

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.



Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

We welcome all of you to our worship service this Sunday!
If you are visiting, please sign our guest book or fill out a welcome card
in the pew so we can better welcome you!

* = Please rise in body or Spirit.

We kindly ask for your cooperation in keeping our space fragrance-free.

Let us pray... **God, we confess that we have often placed our hope in people and things that can't fulfill our every need. We have searched for peace in shallow places. We have mistaken joy for temporal pleasure and artificial exhilaration. We have put limits on the ways we love, excluding those who need our loving kindness the most. God, when we have lost our way, show us yours. Guide us to the hope in you that will renew our strength. Lead us to your peace that transcends all understanding. Fill us with a joy we can only experience in your presence. Remind us that you have always loved us with an everlasting love, so that we may share that love with others. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In this season of desolation and uncertainty, it is good to know that God's love for us is sure—that God's commitment to us is definite—that God is guiding us as the compassionate companions that we are called to be for each other. Let us live into this gift. **Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Remaining in our pews,
let us turn to our neighbors and offer a sign of God's peace.*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray together the Lord's Prayer, using whichever words or language are closest to our hearts (some versions may be found at UMH 894).

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Here at Trinity Church, we live in hope that love can bring renewal and healing to our world. Let us practice this world together, sharing what we have, taking care of each other, and bringing all our questions and concerns as honest offerings to God.

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY MUSIC – *Pavane*, William Byrd

*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... Gracious God of deep joy, even when storms rage and doubts rise, you call us to see with kingdom eyes—to look for healing, hope, and signs of your grace breaking in. In this Advent season of expectation and weariness, we bring these gifts as expressions of joy, rooted not in ease but in trust. May our giving bear witness to your good news. Use these offerings and us as signs of your coming reign, lights in the storm, and carriers of joy. In the name of Jesus, our hope and our Redeemer. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

"GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE" (UMH 224, vv. 1 - 3)

***BENEDICTION**

Advent people, go now in the blessing of God's joy, confident that the day we await is close at hand and ready to cooperate with God in building the kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"GOD BE WITH YOU TILL WE MEET AGAIN" (UMH 673, v. 1)

POSTLUDE – *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*

(How brightly shines the morning star) BuxWV 223, D. Buxtehude

Today's Worship Ministers

Presider & Preacher: Pastor Benjiman Durfee

Guest Musician: Keith Rollinson

Reader 2: Julie Bailey

Acolyte: Nicole Porter

Usher: Sue Mead

Reader 1: Lois Bascom

Videographer: Walker Miles