

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 8, 2024

Second 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!

PRELUDE – *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland (Savior of the nation, come),*
BWV 599, J. S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING HYMN #475

“COME DOWN, O LOVE DIVINE” (VV 1 &2)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, take courage, and catch a glimpse of peace!

The warm glow of the Divine lightens our hearts.

We are together, not alone. In spirit and in community we gather on this second Sunday in Advent in solidarity and with courage to partner for a world full of peace where all of creation will flourish. Our witness is to and for peace.

(The first candle is lit.)

Peace is real and possible. In solidarity we pray, work, and wait for its blossoming.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.. **God-of-peace-and-possibility, kindle in the hearts of all compassion and love so that goodness, just deeds, the common good, and trust may flourish. Bless and gift all with hope for a future of peace built on justice for all. In the name of the Child, the peaceful one. Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN #196

“COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS”

TIME FOR ALL AGES

FIRST READING

MALACHI 3:1-4

*GOSPEL READING

LUKE 3:1-6

SERMON – “Peace”

Pastor Benjiman Durfee

MUSICAL INTERLUDE – *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*
(How brightly shines the morning star), J. C. Bach

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 – *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland (Savior of the nation, come)*,
Nicolaus Vetter

*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... **Loving God, in this Advent season, we bring our offerings with hearts open to your call. Just as John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus, may our gifts help prepare the way for your kingdom. Use these offerings to bring hope, justice, and transformation. Help us to look beyond the surface, to see your work in surprising places and people. Bless our giving, that it may shine with the presence of Emmanuel. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN #567

"HERALDS OF CHRIST" (vv 1 & 3)

*BENEDICTION AND DISMISSAL

Go, now, blessed with a passion that refines, molds, and shapes each of our hearts to reflect God's glorious love that transforms despair into hope, violence into peace, and distress into flourishing. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE – HYMN #673

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

POSTLUDE – *Pastorale*, K. 9, Domenico Scarlatti

Please be mindful of those sensitive to fragrances.

Today's Worship Ministers

Presider & Preacher: Pastor Benjiman Durfee

Organist: Keith Rollinson

Acolyte: Nicole Porter

Reader: Lois Bascom

Usher: Beth Martin

Videographer: Brook Batteau

Coffee Hour Host: Sue Mead, Wes Rice and Candace Fields