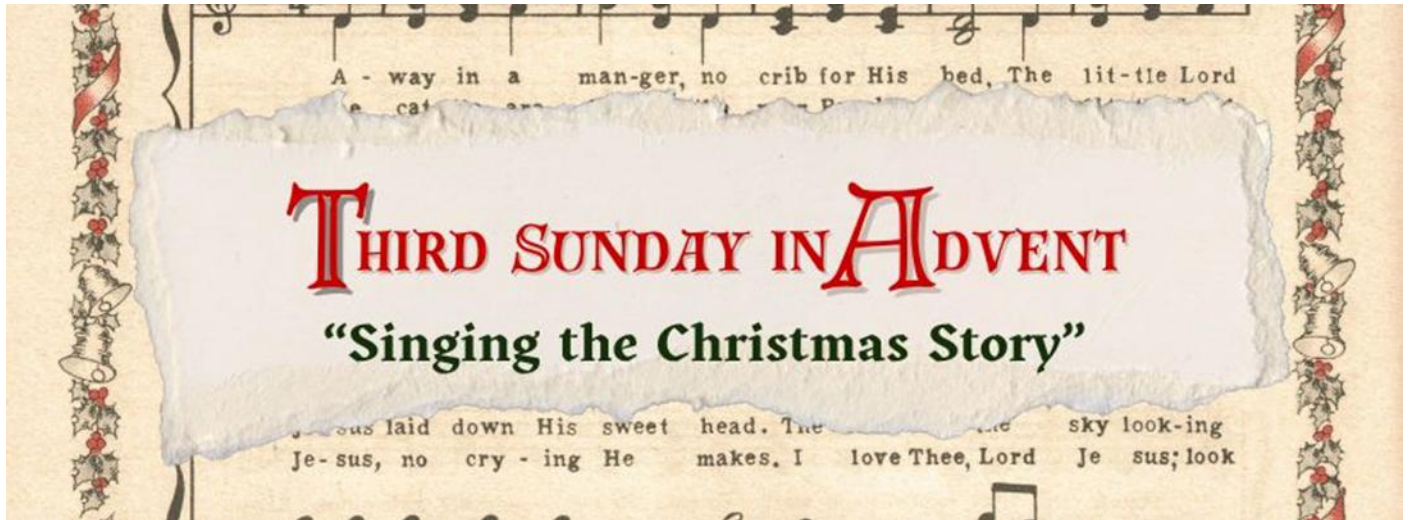


Trinity Presbyterian Church December 14, 2025



GATHERING

We gather as the body of Christ to encounter God in worship.

Prelude "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"
Edmund Sears
Jaron Marcus, piano

Welcome and Announcements Carol Shannahan

Introit "Nouveau Nouvelet"
From "A Garland of Carols"
Jean Anne Shafferman
Trinity Heritage Choir

Call to Worship

Be patient! The time is coming when we will celebrate the birth of Jesus,
when we will sing and rejoice, dancing with everlasting joy.

But for now, be patient, as we wait in this time called Advent,
**when God speaks through dreams and visions, and we are invited to
dance down the holy way into the kingdom.**

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Today, we light the candle of Joy. Rejoice greatly in the Lord. Proclaim
God's greatness everywhere. For God loves justice and hates wrongdoing.

God binds up the brokenhearted and comforts those who despair. "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my whole being shall exult in my God".

Redeemer, come, with us abide; our hearts to thee we open wide;

Proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners. Proclaim comfort to those who mourn. Proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, God's righteousness for the poor, the outcast, the vulnerable. Proclaim the coming of hope in a tiny baby, the birth of righteousness and peace for all the nations.

let us thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in us reveal.

Please join me in prayer: Spirit of God, anoint us as messengers of your good news to all people. As we light this third candle of Advent, move us to rejoice and proclaim your greatness. Amen.

*Hymn No. 93

"Lift Up Your Heads"

Call to Confession

(Time for silent confession.)

Sung Response GTG 90

"Wait for the Lord"

Assurance of Forgiveness

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Sung Response GTG 134, verse 3 only

"Joy to the World"

THE WORD

The Word of God in scripture and interpreted in proclamation is the center of worship.

Sermon on the Steps

Becky Jones

Anthem

"The Sky Can Still Remember"

Michael Gray

Trinity Heritage Choir

First Reading

Micah 5: 2-4

NRSVUE

But you, O Bethlehem,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me

one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth,

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem

“What Child is This/O Come, O Come Emmanuel”
From A Garland of Carols
Roger Summers
Trinity Heritage Choir

Reading

Matthew 1: 18-25
NRSVUE

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the young woman shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Anthem

“Still, Still, Still”
Arr. Lloyd Larson
Trinity Ringers Handbell Choir

Reading

Luke 2: 8-14

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus/Joy to the World"
From "A Garland of Carols"
Jean Anne Shafferman

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

We respond to the Word of God in prayer and by offering ourselves and our substance.

*Affirmation of Faith

Titus 3: 4-7

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Prayers of the People

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 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.

Invitation to Offering

Matthew 2: 1-12

Offertory

“The First Noel”
Arr. Cynthia Dobrinski
Trinity Ringers Handbell Choir

*Doxology Hymn No. 143 v. 4

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

*Prayer of Dedication

SENDING FORTH

Worship equips us to go forth to serve God in the world.

*Hymn No. 105 vv. 1, 4, 5

“People, Look East”

*Charge and Blessing

*Sung Response (screens)

“Go With God in the Spirit of Joy”

*Postlude

“Angels We Have Heard on High”
Arr. Lloyd Larson
Trinity Ringers Handbell Choir

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Participants in worship:

Rev. Meredith Kemp-Pappan, Preacher

Carol Shannahan, Liturgist

Stan McAdoo, Reader

Becky Jones, Sermon on the Steps

Brad Stipcak, organ & Dir. Of Music

Jaron Marcus, piano

Anton Ahrens, Audio/Visual

Peter Blum, Audio/Visual

Matt Blum, Audio/Visual

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