
TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2022

WELCOME!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
WORSHIP!

OUR SERVICE TIMES

Sundays at 8:00 am
Spoken Holy Eucharist Rite II

Sundays at 10:30 am
*Choral Holy Eucharist Rite II
with Hymns & Service Music*

Wednesdays at 10:00 am
*Holy Eucharist Rite II &
Healing Service followed by
Bible Study at 10:30 am*

WELCOME TO THE SEASON OF ADVENT



*"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."
-Romans 15:13.*

WHAT IS ADVENT ALL ABOUT?

Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming." Advent begins the church year, starting four Sundays before Christmas. The season of Advent has been set aside as a time of preparation for Christmas since at least the last half of the 6th century. Advent is a time for self-examination and asking for forgiveness as the church is preparing for Christ's Second Coming even as it prepares for Christmas. During the busy holiday season, it is a bright spot in the midst of a messy world. A time for renewal, reflection, and new beginnings. Not only does it mark the beginning of the new church year, but it also calls us to all the best parts of the season: love, peace, and hope.

MEANING OF THE ADVENT WREATH & CANDLES

The Advent wreath is created out of evergreens, symbolizing everlasting life in the midst of winter as the evergreen is continuously green. The circle reminds us of God's unending love and the eternal life He makes possible. The most common Advent candle tradition involves four candles around the wreath. A new candle is lit on each of the four Sundays before Christmas. Each candle represents something different, although traditions vary. In the Episcopal church, the first, second, and fourth candles are purple. The purple color symbolizes repentance. The first candle symbolizes hope. The second candle represents faith. The third candle symbolizes joy. This candle is colored pink to represent joyfulness and rejoicing. The fourth candle represents peace. Some Advent wreaths will also have a white pillar candle in the middle. The white candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day and symbolizes the light of Christ that has come into the world.





THE TRADITION OF THE CRÈCHE

In 1223, St. Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of Italy, created the tradition of the Crèche, or Nativity scene, as a representation of the birth of Jesus Christ to be displayed from Advent through Epiphany, the Feast of the Three Kings.

The Crèche symbolizes the true meaning of Christmas: the birthday of Jesus Christ. Although a crèche is the same thing as a nativity scene, the crèche refers specifically to the baby Jesus in the manger.

The manger scene was set up in a cave in the Italian village of Greccio with real people and animals. St. Francis wanted to help children understand the true meaning of Christmas instead of focusing on gift-giving.

NEW CHRISTMAS SERVICES SCHEDULE FOR 2022

**In the spirit of trying something new and bringing us all together, this year we are having only one service on Christmas Eve with all of the friends, family, and neighbors that we have invited to celebrate with us. The service will be followed by a holiday reception for all to enjoy.*

Christmas Eve:

Saturday, December 24th, 2022 at 4:00 pm

The Eve of The Nativity & Children's Crèche Service

**Hot cocoa & Christmas Cookies will be served following the service*

Christmas Day:

Sunday, December 25th, 2022 at 9:00 am

The Nativity of Our Lord

Contact Us

Trinity Episcopal Church

300 South 5th Street

Atchison, Kansas 66002

913-367-3171

office@trinityepiscopal.church

www.trinityepiscopal.church

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300 South 5th Street

Atchison, Kansas 66002