

Trinity Church

Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts



Photo by Georg Manfred Heinlein: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/wax-candles-and-decorations-14745924/>

Second Sunday in Advent

December 7, 2025

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.



Order of Worship

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.

PRELUDE – *Berceuse (Lullaby)*, op. 31 no, 19, Louis Vierne

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING HYMN ***“HAIL TO THE LORD’S ANOINTED”*** (UMH 203, vv. 1, 3 & 4)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Advent reminds us that we are people who share a story, the story of Jesus, who enacts peace by judging in favor of the poor and deciding with equity for the meek of the earth. We long for the day when “the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them” (Isaiah 11:6).

Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God’s creation.

We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to bring Light to the places the world seeks to hide until that day when all creation lives together in harmony and abundance.

-Light the second candle of the Advent wreath-

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray...**God of hope and peace, as we worship you this day, may we catch a glimpse of your peace; may we open ourselves to receive your grace; may we welcome one another, as you have welcomed us; may we prepare hearts and our lives, for Christ to be born in us once again. And when our worship is done, may we be renewed in body and spirit, prepared to bring your righteousness and justice to the world. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN ***“O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL”*** (UMH 211, vv. 1 - 3)

*GOSPEL READING **MATTHEW 3:1-12**

TIME FOR ALL AGES

Pastor Benjiman Durfee

MUSICAL INTERLUDE – *Lob sei dem allmächtigen Gott (Praise be to God Almighty)*,
BWV 602, J. S. Bach

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT (see insert)

BAPTISMAL HYMN

“WONDER OF WONDERS” (TFWS 2247)

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 – *Récit de Chromhorne, 3ieme Ton*, Jacques Boyvin

*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... **Abundant God, your blessings and righteousness are bountiful in our lives. May these gifts bear good fruit as they go forth, that peace may come, that creation may be healed, and that those who cry for justice may be heard. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION (see insert)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious God, we thank you for this holy meal and for the love you share with us in Jesus. Today we also give thanks for the people who were welcomed into our church family through baptism and received as new members. You have made our family bigger and our joy deeper. As we leave this table, fill us with your Spirit. Help us to live with kindness, to support one another, and to share your love in our community. Make us one in Christ, and send us out with grateful hearts. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN **"LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES"** (UMH 213, vv. 1 - 4)

*BENEDICTION

May the God of love fill you with joy and peace.
May the peace of Christ be with you, now and forevermore.
And may the Holy Spirit fill your days with hope. **Amen.**

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

POSTLUDE – *Dialogue sur les Grands Jeux*, François Couperin

Today's Worship Ministers

Presiders: Revs. Glenn Prescott & Benjiman Durfee

Musician: Keith Rollinson

Acolyte: Nicole Porter

Reader 1: Sue Mead

Preacher: Pastor Benjiman Durfee

Reader 2: Lois Bascom

Usher: Lois Bascom

Videographer: Ginny Ray

Communion Steward: Nancy Parland