



TRINITY

EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL
A house of prayer for all people

The First Sunday in Lent
February 22, 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

ES SPRICHT DER UNWEISEN MUND WOHL, BUXWV 187

Dieterich Buxtehude

("The mouths of fools doth God confess")

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*

Kenneth Leighton

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.

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

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

Officiant Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's name be praised.

All sit.

PSALM 103 *Benedic, anima mea*

Plainsong (Tone V.3)

Praise the LORD, O my soul *
and all that is within me praise his holy Name.

*Praise the LORD, O my soul * and forget not all his benefits;*

*Who forgiveth all thy sin * and healeth all thine infirmities;*

*Who saveth thy life from destruction * and crowneth thee with mercy and loving-kindness;*

*Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things * making thee young and lusty as an eagle.*

*The LORD executeth righteousness and judgement * for all them that are oppressed with wrong.*

*He shewed his ways unto Moses * his works unto the children of Israel.*

*The LORD is full of compassion and mercy * long-suffering, and of great goodness.*

*He will not always be chiding * neither keepeth he his anger for ever.*

*He hath not dealt with us after our sins * nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses.*

*For look how high the heaven is in comparison of the earth *
so great is his mercy also toward them that fear him.*

*Look how wide also the east is from the west * so far hath he set our sins from us.*

*Yea, like as a father pitieth his own children * even so is the LORD merciful unto them that fear him.*

*For he knoweth whereof we are made * he remembereth that we are but dust.*

*The days of man are but as grass * for he flourisheth as a flower of the field.*

*For as soon as the wind goeth over it, it is gone * and the place thereof shall know it no more.*

*But the merciful goodness of the LORD endureth for ever and ever upon them that fear him * and his righteousness upon children's children;*

*Even upon such as keep his covenant * and think upon his commandments to do them.*

*The LORD hath prepared his seat in heaven * and his kingdom ruleth over all.*

*O praise the LORD, ye angels of his, ye that excel in strength *
ye that fulfil his commandment, and hearken unto the voice of his words.*

*O praise the LORD, all ye his hosts * ye servants of his that do his pleasure.*

*O speak good of the LORD, all ye works of his, in all places of his dominion *
praise thou the LORD, O my soul.*

*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

DANIEL 9:3-10

Then I turned to the LORD God, to seek an answer by prayer and supplication with fasting and sackcloth and ashes. I prayed to the LORD my God and made confession, saying,

‘Ah, LORD, great and awesome God, keeping covenant and steadfast love with those who love you and keep your commandments, we have sinned and done wrong, acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and ordinances. We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes, and our ancestors, and to all the people of the land.

‘Righteousness is on your side, O LORD, but open shame, as at this day, falls on us, the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and all Israel, those who are near and those who are far away, in all the lands to which you have driven them, because of the treachery

that they have committed against you. Open shame, O LORD, falls on us, our kings, our officials, and our ancestors, because we have sinned against you. To the LORD our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God by following his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets.

All stand.

HYMN 149

ETERNAL LORD OF LOVE, BEHOLD YOUR CHURCH

Old 124th

All sit.

MAGNIFICAT: THE SECOND SERVICE *sung by the choir*

Kenneth Leighton

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

JOHN 12:44-50

Then Jesus cried aloud: ‘Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in him who sent me. And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness. I do not judge anyone who hears my words and does not keep them, for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. The one who rejects me and does not receive my word has a judge; on the last day the word that I have spoken will serve as judge, for I have not spoken on my own, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment about what to say and what to speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I speak, therefore, I speak just as the Father has told me.’

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

Kenneth Leighton

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

Kenneth Leighton

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Kenneth Leighton

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

Kenneth Leighton

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

O God, who before the passion of thy only-begotten Son didst reveal his glory upon the holy mount: Grant unto us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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.

ANTHEM

CIVITAS SANCTI TUI

William Byrd

Civitas sancti tui facta est deserta.

Sion deserta facta est, Jerusalem desolata est.

Thy holy cities are a wilderness,
Zion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation.

Text: Isaiah 64:10

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.

HYMN 141

WILT THOU FORGIVE THAT SIN

So giebst du nun

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

PRÆLUDIUM IN G MINOR

Nicolaus Bruhns

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 SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PARTICIPATING THIS EVENING

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

Lector Richard Moore

Music Dr. Colin MacKnight, *Director of Music*

Katie Gunn, *Associate Director of Music*

Trinity Cathedral Choir

Notes on the notes: Kenneth Leighton is one of the most important composers of Anglican music of the last century. His music is often dance-like, rhythmically active, and harmonically crunchy: traits which are cliché in music of the last century, but which Leighton used to better effect than most.

William Byrd was a Roman Catholic living in post-Reformation England, also known as a recusant. Usually, the punishment for recusancy consisted of fines, property confiscation, and/or imprisonment, but in some cases, could include capital punishment. This context may well have been relevant in Byrd's composition of *Civitas sancti tui*, one of his most poignant motets. Its text is a lament on the Israelite's Babylonian exile, but Byrd and other recusants likely would have understood it as an expression of despair over the state of English Catholicism. Despite his religious affiliation, Byrd also composed a large and rich repertoire of music for the Anglican church.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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), and the Rev. Peggy Cromwell (cromwellpeggy@gmail.com).

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).

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:

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.

Men's Group in Lent

Thursdays of Lent at 8:00 a.m., beginning February 19

Baker Parlor in Keller House

Join men of the parish for fellowship, mutual support, and prayer in a small group setting. This Men's Group meets weekly instead of monthly during the season of Lent, often inviting guest speakers for conversation. To learn more, contact Bert Parker (hjpparkerlr@gmail.com).

Daytime Bible Study: The Psalms as Prayer

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

Baker Parlor in Keller House

Join 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).

Choir and Orchestra Concert: Haydn and Mozart

March 6 at 7 pm

The Trinity Choir and members of the Arkansas Symphony will present a concert of Haydn's Te Deum in C and Mozart's 'Great' Mass in C minor. Along with the Requiem, the Mass in C minor is Mozart's most important contribution to sacred music. Also like the Requiem, it is unfinished. This concert is free with a suggested donation of \$15. Reception to follow.

Spring Seed Swap

March 15, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Williams Garth

Please join us in the Garth to swap seeds with each other. Bring any and all seeds that you would like to trade and hopefully we will have a wide selection to "swap" just in time for spring planting! Put on with love by the Broadway Community Garden