

*Third Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist, Rite I
December 16, 2018*

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity	BCP-323
<i>Kyrie</i>	BCP-324
The Collect of the Day	
First Reading	Zephaniah 3:14-20
Canticle	9
The Gospel	Luke 3:7-18
Homily	the Rev. Donna J. Gerold
The Nicene Creed	BCP-326
The Prayers of the People	Pew Card
The Confession and Absolution	BCP-330
The Peace	BCP-332

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer I	BCP-333
The Lord's Prayer	BCP-336
The Breaking of the Bread	BCP-337
Prayer of Thanksgiving	BCP-339
Dismissal	

Welcome visitors! We are glad to have you worship with us today and hope you will want to return. Trinity is a parish of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast. Chartered in 1836, Trinity Episcopal Church is Apalachicola's historic "first church." Services have been held here for more than 180 years. It is with great joy that we thank God for our blessings and for the beauty of this place.

Services

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:20 AM Ministry of Healing and Prelude
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II

Clergy, Wardens, and Vestry

Priest-in-charge the Rev. Donna J. Gerold
Vestry Rennie Edwards, Senior Warden; Gary Ulrich, Junior Warden;
Nancy Luther, Paul McAbee, Patti McCartney,
Ralph Wagoner & Randy Mims

Clerk of the Vestry Landy Luther
Treasurer Lee Bettis

Web Site www.trinityapalachicola.org
E-mail info@trinityapalachicola.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trinity Prayer List: Please help us keep the prayer list up to date by calling or sending an email to the church office to let us know if a name needs to be added or removed. If you add someone to the list, if possible, please let us know their mailing address so that a card can be mailed to them.

Members: Alice Jean Gibbs, Ruth Young, Arlene Wingate, Glenn Totman, Myra Ponder, Jo Heslin, Dewitt Galloway, Amanda Wagoner, Landy & Nancy Luther, Gary Niblack & Martha Snowden, Jack Rink & Carol Wood, and First Presbyterian Church of Wewahitchka.

Family & Friends: Lisa Waddell, Casey Simmons, Sharron Anthony, Richard & Helen Quackenbush, Damaris Porter, Mary Bloodworth, Mary Flanagan, Russell Ponder, Sue Bisiq, Susan Richardson, Carl Carlson, Eugenia Butler, Carmel Dodson, James Hess, Orli Burton, Sandy Howze, Mary Ann Holder, Lee Hassell, Lloyd Hodge, Brenda Herrick, Jill Feeser, Paul Sears, Pat Burchfield and Family, and Bryan Tune.

Monday School will meet on Monday December 17th at 10:00 am.

Outreach is asking for donations for the Family we are sponsoring this Christmas, please make check payable to Trinity with notation in memo "Christmas Family".

Sunday, December 23rd... Advent 4 Services at 8 & 10:30 am.
Greening of the Church at 1 pm, come and bring your ladders; enjoy light refreshments afterwards.
Monday, December 24th... Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6:30 pm.
Tuesday, December 25th... Christmas Day Service Rite II at 10:30 am
Sunday, December 30th... First Sunday after Christmas Services at 8 & 10:30 am.

The Food Bank is requesting donations of anything "Christmas". Please place donations in the "food wagon" in the church narthex. The Food Bank will disburse the food out on Tuesday December 18th.

Trinity's Church office will close at noon on December 21st and will remain closed until January 1st for the Christmas and New Year Holidays. The office will reopen on Tuesday January 2nd at 8:00 am.

Dear Friends at Trinity, I truly appreciate all of your kind thoughts, prayers and good wishes during my recent incapacitation due to my ruptured Achilles tendon. Thank you for all of this visits and meals that were showered upon us. Candace and I are fortunate to be a part of such a caring and generous congregation. Trinity is truly a blessed and loving community. We are so happy to be a part of it. Thank you for all the cards and phone calls. I really felt that we were never alone in our trials.

Ed Springer

December 16, 2018

Zephaniah 3:14-20, Cantic 9, Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:7-18

REJOICE !

In today's gospel, John, the Baptizer, proclaims the good news that "One . . . is coming," the One who those of his day have been waiting, the Anointed One, the Incarnation of God the Father, the One who brings the cleansing, refining fire of the Holy Spirit, the One who gathers the outcast and brings us home, the One who is near now and forever. It is clear that our response can only be to rejoice; just look at all the injunctions in the other lessons: "Sing aloud . . . shout . . . Rejoice and exult with all your heart!"; "Sing praises to the Lord . . . cry aloud . . . ring out your joy."; "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice."

In the short term, it is often hard to find the inspiration to rejoice in the circumstances of our lives, but God is in it for the long haul. The Holy One has always used whatever we creatures offer and uses it to benefit us and the world. Think back to the time(s) in your own life when it felt like the very end of the world, but when you look at it through today's eyes, you see what a blessing it has turned out to be after all. That has certainly happened in my life, more than once.

Remembering those times in my life and reflecting on the long-term



consequences inspires me to sing the Cantic appointed for today from the First Song of Isaiah: "Surely it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior." My heart is full to overflowing with the joy of

knowing the Beloved, the One who is coming, the One who is here. It is time for me, and I hope for you, to rejoice!

Pat Horn, Author

Audrey Horn, Photographer



Sermon on the Mount (Pieter Jansz. Pourbus (c. 1523 – c. 1584)

**Trinity Episcopal Church
79 Sixth Street
Apalachicola, Florida**