

RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT'S PROMPTINGS

Invitation to Offering: – *Discipleship Resources*

Lord of Light, you gave yourself to this world by the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ. We thankfully rejoice and praise you for your peace and light shared with all nations. Now, center us on the King of Glory during these prayerful moments of giving. We present these gifts as your humble and willing servants in the name of the One who comes to us anew, Jesus the Living Christ. **Amen.**

Offertory: “The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came” J. Leavitt

Doxology UMH #94

***Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

God of all hopefulness, strengthen us this day to live in hope and gratitude. Give us the courage to live as people of generosity. Multiply our gifts, that the hungry might be fed and the poor might find abundance. In Christ’s name, we pray. **Amen.**

***Hymn:** “The King of Glory Comes” TFWS# 2091

Benediction

Postlude: “Double Fugue” John Keeble

We thank those who participated in today’s service:

Accompanist: Steve Hays

Acolytes: Adeline Berke, Greta Rust, Aisla Varnon

Altar Flowers: In loving memory of her father, from Doreen

Altar Ministry: Susan Cartier-Barrett

Carillonneur: Thomas St. Marie

Fellowship Hour: Stewardship & Finance and Membership & Evangelism

Liturgist: Anja Berke

Ushers: Head Usher; Lisa Bakowski, Asst. Head Usher; Sheila Womble, Jacki Barden, Ginger Elliott, Deb Garth, David Jenney

Video Team: Nicole Baker, Brian Crawford, Nic Odell, Jack Rust, Anthony & Nicholas Skridulas

Please Pray for:

Mary A, Lisa B, Borys B, Bridget B, James B, Meri B, Jean C, Margaret (Peg) C, Mary C, Benard D, Dominick E, Jo Anne E, Mary (Twining) G, Courtney H, Aurie I, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, Jan T M, Holly Joy P, Sue P, Daryl P, Claire (L) P, Catherine Ann R, Henry (Bing) S, Jane S, Thomas S, Carl S, Lynn T, Alison (Allie) W, our service members and their loved ones, those affected by gun violence and natural disasters.

Trinity United Methodist Church

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Bishop, Thomas J. Bickerton

District Superintendent, Rev. Megan Stowe

Minister, Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

Director of Music Ministries, Anthony Lamourt

Director of Family Ministries & Connections, Rob Powell, M.Div

Spiritual Director, Cathy MacGovern



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Believing that all persons are created in God's image and are of sacred worth, that Jesus' message was one of inclusion of those rejected by mainstream society, and that each member makes inherent and valuable contributions to the Body of Christ, we of Trinity Church welcome into this congregation people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic condition, family structure, and physical or mental ability.



Celebrate God’s love

Nurture relationships with God and one another

Serve our community and world, as we share the light of Christ

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024

10:30 a.m.

WELCOME

*We worship using this liturgy and two songbooks: The United Methodist Hymnal (UMH) and The Faith We Sing (TFWS). Please silence your electronic devices. Nursery care is downstairs for children birth - 4 years. *Please stand in body or in spirit. Items in bold are read in unison.*

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE FOR A TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

“The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, and who look forward to something greater to come”

– Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “Offertoire” Jean Dandrieu

Moment of Reflection

Introit: “Blessed Be The Lord” Psalm 106:48

*Call to Worship: – Discipleship Ministries

Leader: Come and rejoice in God!

People: Sing praise to God who continually blesses our lives!

Leader: In the midst of troubles and stress, God is near, offering compassion.

People: Our hope is in the Lord.

Leader: Let all the people praise God.

People: Hallelujah! Amen.

***Hymn:** “Gather Us In” TFWS # 2236

*Unison Prayer of Confession:

It is getting more and more difficult, Lord, for us to keep our attention on the holy things. Our lives are caught up in the planning, parties, gifts, and other such things. We get side-tracked too easily and exhausted, we fall into restless sleep. The cries of those in need abound and we are overwhelmed by the need. Too often we turn a deaf ear because we feel we just can't meet all the needs that are presented to us. Heal our hearts and spirits, Lord. Help us understand that you do not ask us to heal everything but rather to find a simple way in which we might lighten someone else's burden, as you have lightened our lives. You have brought hope and peace to us. Now cause us to rejoice in the wondrous things that you have done. Teach us to use our gifts for the common good, and that in helping, we find great and abundant joy. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

*Words of Assurance: – Ministry Matters

The messenger has been sent to you, proclaiming that there is One who is Coming who will heal and lead you. Know that this is a great gift from God, who has always and will always love you. **Amen.**

***Response:** “We Are One In The Spirit” TFWS# 2223 (v.4)

**All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love; yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

Choir Anthem: “O Come, Emmanuel” Elaine Hagenberg

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle: Tony Isham and Jack Boyce

Passing the Peace of Christ

Children's Moment

Pastoral Prayer, Joys and Concerns

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, forever. Amen.**

Prayer Response

***Hymn:** “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” UMH# 224
(5-13 yr. olds are invited to Grace Chapel for Chapel Kids. Parents please escort your children & pick them up.)

Scripture Reading: Luke 3: 7-18 (NRSV) N.T. p. 56

Response to the Word:

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

Many: Thanks be to God!

The Word in Reflection: “What Are We to Do?” Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun