

# The First Sunday after Christmas

27 December 2020



Trinity Episcopal Church  
Watertown, New York



**THE VOLUNTARY** *Chorale Prelude on 'Divinum Mysterium'*

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

*Sung by all.*

**THE OPENING HYMN**

REGENT SQUARE



1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2. Shep-herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3. Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions beam a - far:
4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in hope and fear,



ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with you is now re - sid - ing; yon - der shines the in - fant Light:  
seek the great De - sire of na - tions; ye have seen his na - tal star:  
sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:



*Refrain*  
come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

*The people standing, the Celebrant begins*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

*Sung by all.*

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

Robert Powell



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -



might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the  
 Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you take a - way the  
 sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the  
 right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the  
 Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

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*The Celebrant says to the people*

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says the Collect.*

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The people sit.*

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

*Isaiah 61.10–62.3*

*Lector* A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
 my whole being shall exult in my God;  
 for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,

he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the LORD God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.  
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.  
The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

*Lector*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      Thanks be to God.

*The psalm is recited in unison.*

**PSALM 147** *Laudate Dominum*

- 1 Hallelujah!  
How good it is to sing praises to our God! \*  
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!
- 2 The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; \*  
he gathers the exiles of Israel.
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted \*  
and binds up their wounds.
- 4 He counts the number of the stars \*  
and calls them all by their names.
- 5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; \*  
there is no limit to his wisdom.
- 6 The Lord lifts up the lowly, \*  
but casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; \*  
make music to our God upon the harp.
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds \*  
and prepares rain for the earth;
- 9 He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \*  
and green plants to serve mankind.
- 10 He provides food for flocks and herds \*  
and for the young ravens when they cry.

- 11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \*  
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;  
12 But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, \*  
in those who await his gracious favor.  
13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \*  
praise your God, O Zion;  
14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
he has blessed your children within you.  
15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.  
16 He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
and his word runs very swiftly.  
17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.  
18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
who can stand against his cold?  
19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.  
20 He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.  
21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!

## THE EPISTLE

*Galatians 3.23-25; 4.4-7*

*Lector* A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*Sung by all.*

**THE SEQUENCE HYMN**

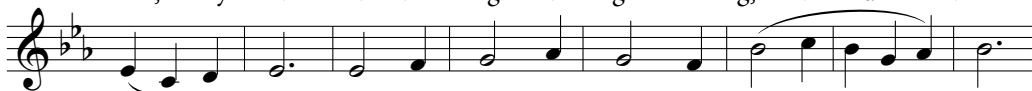
DIVINUM MYSTERIUM



1. Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be - gan to  
2. O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin, full of  
3. Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his prais - es  
4. Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost, to



be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga, he the source, the  
grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the Sa - vior  
sing; powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him, and ex - tol our  
thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing, and un - wea - ried



end - ing he, of the things that are, that have been,  
of our race; and the Babe, the world's Re - deem - - - er,  
God and King; let no tongue on earth be si - - - lent,  
prais - es be; hon - or, glo - ry and do - min - - - ion,



and that fu - ture years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
first re - vealed his sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
ev - ery voice in con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

*Then, all standing, the Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

*John 1.1-18*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of

blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

*The people are seated.*

## THE SERMON

The Rev'd Molly Payne-Hardin

*The people stand.*

## THE NICENE CREED

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.

*In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** *Form II*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop DeDe; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.  
Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.  
Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.  
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.  
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed.  
Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.  
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

*Said by all.*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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 Celebrant says*

### THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. *Amen.*

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. *Amen.*

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

*Sung by all.*

### THE CLOSING HYMN

### GOD REST YOU MERRY



1. God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing - you dis - may;
2. From God our heaven - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came
3. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you af - fright;
4. Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,



re - mem - ber Christ our Sa - vior was born on Christ - mas Day,  
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:  
this day is born a Sa - vior of a pure vir - gin bright,  
and with true love and broth - er - hood each o - ther now em - brace;



to save us all from Sa - tan's power when we were gone a - stray.  
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.  
to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's power and might."  
this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas all oth - er doth ef - face:



O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort - and



joy; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy.

## TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*The mission of Trinity Episcopal Church is to celebrate Christ through steadfast worship,  
inclusive hospitality and service to all.*

**The Right Reverend Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe**, *Bishop of Central New York*

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### TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Alice Jean Boucher, *Lector*  
Nancy Boynton, *Intercessor*