

Trinity Episcopal Church

Granford, in the Diocese of New Jersey



“Alleluia, Second Coming” — Walter Rane

The First Sunday of Advent

Rite I Holy Eucharist

November 30, 2025 at 8 AM

The Reverend Andrew David Kruger, Rector & Presider

Anthony Rafaniello, Director of Music

Casey Woodruff, Senior Warden & Thomas Kaercher, Junior Warden

*The Sanctuary Candle and the Altar Greens are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Andy Paley and Cabot Barber*

Welcome

Andrew Kruger

The bell is rung and the People stand.

Acclamation

BCP 323

Presider Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins;
People **God's mercy endureth for ever.**

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.**

Lighting the Advent Candle

The Eucharistic Minister says

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of the Christian liturgical year. We celebrate the beginning of another year by looking to the end of time when the culmination of history will point to the authority of Jesus. We light this candle to remind ourselves of the growing light of the dawn of the Kingdom of God.

The first Advent Candle is lit.

Kyrie

BCP 324

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

Collect of the Day

BCP 159

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away
the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light,
now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ
came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge both the quick and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The People sit.

First Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

Reader A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

1. I was glad when they said to me, *
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”
2. Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
3. Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;
4. To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, *
the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the Lord.
5. For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.
6. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
“May they prosper who love you.
7. Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.
8. For my brethren and companions’ sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.
9. Because of the house of the Lord our God, *
I will seek to do you good.”

Second Reading

Romans 13:11-14

Reader A reading from St Paul’s Letter to the Romans.

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand.

Gospel

Matthew 24:36-44

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Homily

Andrew Kruger

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 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, Philip, our governor, and Terrence, 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 330

The Presider says

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins,
and are in love and charity with your neighbors,
and intend to lead a new life,
following the commandments of God,
and walking from henceforth in his holy ways:
Draw near with faith,
and make your humble confession to Almighty God,
devoutly kneeling.

The People kneel.

**Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins
and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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*

Peace

BCP 332

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

Announcements

Andrew Kruger

Offertory Sentence

Romans 13:11

The hour has come for you to wake from sleep.
For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.



*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, through Jesus Christ our Lord; because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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 O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
People **have mercy upon us.**

Presider O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
People **have mercy upon us.**

Presider O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
People **grant us thy peace.**

Prayer of Humble Access

BCP 337

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

BCP 339

Presider Let us pray.

People **O Lord Jesus Christ, who in a wonderful Sacrament
hast left unto us a memorial of thy passion:
Grant us, we beseech thee, so to venerate the sacred mysteries
of thy Body and Blood,
that we may ever perceive within ourselves
the fruit of thy redemption;
who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. 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.**



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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. Every Thursday by 2 PM, an email blast is sent 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.

Banns of Marriage

The Banns of Marriage are published between Tiffany Tangorra and Justin Bain. You are required to give your consent to their marriage; if you cannot, you are to speak now or else for ever hereafter hold your peace. The wedding date is Saturday, December 13, 2025 in Hampton, New Jersey. This is the second time of asking.

What you need to know today...

Year A Today is the start of the Season of Advent and the beginning of the new liturgical year.

Children's Choir Rehearsal today at 11:30 AM in the church.

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



Christmas Flowers As part of the preparation for celebrating the Nativity of Our Lord, please contribute towards this year's flowers. The deadline is Sunday, December 14. Envelopes marked for this purpose are in the narthex of the church. Alternatively, give to Trinity online and write 'Christmas Flowers' in the memo line. All remembrances must be logged online by completing the form which can be accessed via the QR code. Loved one's names will be on the Christmas bulletins and will be prayed for at Morning Prayer during the season of Christmas.

Sacrament of Baptism Sunday, January 11 on the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. Candidates will be enrolled on Sunday, December 14 at the 10 AM service; parents are required to attend preparation class on Saturday, December 6 from 10 AM to noon. Application forms, available from the parish office, are due by today.

Disaster Relief in Jamaica Outreach is collecting until today. Money will be given to Episcopal Relief and Development. There will be a basket at coffee hour. Checks should be made out to "Trinity Church" with "disaster relief" in the memo line so funds can be directed properly.

Christmas Wreaths and Grave Blankets For the next weeks before Christmas, Cranford Troop 80 Boy Scouts from Trinity will be selling after each service during coffee hour. Wreaths will be delivered to the church the following

Sunday, and special arrangements can be made for deliveries. Funds raised help support Troop activities, service projects, and summer camps.

Trinity Nominating Committee is in the process of identifying individuals interested in serving the parish in the following roles: Junior Warden, Vestry Member (3), Delegates to Diocesan Convention, and Delegates to Northern Convocation. To learn more about these positions, please contact Casey Woodruff (Senior Warden and Chair of this year's Nominating Committee).

Youth Representative Applications are being accepted for this appointed position on the Trinity Vestry. Open to high school students in their sophomore or junior year to represent the youth of the parish. See email blast to apply by Sunday, December 14.

Cranford HS Madrigal Choir Holiday CD Today through Christmas Eve, the session recorded at Trinity in December 2024 will be on sale. See Anthony Rafaniello after the 8 AM or 10 AM services to purchase. Each CD is \$25; cash, check made out to "Cranford High School" or Venmo (@CranfordChoir). Proceeds support the Cranford HS Choir Program.

What you need to know this week...

The Daily Offices Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer are offered online from Monday to Friday at 8:30 AM and 5 PM.

Parish Office Parish Administrator Marion Nechuta is in Tuesday (12 noon-2:30 PM), Wednesday (1 PM-3:30 PM) and Thursday (12 noon-2:30 PM). Father Andy's sabbath day is Friday.

Scholastic Pajama Program TEDS is once again participating in this program where for every pair of pajamas donated, Scholastic Books will donate a book to go with them. They will be donated to families in need right here in Union County. Needed: Brand new pajamas (all sizes from newborn to adult) must be complete sets – a top and bottom. All donations may be dropped off at the school or see Nancy Ditzel with your donations. The final day for donations is tomorrow Monday, December 1.

Handbells and Choir Rehearsals This Wednesday, December 3; rehearsal for Handbells is 7 to 7:50 PM and Adult Choir is 8-9 PM.

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

Trinity Men's Group Saturday, December 6 from 8 AM to 9 AM in Witherington Hall.

What you need to know in the future...

Christmas Pageant Rehearsals Children will receive the blessing as usual during the 10 AM service, and then move to Sherlock Hall.

Victor Herbert Weiss, R.I.P. (June 29, 1943 - Nov 24, 2025) Monday, December 1 at 10 AM, interment at Greengrove Cemetery, Keyport. NJ.

Taizé Service Sunday, December 7 at 7:30 PM in the church. Set up takes place after the 10 AM Eucharist at 11:30, Sunday, December 7, and take down takes place at 11 AM, Monday, December 8. Please email Fr Andy to assist with set up and take down.

Confirmation Class Sunday, December 7 from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM; the class will join the Taizé service at 7:30 PM.

Trinity Women's Group Monday, December 8 from 7 to 8 PM online.

Santa/Polar Express Event Saturday, December 13 in Sherlock Hall. All are invited; see email blast for details. This is a fundraiser for the Moscoso Foundation.

Christmas Cookie Fellowship Hour Sunday, December 14 after both services. Please bring in a few dozen of your favorite treats. Due to allergy concerns, please list the ingredients, especially if it contains NUTS. Recipes are also welcome. A sign-up list is accessible via the weekly email blast. Contact Cynthia Kolby (908-451-4370) or Carol Beier (cbeier@gordonherlands.com) for more information.

Ministry for the Imprisoned For children who have a parent who is incarcerated, the holidays are a particularly difficult time. Trinity's ministry is looking for donations of new gifts for children aged birth to 17 years old. Gifts should be unwrapped and not in gift bags. \$25 gift cards to Target or Walmart are good gift ideas for older children. Please contact Senior Warden Casey Woodruff (908-868-4915 or woodruff5073@gmail.com) to arrange donations. Collection ends Sunday, December 7.

Sanctuary Candle During Advent, while there are no flowers on the altar, we can still remember our loved ones and the attributions on the front cover will read as follows: "The Sanctuary Candle is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of _____."



Website: TrinityCranford.org

Instagram: [@trinity_cranford_1872](https://www.instagram.com/trinity_cranford_1872)

Facebook: Trinity Episcopal Church, Cranford

Connect to Online Services and Meetings: us04web.zoom.us/j/595488321

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