



# THE TRINITY TRUMPET



TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
Longview, Texas

DECEMBER 2023  
TRINITYPARISH.ORG

Loving God and others, we invite, welcome and embrace all people through worship, fellowship, and service.



## *Advent and Christmas: Be Thyself our King of Peace*

**There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. (Isaiah 64:7-8)**

We hear these words on the First Sunday of Advent this year. As Vida Scudder (a devout laywoman recently added to our calendar of saints) notes, Advent reminds us to be “solemnly expectant of tremendous change.” Advent is a season when we wait not just for the birth of Jesus, but for his return to judge the living and the dead. Isaiah is reminding us of the various ways that we have turned away from God—and away from each other. Just look at our self-centered, idolatrous, and violent behavior.

But it is equally important to hear the announcement of Good News: “Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, and you are the potter. We are all the work of your hand.” For, in spite of our own inhumanity and injustice, we serve the living God, who is boundless in love for every last creature. On Christmas Eve at both 6 and 11 pm (and on Christmas Day at 10 am), we behold God’s love for lost and wandering humanity. For, in the flesh of this poor and homeless Child, we have been adopted as God’s children. And, by his grace, we are given strength to turn back to each other—and back to God.

This year, like many Christmases past and yet-to-come, we welcome the Prince of Peace in a world at war. As we hasten to Bethlehem to hail his birth, may we join our voices with the faithful in every generation:

**O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind.  
Bid thou our sad divisions cease, And be thyself our King of Peace.**

Peace on earth,

Fr. Bill+

### *The Longest Night - Mother Vivian Shelby*

December 21st is literally the longest night of 2023. More darkness than any other day. Sometimes our lives can feel like we are living in a never-ending night, without light, without hope, without resolution. It is times like these that we need God the most. During dark times I find it helpful to look back on the entirety of my life, not just now, and notice all the times God has been present and loving even when I couldn't see it. I remember feeling very discouraged and a woman at church asked me if I was okay. I explained my situation and she responded with joy. “God is doing something amazing with you,” she said and prayed for me. That odd moment was transformational for me. I now use these words when I don't understand what God is up to and it calms me.

**If you find yourself struggling, or know someone else who is, please consider joining us for The Longest Night Service on December 21st at 7:00 PM. We will have a Eucharistic service that honors those who are finding it hard to be joyful this Christmas season.**

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.” ~ John 1:5



## TRINITY CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Dr. Bill Carroll, Rector  
The Reverend Vivian Shelby, Associate Rector  
Cindy Verhalen, TST Head of School  
Rachel White, Youth and Family Minister  
Tim Baker, Parish Administrator  
Bill Bane, Director of Music Ministries  
Jeff Richardson, Communication & Connection Minister  
Leno Mancilla, Sexton  
Blake Scott, Endowment Board President

## VESTRY

Sallie Tullberg, Senior Warden  
Ava Welge, Junior Warden  
Bill Keese, Treasurer

### Class of 2023

Jan Barth, Shirley Griffin, Sallie Tullberg, Julia English

### Class of 2024

Alyce Sparks, Kathy Tate, Ben Bright, Ava Welge

### Class of 2025

Karen Frith, Christine Prior, Tovah Robertson, Gary Whitwell

## MISSION OF THE MONTH



### Family Promise of Longview

#### HOPE IN THE MIDST OF CRISIS

Poverty is a complex problem. Solving it requires solutions that integrate people and community resources. Family Promise connects people in need with people who want to help and turn compassion into action. Through partnerships with caring local church congregations and volunteers, they provide safe shelter, meals, training, and care to help families find gainful employment, become stable in a permanent home, and regain financial independence.

To learn more about Family Promise, please visit their website at [Familypromiseoflongview.com](http://Familypromiseoflongview.com)

### Pastoral Care Needs?

Please call Fr. Bill Carroll or Mother Vivian Shelby with any Pastoral Care needs. As well, please keep them informed of any pastoral issues that they may need to know about.

You can reach them at any time:

**Father Bill Cell - (903) 399-1190**

**Mother Vivian Cell - (832) 846-7072**

[frbill@trinityparish.org](mailto:frbill@trinityparish.org) / [mothervivian@trinityparish.org](mailto:mothervivian@trinityparish.org)

They will be glad to receive phone calls up to 10:00 PM for general issues and at any time for an emergency. Please use your discretion for items that can wait until normal business hours. But, please err on the side of calling or texting for any issues you feel need their urgent attention.



## FAITH

GATHERING WOMEN, KNOWING GOD, BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

**What:** *Now That Faith Has Come: The Book of Galatians*  
Video Study Series by Beth Moore and Melissa Moore

**When:** Every Thursday evening at 6:00 PM

**Where:** The Tower Room

**Who:** All women of Trinity. Please invite your friends as we have extra books and it is not too late to join.

**Call Elise Hill (903) 736-5176 or Vicky Bright (903) 738-6752**

*Come learn the Word of God and meet new people through fellowship and conversation*



### Children's Church

Children's Church meets during the 10:30 AM service and is led by our Youth and Family Minister, Rachel White. Children beyond nursery age are always welcome in the service and invited to sit with their parents in church. For more information about Children's Church, please contact Rachel White - [rwhite@trinityparish.org](mailto:rwhite@trinityparish.org)

**We have a fully staffed nursery available for infants - 3 years from 9:00 AM to Noon on Sundays. The nursery is located in the former Flanagan Room in the hallway behind the nave.**

TRINITY SCHOOL OF TEXAS

## LaPosada Service



Thursday, December 14th  
**6:00 PM**

# DECEMBER PARISH EVENTS

## Pine Tree High School Choir Concert

Monday, December 4th • 7:00 PM

### Visit by St. Nicholas

Sunday, December 10th during the 10:30 AM Service

### Service of Compline

Sunday, December 10th • 8:30 PM • Nave

### Daughters of the King

Monday, December 11th • 6:00 PM • Dinner at GZs

### Trinity School of Texas La Posada Service

Thursday, December 14th • 6:00 PM • Nave

### Children and Youth Christmas Crafts

Saturday, December 16th • 2:00 - 4:00 PM • Parish Hall

### Senior Mens' Dinner

Tuesday, December 19th • 6:00 PM • Parish Hall

### Longest Night Service

Thursday, December 21st • 7:00 PM • Nave

### Christmas Eve Services

10:00 AM Sunday Morning Service - Rite 2

6:00 PM Christmas Pageant - Pre-Service Music at 5:45 PM

11:00 PM Traditional Service - Pre-Service Music at 10:45 PM

## WEEKLY

### Lectionary Bible Study

Tuesday mornings at 7:00 AM • Silver Grizzly

### Spirituality Group

Tuesday afternoons at 2:00 PM • Guild Hall

### Wednesday Evening Dinner and Bible Study

6:00 PM • Parish Hall

# DECEMBER

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Lisa Yarbrough (12/1)

Jean Hill (12/1)

Robert Maly (12/02)

Aaron Collette (12/04)

Andrew Collette (12/04)

Mason Frith (12/07)

Bill Keese (12/09)

Debra McLemore (12/09)

Alice Sue Clark (12/11)

Dennis Smith (12/12)

Ella Stevens (12/12)

Ava Welge (12/15)

Dorothy Skeans (12/18)

Ethel Branch (12/19)

Sarah Rochford (12/20)

Dot Fricks (12/23)

Delfina Whitwell (12/23)

Jeff Richardson (12/26)

Bobbie Michaels (12/27)

Rebecca Houston (12/27)

Veronika Sloan (12/27)

Tovah Robertson (12/28)

Cherry Sikes (12/30)

Andrew Snell (12/31)

Charles and Dot Fricks (12/17)

Jeffrey and Mary Margaret Hart (12/19)

Jack and Ava Welge (12/23)

Tommy and Loretta Lloyd (12/26)

Steve and Lisa Baker (12/29)

The Service of *Compline*  
Sung by the Men's Compline Choir

December 10th • 8:30 PM  
Reception following in Guild Hall



*"No-Rehearsal"*  
*Christmas Pageant*

CHRISTMAS EVE 6:00 SERVICE  
TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Meet Children's Minister  
Rachel White at 5:30 in the  
Nave to participate

Children may come wearing their Christmas-Best, or dressed as any character they wish, even non-Biblical! We ask no toy weapons, or any item that may be used as a weapon.

We will also provide costumes as needed.

Visiting children are invited to participate as well!



**CHRISTMAS CRAFTS**

Children and Youth! Join us for an afternoon of holiday crafts and cookies in preparation for the Greening of the Church. Come to the Parish Hall on December 16th at 2-4 p.m. to make ornaments, decorate cookies, and learn some origami!

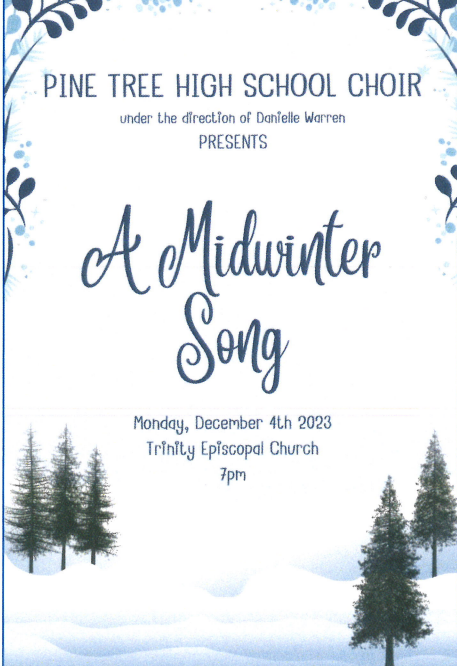


Please RSVP with Rachel White at  
rwhite@trinityparish.org by December 12th

PINE TREE HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR  
under the direction of Danielle Warren  
PRESENTS

*A Midwinter Song*

Monday, December 4th 2023  
Trinity Episcopal Church  
7pm



# Trinity Service Calendar December 2023 – Lectionary Year B

| Date                          | December 3<br>Advent 1 | December 10<br>Advent 2 | December 17<br>Advent 3 | December 24<br>Advent 4 for 10am<br><i>See below for<br/>Christmas Eve</i> | December 25<br>Christmas Day | December 31<br>1st Sunday after<br>Christmas |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b> | Isaiah 64:1-9          | Isaiah 40:1-11          | Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11     | 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  | Isaiah 52:7-10               | Isaiah 61:10-62:3                            |
| <b>Psalm</b>                  | 1 Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18  | Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13      | Psalm 126               | Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26  | Psalm 98                     | Psalm 147                                    |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</b> | 1 Corinthians 1:3-9    | 2 Peter 3:8-15a         | 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 | Romans 16:25-27  | Hebrews 1:1-12               | Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7                     |
| <b>Gospel</b>                 | Mark 13:24-37          | Mark 1:1-8              | John 1:6-8,19-28        | Luke 1:26-38   | John 1:1-14                  | John 1:1-18                                  |
| <b>Altar Team</b>             | Matteson               | Baker                   | Collins                 | Snell  |                              | Sticher                                      |
| <b>Coffee Hour</b>            | TBA                    | Cherry Sikes            | TBA                     | N/A  |                              |  |
| <b>Flower Delivery</b>        | Karen Frith            | Linda Leath             | Patsy and Bill Charles  | Nancy and Jim Sawyer   |                              | Dot and Charles Fricks                       |
| <b>8:00 AM Service</b>        |                        |                         |                         | <b>10:00 AM Service</b>  | <b>10:00 AM Service</b>      |  |
| <b>Verger</b>                 | Dinah Rushing          | Rusty Tucker            | Dinah Rushing           | Bill Keese   | Dinah Rushing                | Rusty Tucker                                 |
| <b>Ushers</b>                 | Charles Team           | Peters Teams            | Maly Team               | Bright Team  | N/A                          | Bright Team                                  |
| <b>L. E. M.</b>               | Gayland Rushing        | Mike Abernathy          | Gayland Rushing         | Jim Sawyer   | Gayland Rushing              | Jack Welge                                   |
| <b>10:30 AM Service</b>       |                        |                         |                         |  |                              |  |
| <b>Verger</b>                 | Bryan Wilks            | Linda Leath             | Linda Leath             |  |                              | Bill Keese                                   |
| <b>Ushers</b>                 | Gray/Pryor Team        | Kuna/McElligott Team    | Howard Team             |  |                              | Tate Team                                    |
| <b>Readers</b>                | Trevor English         | Tricha Wilcox           | Richard Joos            |  |                              | Richard Kuna                                 |
| <b>LEM</b>                    | John Sloan             | Jim Sawyer              | Jeff Hart               |  |                              | Alan Robertson                               |
| <b>Acolytes</b>               | Team 1                 | Team 2                  | Team 3                  |  |                              | Team 1                                       |

## December 24—Christmas Eve

**Scriptures:** Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-20

|               | <b>6:00 pm</b>             | <b>11:00 pm</b>                      |
|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Verger</b> | Linda Leath                | Rusty Tucker                         |
| <b>LEM</b>    | Jim Sawyer, Alan Robertson | Bill Charles                         |
| <b>Reader</b> | Ben Bright                 | Richard Kuna                         |
| <b>Reader</b> |                            | Tricha Wilcox                        |
| <b>Ushers</b> | Bright Team                | Patsy Charles, Robert and Micki Maly |

## HELP DECORATE OUR CHURCH FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Please place flowers in the church at Christmas

In memory of  
In honor of  
In thanksgiving for  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Circle one or more)



\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name of person (s) flowers are given for*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Given by: (Your name)*

I will contribute the following amount to the flower fund: \_\_\_\_\_

You may request flowers by completing this form and mail it to the church office or place it in the offering plate. We can also take flower requests at the church office in person or email Tim Baker at [tbaker@trinityparish.org](mailto:tbaker@trinityparish.org). The suggested donation is \$30 but no gift is too small or too large. The deadline for submission is **Monday, December 18th**. Your gift will glorify God and add to the beauty of our Christmas worship.



*May the peace and comfort of the Holy Christ Child  
bless you and keep you this Christmas season!*

## TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

906 Padon Street • Longview, TX 75601

Phone (903) 753-3366 • Fax (903) 753-0594

E-Mail: [trinity@trinityparish.org](mailto:trinity@trinityparish.org)

[www.trinityparish.org](http://www.trinityparish.org)

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## Schedule of Christmas Activities and Services



### VISIT BY ST. NICHOLAS

Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30 AM Service

### GREENING OF THE CHURCH

Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> following the 10:30 AM Service

### LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> Morning Service at 10:00 AM (No Children's Church)

6:00 PM Service with pre-service music at 5:45 PM

11:00 PM Service with pre-service music at 10:45 PM

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Morning Service at 10:00 AM (No Children's Church)

