



Advent 2023

Hope
Peace
Joy

Everlasting joy shall be upon their heads.
– Isaiah 35:10

9:30 am

Third Sunday in Advent

December 17, 2023

AS GOD'S CHILDREN, WE COME BEFORE THE LORD

Prelude

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Faulkner

Introit

Go Tell It On the Mountain
Mahalo Ukulele Band

traditional

WE PRAISE THE TRIUNE GOD

Gathering Around the Advent Wreath

Victoria, Tolga, Marc, Kyle, Alex, and Cory Eberi

God's Prophetic Word Isaiah 61:1-3

Litany for the Advent Candles

In the night of our lives,
God is shining the light of his compassion.

**We light this candle to remember
that God's Light is coming close.**

Advent means coming.

We are full of expectation!

Lord, make us ready to receive your glory with obedience.

Lord, make us ready to greet you with child-like wonder!

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Advent Prayer (unison)

Prepare the way, O God, for your Son to enter our hearts.

**By the power of his mercy, love and grace,
may we be changed and made anew.**

**With the help of the Holy Spirit, our Advocate,
may we answer your invitation to abide with you.**

In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

Hymn 9 (verse 3 only)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

WE TURN FROM SIN AND SEEK HOLINESS

Call to Confession

The Rev. Ms. Craven

Prayer of Confession (unison)

The Rev. Ms. Craven

**Steadfast God,
with faith, we acknowledge your care and love for us.
with joy, we acknowledge that our help is in you,
the Maker of heaven and earth.
With hope, we acknowledge you also as our Re-Maker
through the life and death of the One born in Bethlehem.
We ask your mercy in those places
where we do not live as your forgiven and remade people.
In those ways that we have not given witness to your great glory,
forgive us, good and gracious Lord.
Renew us in your love and grant us solid joy
that lasts long beyond the Christmas season;
a joy that equips us to face the adversities of life
with the blessing of your saving work in the Lord Jesus,
for this we ask in his holy Name. Amen.**

**Assurance of God's Mercy
Thanks be to God!**

The Rev. Ms. Craven

***Gloria Patri**

No. 579

**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. Amen.**

Bell Anthem

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
Adult Bells

arr. Eithun

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S HOLY WORD

Prayer for Illumination

The Rev. Dr. Faulkner

First Scripture Lesson Mark 13:24-37 The Rev. Dr. Faulkner
This is the Word of the Lord. Page 47 N. T.
Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Lesson Matthew 25:14-30 The Rev. Dr. Faulkner
This is the Word of the Lord. Page 27 N. T.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon The Rev. Dr. Faulkner

***Profession of Faith** The Apostle's Creed The Rev. Dr. Faulkner

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 Spirit, 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 sits 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 Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S VOICE

Call to Present Our Offerings to the Lord The Rev. Dr. Faulkner

Prayer of Dedication The Rev. Dr. Faulkner

Offertory *Ding Dong! Merrily On High* arr. Dobrinski
Adult Bells

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer The Rev. Sarah Craven

WE GO FORTH TO PRAY AND SERVE

***Sending Hymn 3** *Comfort Comfort Ye My People*

***Pastoral Charge and Benediction** The Rev. Dr. Faulkner

Silent Prayer

Postlude *The Sounds of Christmas Joy* Swearingen
Trinity Band

*Those who are able may stand.

Adult Bells

Donna Allen
Kim Bui
Janet Cohen
Linda Craven
Brendan Desjardins
Sean Desjardins
Pam Dougherty
Linda Flanary
Erica Heyer
Bill Kain
Karen Kain
Sue Nork
Lauren Parsons-Lam
Judy Spotto
Melissa Trent

Ukelele Band

Joe Azevedo
Joe Bechtel
Barb Clarke
Mike D'Amico
Jen Dukelow
Alex and Cory Ebiri
Bill and Karen Kain
Brian Kain
Cate Marcelli
Joe Marcelli
Rusty Sieh

Trinity Band**Trumpet**

Ryan Bui
Brian Kain
Cate Marcelli

Clarinet

Elizabeth Bean
Bill Kain
Autumn Praul
Ron Willoughby

Flute

Alexis Bui
Julia Clarke James
Pam Dougherty
Kristi Paulson
Alayna Strobel

Trombone

Ben Peelman
Kevin Peelman

Alto Sax

Patrick Bean
Jacob Peelman
Julia Wilson

French Horn

Karen Kain

Bass

Sean Desjardins

Drums

Adam Crognale

Bells

Roseann Frielink

TRINITY AT WORK AND WORSHIP

An Inviting Community Serving Christ For Life

Loving God, Welcoming All, Helping Many

The Rev. Dr. Gregory C. Faulkner, Senior Pastor/Head of Staff

The Rev. Ms. Sarah Craven, Associate Pastor

The Rev. Dr. James D. O'Dell, Pastor Emeritus

Jenny Stark, Clerk of Session

Lisa K. Marcelli, Director of Music

Brian Kain, Music Associate

Let Us Pray for Members of Our Church Family: Marilyn Johnson, Nancy Parks, Pat Turner, Carol Plimpton, Gail Van Dyke, Camrynn Curl, Elaine Lippincott, Carol Murray, Beverly Whipple, Nancy Morton, Doris Crozier, Liz Gyswyt, Nancy Applegate, Marguerite Houck, Marty Flynn, Roberta Ritchie, Melinda Hall, Dorothy Rathje, Phyllis Johnson, Bill & Susan Greenwood, Betty Young, Erica Heyer, Dale Long, Linda Thorpe, Gloria Wolbach, Nancy Hickman.

Friends and Family: Frank Appello (Connie Groves's son-in-law), Jesse Benedict (friend of Pam Dougherty's daughter), Shirley Muni (Susan Bryfogle's Mother), Kristina Heck (Alison's Schwarz's niece), Loretta Johnson (former long-term member), Martha Delaney (Debby and Steve Talbott's niece), Nancy McIlvain (Kathy Eddleman's sister), Larry Carter (Emily Carter's uncle), Tristan Kabai-Tokes, Matt Ruggles, Myrna Roberts (Nancy Roberts' sister-in-law), Joan Malloy (Nancy Roberts' friend), Chuck Inman (Mary Jane Inman's son), Charles Porcaro (Ben Rieth's brother in law), Eileen McSparran (Kathy Eddleman's sister-in-law), Linda and Brian Kent (Gail Van Dyke's sister-in-law), Laurie Duffin (Gail and Bruce Van Dyke's friend), Elaine Good (Opal Stockwell's sister), Kathy Kellmer and Toni Rath (Janet Cohen's friends), Michael Fisher (Carol Parsons' nephew), David Behrens & Kelly Behrens (Ed Behrens' son & daughter), Ilene Kreadle (Wilson family friend), Jan (George Sanders' friend), Terri Skill (Steve Skill's wife), Richard D'Eustachio (Carol D'Eustachio's husband).

Let us pray for all those of our Trinity family who are serving in the United States Military: Cory Allen, Connor Barnes, Aaron Bill, Tyler Parsons and Connor Strobel. We thank them all for their service to our country.

Pastoral Care – Dr. Faulkner is available to you for prayer, counsel and comfort in times of need. If there is an urgent need, contact Dr. Faulkner at 609-273-8110.

Please silence all electronic equipment during the worship service.

Please remember to sign the Fellowship Register. Maintaining connections with our membership is critical to the health of our community, so thank you for helping us with this important outreach by signing in every time you attend worship!

Signing in online using the QR code? Remember, if you're a **Trinity member**, you don't need to fill out the entire form—just type in your first and last name.

The Flower Chart will be available in Fellowship Hall the first Sunday of every month. **It will be available on December 10th and January 7th and 14th.** Since the cost has increased, we are asking for payment of \$55 at the time of sign-up. Hopefully this will once again become a special part of our worship and giving for our shut-ins. Please text or email Bonnie Jones for further information: bjones34@verizon.net or 856-986-2012.

Visit our website at www.trinpres.org for all of the current news, information and updates about everything that's going on at Trinity!

PLEASE notify the church office if your address, email or phone number changes. You can email Pam Dougherty at pam.dougherty@trinpres.org **OR** you can indicate any changes on the Fellowship Register sheets. Thank you!

***EasyTithe*, our online giving option,
allows you to make your offering electronically.**

This option makes giving more convenient for you and can be accessed through your computer, tablet and cell phone. To sign up, go to Trinity's home page and click on "Online Giving" or go directly to www.easytithe.com/trinpres.

An *EasyTithe* app is also available for download to your tablet or cell phone. Once you're set up, you can also text a gift in one simple step! Our phone number for text giving is 856-238-5444.

You can now go right to the EasyTithe giving portal by using the QR code. Simply turn your camera on your phone and direct it to the code and the link to the website will come right up!



Church School Schedule

All Church School rooms located in main building.
Pick up is immediately after the conclusion of the service

Nursery care - Infants through 2 years
Preschool (ages 2 1/2—Kindergarten) - Room #6

It's the 3rd Sunday: Sunday School
Grades 1-5, please meet in the classrooms

Monthly Rotation of Worship, Learning, and Service For Grade School-Age Children

1st Sunday of Every Month: Mission Sunday

2nd Sunday of Every Month: Family Church

3rd Sunday of Every Month: Church School

4th Sunday: Let's Worship Together



Preschoolers & Kindergartners: Church School for pre-K through Kindergarten takes place in a classroom under the sanctuary. On the second Sunday of each month, these children participate with their families in Family Church.

Nursery (Birth - Age 2): The nursery is supervised by adult volunteers. It is equipped with its own restroom and changing table as well as age-appropriate toys.

*Find Your Place at
Our Place!*



CELEBRATE THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON WITH

Trinity Church

Friday, December 1 - 7:30 pm

Trinity Community Concert Series featuring the
Atlantic Brass Band

Sunday, December 3 - 9:30am

Advent Service with Children's & Youth Christmas Music
followed by Advent Festival and PW Cookie Sale

Tuesday, December 5 - 6:30pm

Trinity Women's Christmas Dinner & Communion Service

Sunday, December 10 - 9:30am

Advent Service with Adult Choir

Sunday, December 17 - 9:30am

Christmas Worship with Handbell Music, Trinity Band, & Ukeleles
10:30am - Nativity Walk
11:00am - *Blue Christmas*, Adult Ed Presentation

Sunday, December 24 - Sunday Worship & Christmas Eve

9:30am - Sunday Worship
4:00pm - Family Worship Service & Pageant
7:00 pm - Candlelight Communion Service with
Pre-service music, choir, and brass

Sunday, December 31 - 9:30am

Sunday Worship Service

Sunday, January 7 - 9:30am

Epiphany Sunday with
Communion, Choir & Handbells

Hands to Work, Hearts to God

Trinity's Annual
Stewardship Campaign



This is a friendly reminder that we are in the midst of our Stewardship campaign and your pledge is critical to maintain Trinity's programs, mission and staff.

To date, we have achieved 71% of our financial goal and have received 124 pledges against our goal of 235.

Thank you if you have already submitted your pledge. If you have not pledged, we encourage you to return your 2024 pledge card this week by mailing it to the Church office.

If you do not have your pledge card, a card can be obtained through the Church office or from the Church pews. Pledges can also be made online through EasyTithe or by emailing Debby Talbott @Debby.Talbott@trinpres.org.

2024 Pledge Boxes are Here!



Please pick up your box in the ante room next to Fellowship Hall. If you do not see your pledge box and would like one, please email Debby.Talbott@trinpres.org and one will be provided. If you do not need a pledge box in the future please sign the sheet by the boxes or email Debby.

YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED AS WE GIVE
OUR HANDS TO WORK AND HEARTS TO GOD.



Trinity Nativity Walk

Sunday, December 17
after worship

Bring your favorite creche to the social hall before the service to add to the display! You'll take it home with you that day.

Christmas carols and cake will add to the festivities ... Join us!
(To help us plan for enough display space, please sign up during coffee hour if you're planning to bring a creche or email sbastnagel@gmail.com)



Blue Christmas Program

Sunday, December 17, 11 am

Community Room

A time to acknowledge that we often come to this season
with sadness and regrets, as well as joy and peace.

Bring a photo (or photos) of loved ones you are missing or an object that
represents for you something that makes you blue at this time of the year.



THE MITTEN TREE HAS RETURNED!

Our Mitten Tree is back again this year!
Please look for it in Fellowship Hall.

New hats and mittens for any age group
are welcome and will be sent to those
who are in need. Let's help give
the gift of warmth this winter.



Deacons Christmas Gift Card Drive for Acenda Health Uber and Lyft Gift Cards!

Acenda Health (formerly Robins' Nest) works with young adults who have aged out of social support systems. Their clients often struggle with transportation to counseling sessions, work opportunities, etc. Uber or Lyft gift cards, available both online and in stores, provide a very helpful hand to these young people.

Leave gift cards with Deacons during Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall, send to the church office (ATTN: Deacons) or hand them to Deacons who are ushering on Sunday morning.

Our gift card drive will run from December 3rd to December 17th.
Thank you, Trinity, for your generosity!



Trinity News and Notes

MISSION THURSDAY CONTINUES: The Mission & Outreach Committee has decided to continue Mission Thursday through the winter Cathedral Kitchen has expressed their gratitude many times for our congregation's tremendous support. **Next Mission Thursday: December 28th.**

Trinity's Racial Equity Advocacy Project (REAP) is excited to invite you to participate in several upcoming events:

Sunday, January 7, 2024, Jessica Zweig, Executive Director of Play On Philly (POP), will share POP's mission & success following morning worship in the community room. Play On Philly is combatting institutional racism by providing transformative music education to children in underserved Philadelphia neighborhoods. Trinity has chosen Play On Philly to be the recipient of our first Negro Spiritual Royalty Project donation.

Sunday, January 14, 2024-Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday celebration during coffee hour. Please consider signing up to bring a "small bite" representative of your family's heritage to share over coffee & conversation with other members of the congregation. Sign-ups start today during coffee hour or email Donna Wasik at dvwasik@gmail.com for more information.



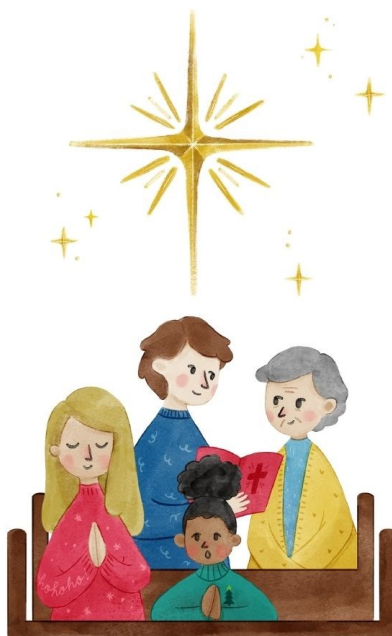
**4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
WORSHIP**

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS EVE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, 9:30AM



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SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS EVE
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CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP FAMILY SERVICE - 4PM

A FESTIVE FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE AND
NATIVITY PAGEANT. OPEN TO ALL AGES!



JOY
to the World

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE - 7PM**

CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE WITH
PRESERVICE MUSIC, CHOIR, & BRASS



CHRISTMAS EVE SOCIAL

PLEASE STAY FOR THE CHRISTMAS EVE SOCIAL
FOLLOWING THE 7PM SERVICE. ENJOY SOME
SWEET TREATS AND CHRISTMAS CHEER!

Trinity's Lenten Devotional

We are already planning the Lenten Devotional for 2024 and we're seeking submissions! Submission to the devotional should include:

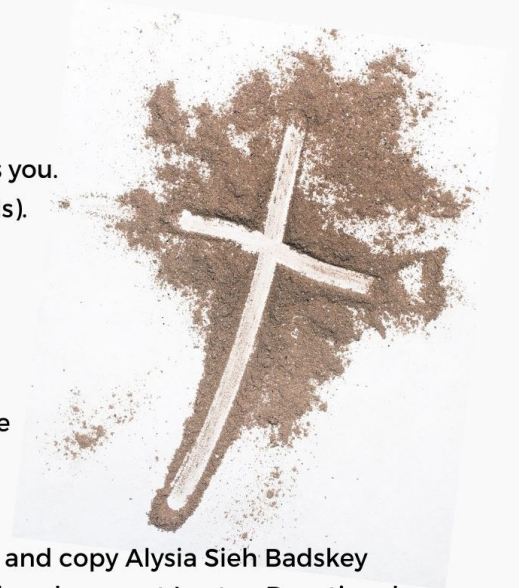
1. A verse (or verses) of scripture that comforts, challenges and/or teaches you.
2. A short discussion of what this scripture means to you (about 250 words).
3. A short prayer (2-3 sentences).
4. Your name.

Why are we talking about this during Advent?

Because Ash Wednesday is very early this year (February 14th!) and the devotionals need to be ready for distribution the weekend before...so please make a note:

the deadline for submission is Sunday, January 21, 2024.

Please send all submissions to Susan Bastnagel at sbastnagel@gmail.com and copy Alysia Sieh Badskey alysia.sieh@trinpres.org and Beth Gammie at bgammie917@gmail.com. Also please put Lenten Devotional in the subject line of the email. All members of the Trinity community, both youth and adult, are invited to participate in this church-wide publication. If you have any questions, please contact: Beth Gammie at bgammie917@gmail.com or Alysia Sieh Badskey at alysia.sieh@trinpres.org.



Trinity Presbyterian Church
An Inviting Community Following Christ For Life
Loving God, Welcoming All, Helping Many