The Dean's Corner
The Sacrament of the Ordinary

We seldom notice how each day is a holy place
Where the eucharist of the ordinary happens,
Transforming our broken fragments
Into an eternal continuity that keeps us.

– From *The Inner History of Day, by John O'Donahue*

When Jesus was born, something extraordinary happened in a place that was very, well *ordinary*. The world was transformed for all time, but it happened in a lowly setting and in a way that, truth be told, wasn’t all that exciting: a child was born to a poor family, far from the halls of power.

Read the dean's entire message here

This Sunday,
November 29

The First Sunday of Advent
Click here for this week’s scripture

10:00 a.m. Broadcast Service of Holy Eucharist
The Rev. Adrienne Koch preaching
The Very Rev. Bernard J. Owens celebrating

Share in the spiritual preparation for the coming birth of Jesus Christ during our broadcast worship service on the first Sunday of Advent. Eucharist will be celebrated at the high altar on this very special Sunday. The music will include selections by Bach and Vivaldi. Alto Kira McGirr will be accompanied by Todd Wilson who will play on both organ and piano.

Visit trinitycleveland.org or facebook.com/trinitycleve to participate in the service.

9:00 a.m. Virtual Coffee Hour
11:15 a.m. Sunday School via Zoom
12:00 p.m. The Day of the Lord BrownBag Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Youth Group

---

**Congregational Life**

---

**Virtual Coffee Hour**

Are you missing the faces of your Trinity friends? Join other Trinity members for Virtual Coffee Hour (via Zoom) every Sunday morning from 9:00 a.m.–9:50 a.m. Drop in anytime. Bring your coffee or tea and visit with old and new friends prior to the 10:00 a.m. worship webcast or outdoor service. Associate for Congregational Life Ginger Bitikofer and others will host the scheduled coffee hours. Get in touch with Ginger if you need the link or for any questions at gbitikofer@trinitycleveland.org, (216) 774-0407.

---

**Youth and Children's Ministry**

This week, Sunday school will meet via Zoom at 11:15 a.m. The link is
Youth group will meet from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Sunday evening. They have been focusing on scripture and also playing interactive games where each student can use their own electronic device. On Sunday, youth can Zoom in at https://zoom.us/j/94198206627 using the passcode 995886.

Youth and children will soon begin working on no-sew fleece and hats, scarves and masks to give to our A Place at the Table guests. We are requesting donations of fleece for this project. Fleece needs to be in 1-yard lengths for hats and masks and 2-yard lengths for scarves. Contact Shannon Smoot, ssmoot@trinitycleveland.org for details and to arrange donations. Here are some links to some online sources.

- Joann
- Amazon

---

**The Day of the Lord: A BrownBag Bible Study**

The Day of the Lord, the Rev. Adrienne Koch's examination of genres in scripture, including apocalyptic literature, concludes this Sunday.

The session will examine the last portion of Revelation, chapters 19-22.

The class takes place at 12:00 p.m. All are welcome and you don't need to have participated in previous discussions to join. You can register for the class using this Zoom link.

---

**Preparing for Advent**

The season of Advent begins Sunday, Nov. 29. Advent means 'coming' in
Latin. This is the coming of Jesus into the world. Episcopalians use the four Sundays and weeks of Advent to prepare and remember the real meaning of Christmas. Advent is a time of waiting and preparation for both the celebration of Christmas, and the return of Jesus in the second coming. In a way, Advent is to Christmas as Lent is to Easter: a penitential time in preparation for a great celebration.

Some of the symbols of Advent include the Advent wreath and the color purple (or blue) signifying royalty. You will see these colors reflected in the Advent wreath, the altar and chalice cloths as well as the vestments of the clergy.

---

**Advent Retreat**

On December 5 from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., the Rev. Dr. Lauren Winner will lead an Advent retreat via Zoom. The cost is $20, email akoch@trinitycathedral.org for scholarship opportunities.

What do you think of when you hear the word “saint?” Perfection? Sanctimonious? Martyr? What if we were to think of a saint as best understood not as someone who is perfect, but as someone who specializes in a particular, peculiar intimacy with God? During Advent, the church calendar is full of intriguing people we call saints. During our morning retreat, we'll keep company with some of them, exploring not only the stories of their lives, but also the spiritual postures they might invite us into this Advent. To register for the retreat, [follow this link](#).

Winner is an Episcopal priest, historian, author and lecturer. She is Associate Professor of Christian Spirituality at Duke Divinity School. She will preach at the Sunday, December 6 service and will be the guest of Dean Owens at the Trinity Forum next week, as well as joining us for a special 9:00 a.m. coffee-hour. Winner preached at Trinity in early March of this year and led a forum on
New Worship Schedule for 3rd & 4th Sunday of Advent

Beginning Sunday, December 13, Trinity will be trying out a new worship schedule that will move us towards a more regular, orderly Sunday schedule.

We’ll start the morning off with a Zoom worship service, the content of which has been guided by Trinity's young adults. This will answer the call from many members to have a service with more interaction.

Our schedule will look like this:

9:00 a.m. Zoom Interactive Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Education Hour (Sunday School, Youth Group, Trinity Forum, Bible study, Virtual Coffee Hour)
11:00 a.m. Broadcast Holy Eucharist Service

If you have questions and want to learn more about the new schedule, contact the Rev. Adrienne Koch at akoch@trinitycleveland.org.

Going Deeper

The Advent and Christmas seasons are full of images--Jesus, Mary, Joseph, the wise men, angels, shepherds, and more. Most of these familiar images are Eurocentric. For the next few weeks, our Going Deeper practices, poems, and Scriptures will invite us to see these familiar figures in new ways and broaden our awareness of the image of God in God's people.

Practice: Tyler Ballon is a New Jersey artist who paints Biblical characters as people of color. We invite you to read and enjoy this article about him and his work. https://thedigestonline.com/interviews/meet-tyler-ballon-the-local-artist

Video: Watch a video on Ballon's work:
Scripture: John 1:5 (NIV)
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Poem: As I Grow Older by Langston Hughes

Angel Tree Project 2020

Trinity will again participate in the Angel Tree Prison Ministry. This year, we will offer a “Virtual Angel Tree,” which has been developed by Prison Fellowship, as a no-contact method of serving children from our community who have an incarcerated parent. We will have 102 children assigned to us, as we had last year—our members can choose one or more children to sponsor. The cost of sponsoring one child is $22—each sponsored child will receive a $20 gift card to Wal-Mart, a holiday card from their incarcerated parent, and the opportunity to receive a children’s Bible. The sponsor will pay the $22 cost through our own special website, via credit card or bank account. Trinity's access code is V7PGZ. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Raymond, kayray419@roadrunner.com.

UTO Fall Ingathering

This year, the United Thank Offering (UTO) ingathering will be held Sunday,
November 29, although contributions will be accepted from now until mid-December. 100% of what is collected this year will be given away to support Episcopal/Anglican ministries directly responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn. You can give by visiting unitedthankoffering.com/give. Or, if you have a blue UTO box at home, tally up the contents and send a check to Trinity in that amount, with the memo "UTO."

The United Thank Offering is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings and make an offering for each blessing.

Thanks for Giving to Marion-Sterling Families

Thanks to everyone who contributed groceries, money or time, to support the Marion-Sterling Thanksgiving dinner drive. Together with St. Hubert’s Church in Kirtland Hills, we provided 116 bags to serve the neighborhood students families, exceeding our goal of 100. Generous financial contributions allowed us to give each family a larger Dave’s Market gift card this year, too.

Still Want an Advent Wreath Kit?

The Cathedral Life committee has a few extra Advent wreath kits available, for anyone who missed the sign-up window. A volunteer will deliver the kit to your front porch—contact Jan Kelemen jantkelemen@gmail.com.
As we enter the season of Advent this week, our featured Evensong service is from early Advent a year ago, on Wed., December 4, 2019. The Cathedral Choir sang this service, and the homilist was the Rev. Rosalind Hughes, Rector of the Church of the Epiphany in Euclid.

The Introit was the traditional “Advent Prose” (Drop down, ye heavens, from above), and the Responses were sung to the famous choral setting by William Smith (1603-1645). The canticles and anthem were composed by “in house” Trinity Cathedral composers. The Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis were sung to the “Trinity Hodie Service” setting by Dr. Judith Eckelmeyer, with Kira McGirr as alto soloist. This highly effective setting uses the musical motive of the “Hodie Christus natus est” plainsong used by Benjamin Britten to begin and end his Ceremony of Carols, Op. 28. The anthem is “A Song of the Wilderness” for choir, organ and French horn (played by superb French hornist Meghan Guegold). I was commissioned to write this work a few years ago as a tribute to the Rev. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell upon her retirement as head of the religion department at the Chautauqua Institution.

This comes with my best wishes for a safe, grateful and restful Thanksgiving.

Todd Wilson
Director of Music
The Episcopal Church Global Partnerships Office is presenting a new webinar series, *Showing Up for Each Other: Conversations with Episcopal Missionaries*, this November and December. Members of the Young Adult Service Corps (YASC) and Episcopal Volunteers in Mission (EVIM) will share stories and lessons they have learned through walking alongside partners across the worldwide Anglican Communion. Visit this link to learn more.

---

**In the Community**

**Greater Cleveland Congregations Celebrates Establishment of Crisis Diversion Center**

Cuyahoga County announced last week that it has contracted with the ADAHMS Board for Oriana House to operate and house a diversion center on Cleveland’s East Side. This offsite center, separate from any jail or prison facility, creates a pre-booking mental health and addiction crisis diversion center to prevent those with mental health and addiction issues from being incarcerated.

The creation of the crisis diversion center(s) has been a top priority over the past three years for Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC), of which Trinity is a supporting member. This culminated in a public action last February attended by Trinity members and over 1,000 GCC supporters, where key public officials pledged their support for such a facility.

To learn more visit News 5 Cleveland
Renewed Effort to End the Death Penalty in Ohio

Senate Bill 296, a bipartisan Ohio Senate Bill to abolish the death penalty in Ohio is scheduled for hearings with the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee. The legislation is co-sponsored by senators Nickie Antonio of Lakewood (D) and Peggy Lehner (R) of Kettering.

"It would be a compassionate, pragmatic and economically prudent step to abolish the death penalty." senator Antonio said in a Friday news conference. “It’s a punishment that’s shown to be administered with disparities across economic and racial lines and it’s failed as a deterrent to violent crime.”

Trinity's Episcopal Peace Fellowship recommends contacting your Ohio senator and the governor to urge their support of SB 296.

Submit Your News for Publication

The deadline to submit program updates or events for This Week @ Trinity, is the Tuesday before each Thursday publication date. Please send news to sblanchard@trinitycleveland.org

Deadline for items to be included in the January Cathedral Connections newsletter is Mon., December 14. You can read the current issue of Cathedral Connections online, please contact Scott Blanchard at sblanchard@trinitycleveland.org to receive a printed copy at home.

The mission of Trinity Cathedral is to proclaim in word and action God's justice, love and mercy for all creation.