Second Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist, Rite I December 9, 2018

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity	BCP-323
Gloria	BCP-324
The Collect of the Day	
First Reading	Malachi 3:1-4
Canticle	16
The Gospel	Luke 3:1-6
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	g
Eucharistic Prayer I	BCP-333
The Lord's Prayer	BCP-336
The Breaking of the Bread	BCP-337
Prayer of Thanksgiving Dismissal	BCP-339

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

<u>Trinity Prayer List:</u> 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, Candace Watson, 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, Orlis 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 be having their Christmas Brunch at the home of the Seaborns on Monday December 10th. The Seaborns home is located at 110 Dr. Fredrick Humphries St, Apalachicola. Hope to see you all there.

The Vestry will be meeting at the home of the Rev. Donna Gerold at 5:00 pm on Monday December 10th.

The Worship Committee will be having a meeting on Tuesday December 11th at 10 am in the conference room.

The holiday season may be difficult for some trying to recover from Hurricane Michael. In light of this, the Rev. Donna Gerold and Sarah Madson, Psy.D will host another "*Beginning to Heal*" at 5:30 pm on Wednesday December 12th in Benedict Hall.

TOH Committee will be meeting on Thursday December $13^{\rm th}$ at 2:00 pm in the conference room.

It is with sadness we acknowledge the death of Isabelle Eleutheria Mescure Nichols. Isabelle was a well-loved and active member of Trinity for many years. She was very involved in the music program, playing the organ and directing the Junior Choir. Services will be held at Trinity with visitation on Friday December 14th from 5 to 7 pm, with Trisagion prayers at 7 pm. The funeral service will on Saturday December 15th at 11 am, followed by interment at Magnolia Cemetery and Makaria (meal of blessing).

December 9, 2018 Malachi 3:1-4, Canticle 16, Philippians 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6

THE FORERUNNER

Our gospel passage for today tells us that John, son of Zechariah, was in the wilderness when the word of God came to him calling him to begin his public ministry. Can you picture him at that time? I imagine him alone in a barren landscape, struggling with a quandary, wondering just what God had in mind for him. He knew all the stories about his unusual birth. (Lk.1:5-25, 57-80) What did they mean? Take time to read his birth story and consider what impact that had on his life. I suspect he had spent his life studying the scriptures, learning from the prophets, preparing himself for God's call. As he waited for the fullness of time, he could have gone to the wilderness near Qumran to see the Essenes for help in discerning his call. Finally it



came to him, revealed in the words of the prophet Isaiah (40:3-5).

We know the rest of the story, how "he went to all the region around the Jordan proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" and how his questions about God's will didn't

leave him, for example, he sent his disciples to ask Jesus "Are you the one. . . or are we to wait for another?" (Lk.7:19) John continued his prophetic ministry of "comforting the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable" until his death at the hand of Herod and his wife Herodias.

John is known as the Forerunner of Christ Jesus, preparing the world for his incarnation. We too are forerunners of Christ's second coming. What does that mean for us? I doubt that many of us are called into a wilderness to copy John's ministry, though some may be. I suspect, however, that we, each and all, are being called somehow into the dark wildernesses of our world to share the good news of God's everlasting love that we have experienced in our own lives. As St. Francis said, "use words if you must."



John the Baptist in the Wilderness (Geertgen tot Sint Jans (c. 1465 – c. 1495), also known as Geertgen van Haarlem)











INCONCERT

Sunday, December 16 Begins 4pm - Apalachicola



ALLIANCE BRASS QUINTET FROM CHICAGO

A VERY SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH 6TH STREET & AVENUE E (HWY 98) OPEN SEATING - NO RESERVATIONS DOORS OPEN AT 3:30 PM - DONATION \$10

MORE CONCERTS SCHEDULED FOR 2019

Jan 13, 2019 - Sammy Tedder Jan 27, 2019 - Leon Anderson Group Feb 10, 2019 - Piano & Violin (Brahms) Feb 24, 2019 - Classical Guitarist

Produced by Ilse Newell Fund for the Performing Arts Supported in part by Franklin County Tourist Development Council



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