# Trinity Episcopal Church

*Cranford, in the Diocese of New Jersey*



*The Wise and Foolish Virgins — Charles Haslewood Shannon*

## *The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

Rite I Holy Eucharist

November 8, 2026 at 8 AM — Proper 27

*The Reverend Andrew David Kruger, Rector*

*The Reverend Jack Zamboni, Presider & Preacher*

*Anthony Rafaniello, Director of Music*

*Casey Woodruff, Senior Warden & Kathleen M. Murray, Junior Warden*

## Welcome

Thomas Kaercher

*The bell is rung and the People stand.*

## Acclamation

BCP 323

*Presider* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

## Collect for Purity

BCP 323

*Presider* Let us pray.

*People* **Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love thee,
and worthily magnify thy holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Great Commandment

BCP 324

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

## *Kyrie*

BCP 324

*Presider* Kyrie eleison.
*People* **Christe eleison.**
*Presider* Kyrie eleison.

## Collect of the Day

BCP 184

*Presider* The Lord be with you.
*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son was manifested
that he might destroy the works of the devil
and make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
Grant us, we beseech thee, that, having this hope,
we may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that, when he shall appear again with power and great glory,
we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost,
he liveth and reigneth ever, one God, world without end.
**Amen.**

*The People sit.*

## First Reading

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

*Reader* A reading from the Book of Joshua.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: 'Long ago your ancestors — Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor — lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.' Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.” But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the Lord!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 78:1-7** *Attendite, populе* BCP 694

1. Hear my teaching, O my people; *
**incline your ears to the words of my mouth.**

2. I will open my mouth in a parable; *
**I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.**

3. That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
**we will not hide from their children.**

4. We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
**and the wonderful works he has done.**

5. He gave his decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel, *
**which he commanded them to teach their children;**

6. That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
**that they in their turn might tell it to their children;**

7. So that they might put their trust in God, *
**and not forget the deeds of God, but keep his commandments.**

## Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

*Reader* A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The People stand.*

## Gospel

Matthew 25:1-13

*Presider* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew.
*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'

Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.
*People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

**Homily** Jack Zamboni

**Nicene Creed** BCP 326

*The People stand.*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,**
**maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,**
**eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,**
**Light from Light, true God from true God,**
**begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**
**Through him all things were made.**
**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:**
**by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate**
**from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**
**he suffered death and was buried.**
**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;**
**he ascended into heaven**
**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**
**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**
**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**
**who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**
**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**
**He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**
**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**
**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**
**and the life of the world to come.**
**Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

BCP 328

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all humanity: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, Sally our Bishop, and Andrew our Rector, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially Donald, our President, Rebecca Michelle, our governor, and Kathleen, the mayor of this town, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear *[especially…]*, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

## Confession of Sin

BCP 331

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*The People kneel.*

**Most merciful God,**
**we confess that we have sinned against thee**
**in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,**
**and by what we have left undone.**
**We have not loved thee with our whole heart;**
**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**
**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**
**For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,**
**have mercy on us and forgive us;**
**that we may delight in thy will,**
**and walk in thy ways,**
**to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

## Absolution

BCP 332

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Comfortable Words** BCP 332

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden,
and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son,
to the end that all that believe in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

If any one sin, we have an Advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins,
and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2*

**Peace** BCP 332

*The People stand.*

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.
*People* **And with thy spirit.**

**Announcements** Thomas Kaercher

**Offertory Sentence** BCP 344

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and make good thy vows unto the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

*The Ushers pass the collection plates among the People.*
*Alternatively, you may give to Trinity online:*
*scan the QR code and go directly to our Breeze link.*

**The Presentation of Gifts** 1 Chronicles 29:14b

*Presider* All things come of thee, O Lord:
*People* **And of thine own have we given thee.**

**Eucharistic Prayer II** BCP 340

*Presider* The Lord be with you.
*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.
*People* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
*People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God; who, in the multitude of thy saints, hast compassed us about with so great a cloud of witnesses, that we, rejoicing in their fellowship, may run with patience the race that is set before us; and, together with them, may receive the crown of glory that fadeth not away.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:**
**Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**
**Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**
**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**
**Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption.

He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread;
and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat, this is my Body,
which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup;
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,
“Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant,
which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins.
Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

**Lord’s Prayer** BCP 336

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, 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.**
**And lead us not into temptation,**
**but deliver us from evil.**
**For thine is the kingdom,**
**and the power, and the glory,**
**for ever and ever.**
**Amen.**

## Breaking the Bread

BCP 337

*The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is observed, then the Presider says*

*Presider* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

## Prayer of Humble Access

BCP 337

*The Presider and People say*

**We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

## Invitation

BCP 338

*Presider* The Gifts of God:
*People* **For the People of God.**

## Holy Communion

*The ushers guide the people to receive Holy Communion. All who hunger for God, including children, are cordially invited to share the Gifts of God offered at this table. Whoever you are, wherever you are in your life's journey, you are welcome here. All persons may, but no person must, receive communion in both kinds to receive the full spiritual benefits of communion. Wine is offered by way of a sip from the common cup. You may choose to receive only the host. Gluten-free wafers are available by simple request to the priest.*

## Post Communion Prayer

Traditional

*Presider* Let us pray.

*The People stand, and all pray together*

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee,**
**For that thou hast fed us with this holy sacrament,**
**to knit us in one with Christ our Savior,**
**and to grant us a foretaste of that Heavenly Banquet**
**which thou hast prepared for all peoples. Amen.**

## Blessing

BCP 339

*The Presider pronounces the blessing*

And now may the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*The ministers recess.*

## Dismissal

BCP 340

*Presider* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Copyright Acknowledgments


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## For Friends, Visitors and Newcomers

Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church in Cranford, New Jersey. Thank you for joining us in worship. The bulletin is designed to make you feel at home and includes everything you need for the service (liturgy, hymns, rubrics, etc.). Please connect with us; introduce yourself to the ushers so they can make you feel more comfortable. Father Andy is in the narthex (entrance) at the end of the service; it is an opportunity to connect on a more personal level. All are invited to Fellowship Hour in Sherlock Hall immediately after the service.

An email blast is sent every Thursday by 2 PM with hyperlinks to sign-up sheets, methods to contribute to the parish or other charitable organizations, ways to contact individuals or receive information on events, etc. Please contact the parish office to receive it or alternative methods of communication.

## What you need to know today…

**Rector in South Africa** Fr Andy is in South Africa to officiate his nephew's wedding, he will be away through Saturday, November 14.

**The Rev. Jack Zamboni is our Sunday supply priest** while Fr. Andy is away. He first came to Trinity as a seminarian in 1981, remains grateful that it became his sponsoring parish for ordination, and enjoyed being the regular supply priest during Fr. Andy's sabbatical. Fr. Jack served as a priest in the Diocese of New Jersey for over 40 years, most recently as Rector of St. Francis, Dunellen and continues to serve on the Diocesan Reparations Commission.

**Stewardship** For those who have not yet returned pledge cards, they are available in the narthex.

**Fellowship Hour** In Sherlock Hall, immediately after this service; coffee, tea and snacks are provided.

**Children's Choir** Today from 11:30 AM to 12 noon in the church.

**Collection for Two Thanksgiving Baskets** Outreach is collecting items for Cranford Family Care; there is a link in the email blast for items needed. Please note, there is no need for turkeys; another company is supplying them. Please bring in items by Sunday, November 22. Also, as. as a result of the collection for "Disaster Relief" in September and October, a check for $1200 will be sent to Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD).

**Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Candle** Both are individually available for personal attribution, to remember loved ones, to honor others, to celebrate lives. Anyone can make a request; there is no fee. Email the office by 4 PM Wednesday each week; multiple attributions are allowed. Altar flowers cost the parish $75 per week, and are a line item in the church budget. Donations towards that are gratefully appreciated and may be made anonymously via the collection plate or through the office.

## What you need to know this week…

**The Daily Offices** Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer are offered online from Monday-Friday at 8:30 AM and 5 PM. Add and update prayer requests via the link in the email blast. The list is prayed twice a day at Morning and Evening Prayer.

**Parish Office Hours** Office Manager Marion Nechuta is available from Tuesday to Thursday from 12 noon to 3:30 PM.

**Trinity Women's Group** This Monday, November 9 from 7 PM to 8 PM online.

**Handbell Choir Rehearsals** This Wednesday, November 11 from 7 PM to 7:50 PM in the church.

**Trinity Adult Choir** This Wednesday, November 11 from 8 PM to 9 PM in the church.

**Compline** Thursdays at 8 PM online. A contemplative Office that emphasizes spiritual peace.

**Knitting Circle** This Saturday, November 14 from 10 AM to 11 AM in Sherlock Hall.

**Handbell Workshop** Saturday, November 14, 10 AM to 1 PM in the church, led by handbell expert Kathy Ebling Shaw.

## What you need to know in the future…

**Acolyte & Thurifer Training** Next Sunday, November 15 immediately after the 10 AM Eucharist for all current and aspirant acolytes.

**Fellowship Luncheon** Thursday, November 19, 12:30-2 PM in Witherington Hall. The Thanksgiving Feast is chicken pot pie and sides; instead of a speaker, everyone is given a chance to say a few words about what they're thankful for this year. It's a very special time.

**Christmas Pageant** Rehearsals begin on Sunday, November 22; children will receive the blessing as usual during the 10 AM service, and then move to Sherlock Hall. All participants need to be signed up, via the QR code, before Sunday, November 22.

**TESY Faith, Food & Loft** Sunday, November 22, 5 PM to 7 PM in Sherlock Hall with dinner. Join Trinity Episcopal Senior Youth for a gathering where TESY members will engage in faithful reflection and discussion of upcoming renovations to the loft. Please email Katie Annarelli (Kathleen.m.annarelli@outlook.com) or Casey Woodruff (woodruff5073@gmail.com) for any teen attending.

**Cranford Community Thanksgiving Service** Monday, November 23 at 7 PM, Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim, 338 Walnut Av, Cranford.

**St Mark's Gospel** Saturday, November 28, 10 AM to 12:30 PM in Witherington Hall. The Gospel will be read from cover to cover.

**Youth Representative on Trinity's Vestry** High school students who are in their sophomore or junior year should apply to be appointed to represent the youth of Trinity, The link to the application is in this week's email blast; complete it by Sunday, November 29.

Website: TrinityCranford.org
Instagram: @trinity_cranford_1872
Facebook: Trinity Episcopal Church, Cranford
Connect to Online Services and Meetings: us04web.zoom.us/j/595488321
Meeting ID: *595 488 3214*
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