



TRINITY

EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL
A house of prayer for all people

The Eve of the Presentation
February 1, 2026, 4 p.m.

Welcome: *Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time member, we are honored to worship with you today. If you are searching for a church home, we would love to tell you more about this congregation and to learn more about you. Fill out a visitor card found in the back of the pew in front of you, drop it in the offering plate, and we'll be in conversation with you this week. Above all, please know that this is your Cathedral, and all are welcome.*

Choral Evensong is a service of readings from the Bible and prayers for the evening, almost entirely led by the Trinity Choir on behalf of the congregation. A very brief service of Holy Communion is celebrated afterwards for those who wish to receive the Bread and Wine.

CHORAL EVENSONG WITH HOLY EUCHARIST

THE PRELUDE

ORGELBÜCHLEIN CHORALE PRELUDES FOR CANDLEMAS

Johann Sebastian Bach

MIT FRIED' UND FREUD' ICH FAHR' DAHIN, BWV 616

HERR GOTT, NUN SCHLEUSS DEN HIMMEL AUF, BWV 617

All stand.

OPENING SENTENCES FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

BCP 61

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Officiant says to the people

Dear friends in Christ, here in the presence of Almighty God, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, so that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling or standing

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

The Officiant alone stands and says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

All stand.

PRECES *Sung by the Officiant and the choir*

John Barnard

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.*

Praise ye the Lord.

All sit.

PSALM 113 *Laudate, pueri*

John Barnard

Praise the LORD, ye servants * O praise the Name of the LORD.

*Blessed be the Name of the LORD * from this time forth for evermore.*

*The LORD's Name is praised * from the rising up of the sun unto the going down of the same.*

*The LORD is high above all heathen * and his glory above the heavens.*

*Who is like unto the LORD our God, that hath his dwelling so high *
and yet humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven and earth?*

*He taketh up the simple out of the dust * and lifteth the poor out of the mire;*

*That he may set him with the princes * even with the princes of his people.*

*He maketh the barren woman to keep house * and to be a joyful mother of children.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

PSALM 122 *Laetatus sum*

Ivor Atkins

I was glad when they said unto me * We will go into the house of the LORD.
*Our feet shall stand in thy gates * O Jerusalem.*

*Jerusalem is built as a city * that is at unity in itself.*

*For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the LORD *
to testify unto Israel, to give thanks unto the Name of the LORD.*

*For there is the seat of judgement * even the seat of the house of David.*

*O pray for the peace of Jerusalem * they shall prosper that love thee.*

*Peace be within thy walls * and plenteousness within thy palaces.*

*For my brethren and companions' sakes * I will wish thee prosperity.*

*Yea, because of the house of the LORD our God * I will seek to do thee good.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON

I SAMUEL I:20-28

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, ‘I have asked him of the LORD.’

The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, ‘As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the LORD, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.’ Her husband Elkanah said to her, ‘Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the LORD establish his word.’ So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, ‘Oh, my LORD! As you live, my LORD, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. For this child I prayed; and the LORD has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is given to the LORD.’

She left him there for the LORD.

All stand.

HYMN 257

O ZION, OPEN WIDE THY GATES

Edmonton

All sit.

*Soloists: Paige Cullins, Anna Squire, Carolina Kipnis, Stephanie Smittle,
John Willis, Tomas Baxter, Alan Rackley, & Josiah Wheeler*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE SECOND LESSON

LUKE 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.’

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.’

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, ‘This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow

to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

NUNC DIMITTIS: THE SECOND SERVICE *sung by the choir*

Orlando Gibbons

Soloists: Paige Cullins, Anna Squire, Carolina Kipnis, Tomas Baxter

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people, To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED *intoned by the Officiant, sung by all, standing*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

All stand or kneel.

The following are sung by the Officiant and the choir.

SALUTATION

William Smith

Officiant The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

Choir Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Choir *Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.*

SUFFRAGES AND COLLECTS

William Smith

Officiant *O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.*
Choir *And grant us thy salvation.*
Officiant *O Lord, save the State.*
Choir *And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.*
Officiant *Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.*
Choir *And make thy chosen people joyful.*
Officiant *O Lord, save thy people.*
Choir *And bless thine inheritance.*
Officiant *Give peace in our time, O Lord.*
Choir *Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.*
Officiant *O God, make clean our hearts within us.*
Choir *And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.*

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly beseech thee that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

A Collect for Aid against Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

All sit.

*When to the temple Mary went,
And brought the Holy Child,
Him did the aged Simeon see,
As it had been revealed.
He took up Jesus in his arms
And blessing God he said:
In peace I now depart, my Saviour having seen,
The Hope of Israel, the Light of men.*

*Help now thy servants, gracious Lord,
That we may ever be
As once the faithful Simeon was,
Rejoicing but in Thee;
And when we must from earth departure take,
May gently fall aslepp and with Thee wake.*

Text: Maria wallt zum Heiligtum (translated by John Troutbeck)

All stand.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

BCP 71

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING SENTENCES FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

BCP 72

HYMN 259

HAIL TO THE LORD WHO COMES

Old 120th

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

PRELUDE IN D MAJOR, BWV 532.1

Johann Sebastian Bach

For those who wish to receive the Bread and Wine of Holy Communion, come up to the choir pews as you are able during the Offertory.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant 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...

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

THE SANCTUS

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 stand or kneel.

Celebrant 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...

...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.**

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

People and Celebrant

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People **have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People **have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People **grant us thy peace.**

Celebrant and People

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.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

To receive the Bread and Wine of Holy Communion, please come forward and kneel or stand at the Altar rail. Gluten-free Bread is available upon request. If you prefer not to drink the Wine, please know that receiving only Bread is a "full Communion." If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of the Bread and Wine, come forward to the rail and cross your arms over your chest. If, for whatever reason, you prefer to receive the Bread and Wine in your pew, let your usher know.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May the Holy Ghost, by whose presence Mary became the God-bearer, give you grace to carry the good news of Christ, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PARTICIPATING THIS EVENING

Officiant The Rev. Thomas Alexander, *Curate*

Assisting The Very Rev. Andrea McMillin, *Dean and Rector*

Lector Jean Harper

Music Dr. Colin MacKnight, *Director of Music*

Katie Gunn, *Associate Director of Music*

Trinity Cathedral Choir

Notes on the notes: Today we observe the Eve of the Presentation. The Presentation goes by many names, including the Presentation, Candlemas, and Purification of Mary. It is a special feast because the occasion that it commemorates is also the source of the Nunc dimittis or Song of Simeon, which the choir sings at every single evensong. Today's organ prelude consists of Bach's Candlemas chorale preludes, and the anthem is Eccard's *When to the temple Mary went*, the quintessential Candlemas anthem.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Candlemas Eucharist

St. Luke's, North Little Rock

February 2 at 7 p.m.

Cancelled due to winter conditions

Mardi Gras!

Tuesday, February 17, 5:30 - 7 pm;

Burning of the Palms at 6:45 pm

Trinity Gym (entrance off of Spring St)

Join ECEP & Trinity at our annual Mardi Gras celebration in the gym! We'll have a gumbo cookoff, music & dancing, cotton candy, pancakes, king cake, and beads galore! Donations welcomed at the door.

Ash Wednesday

Join us on Ash Wednesday as we begin another holy Lent at Trinity.

7:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes (Cathedral)

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer (Chapel)

12 p.m. – Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes and Hymns (Cathedral)

5:30 p.m. – Community Dinner (Morrison Hall)

6 p.m. – Koinonia Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes (Cathedral)

7 p.m. – Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes, Choir, and Incense (Cathedral)

"Ashes-to-go" during ECEP pick-up and drop-off times, from

7:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. on both Center Street and Spring Street, and from 4:30 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. on Center Street.

The Rite of Reconciliation

Those who wish to make a private confession are welcome to do so at any time in the Episcopal Church. The season of Lent is a good opportunity for newcomers to try out this practice. To make an appointment, please contact the Very Rev. Andrea McMillin (andrea@trinitylittlerock.org), the Rev. Thomas Alexander (thomas@trinitylittlerock.org), the Rev. Peggy Cromwell (cromwellpeggy@gmail.com).

Sundays in Lent: Claiming Our Faith

9:15 a.m. in Morrison Hall

Breakfast will be served

Through the Sunday in Lent, the Sunday School classes for all ages will focus on the five components of our Rule of Life here at Trinity: worshiping, praying, learning, serving, and giving. Here is the schedule for the adult Sunday School class:

February 22 – "Worship" with the Rev. Thomas Alexander

March 1 – "Prayer" with Br. Jack Crowley and Br. Lain Wilson, SSJE

March 8 – "Learn" with the Rev. Thomas Alexander

March 15 – "Serve" with an intergenerational service event by Matthew 25

March 22 – "Give" with the Very Rev. Andrea McMillin

Wednesdays in Lent

At Trinity, every Wednesday in Lent will be full of opportunities to go deeper into a life with God. Every Wednesday follows the same schedule, including Community Dinner and Koinonia Eucharist each week.

11:00 a.m. – Bible Study: The Psalms as Prayer

12:15 p.m. – Organ Recital

During Lent, the weekly lunchtime organ recitals will feature masterpieces which reflect the beauty and seriousness of Lent. There exists a rich repertoire of profound music appropriate to the season, so this group of recitals offers a moment to pause, listen, and reflect.

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. – Community Dinner

5:30 p.m. – Healing Eucharist

6:00 p.m. – Koinonia Eucharist

6:30 p.m. – Book Club: Gary Anderson's *Sin: A History*

7:30 p.m. – Choral Compline

The Trinity Schola will sing choral Complines every Wednesday in Lent. Compline, sometimes referred to as "Night Prayer," takes its name from the Latin word "completorium," meaning "complete." As the name suggests, it is a short service of tranquil reflection at the end of the day. Traditionally, this service eschews musical instruments, so the music comes only from a cappella singers.

The Catechumenate

*Sundays in Lent and Easter, 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm
beginning Sunday, February 22*

Lounge in Keller House

Are you interested in deepening your life of faith as a Christian? Or are you interested in revisiting the foundations of the Christian life? The “Catechumenate” (an ancient Greek word for “instruction”) is an annual, several-week-long class by which adults who desire a deeper life in Christ prepare for **Holy Baptism** (full initiation into the Church), **Confirmation** (for those who are baptized), **Reaffirmation** (for those who are baptized and confirmed but desire to reaffirm their faith), or **Reception** (for those who were baptized in another denomination of the Church but desire to be received into the Episcopal Church). Led by Father Thomas, this small group gathers weekly through Lent and Easter to share an evening meal and to study the Christian faith. The Catechumenate begins on Sunday, February 22 and the Cathedral will celebrate Holy Baptism, Confirmation, Reaffirmation, and Reception when Bishop Harmon visits on Sunday, May 10. To learn more or to sign up, contact the Rev. Thomas Alexander (thomas@trinitylittlerock.org).

Daytime Bible Study: The Psalms as Prayer

Wednesdays in Lent, 11 a.m. (beginning February 25)

Baker Parlor in Keller House

The Psalms are often described as the Prayer Book of the Bible. But how might we use the Psalms for our own prayer life? Join Father Thomas for this weekday, daytime Bible study during the Lenten season to develop prayer practices using the Psalms. Participants are more than welcome to bring their lunch with them. To learn more, contact the Rev. Thomas Alexander (thomas@trinitylittlerock.org).

Book Club: *Sin: A History* by Gary Anderson

Wednesdays in Lent, 6:30 p.m. (beginning February 25)

Conference Room in Keller House

What is sin? Spanning nearly two thousand years, the book brilliantly demonstrates how sin as a concept has evolved over history. This will be a wonderful class for the Lenten season. To sign up, contact the Rev. Thomas Alexander (thomas@trinitylittlerock.org).

Lenten Quiet Day led by Brothers from the Society of Saint John the Evangelist

Saturday, February 28, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Pierce Chapel

This Lent, Trinity Cathedral will host two members of the Society of Saint John the Evangelist, an Episcopal monastic community in Cambridge, MA. As a part of their residence with us, Brother Jack Crowley and Brother Lain Wilson will lead a quiet day on the morning of Saturday, February 28, beginning with Morning Prayer in Pierce Chapel and ending with Holy Communion. All are welcome. To sign up, email the Rev. Thomas Alexander (thomas@trinitylittlerock.org).