

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is his new creation, by water and the word;
From Heav’n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

God Calls Us to Worship Him

Call to Worship: Revelation 19.6-8

Leader: “Hallelujah! For the Lord Our God
The Almighty reigns.
People: Let us rejoice and exult
And give him the glory,
Leader: For the marriage of the Lamb has come,
And his Bride has made herself ready;
People: It was granted her to clothe herself
With fine linen, bright and pure”...
Leader: “Blessed are those who are invited
To the marriage supper of the Lamb.”
People: Let’s worship the Lord!

Greeting: 2 Corinthians 13.14

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship
Of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
People: And also with you!

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn of Praise: Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!
Trinity Hymnal #198

God Cleanses Us by His Grace

Conviction of the Gospel: 2 Corinthians 11.2-3

For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband,
to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. But I am afraid that as the serpent
deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere
and pure devotion to Christ.

Confession of Sin

Comfort of the Gospel: 2 Corinthians 1.20

For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we
utter our Amen to God for his glory.

God Consecrates Us by Praise, Pledge, and Prayer

Hymn of Thanksgiving: Once in Royal David’s City
Trinity Hymnal #225

Advent Reading of Love Luke 1.57-80

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. And her neighbors
and relatives heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with
her. And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child. And they would have
called him Zechariah after his father, but his mother answered, “No; he shall be called
John.” And they said to her, “None of your relatives is called by this name.” And they
made signs to his father, inquiring what he wanted him to be called. And he asked for a
writing tablet and wrote, “His name is John.” And they all wondered. And immediately
his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. And fear
came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill
country of Judea, and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, “What
then will this child be?” For the hand of the Lord was with him.

And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying,
“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has
raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke by
the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we should be saved from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us; to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to
remember his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us
that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear,
in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, child, will be called
the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to
give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, because of the
tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high to give light
to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way
of peace.”

And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the
day of his public appearance to Israel.

Hymn of Meditation: What Child Is This
Trinity Hymnal #213

Profession of Faith: Caleigh Foster

Prayer of Intercession:

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
* Children dismissed for Little Church

Hymn of Preparation: Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond
All Splendor | Trinity Hymnal #230

God Counsels Us through His Word

Scripture Reading: Song of Solomon 1.1-4; 2.1-17; 8.6-7

Sermon: He Comes as the Lover

God Commissions Us to Serve Him

Creed: The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of Response: God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen
Trinity Hymnal #211

Benediction: Numbers 6.24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be
gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.