessing of almighty God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE – HYMN #673

"GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN" (v 1)

POSTLUDE – *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern (How brightly shines the morning star)*,
D. Buxtehude