



# Trinity Church

P R E S B Y T E R I A N

building God's Church...blessing our community

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 16, 2018

## WELCOME

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING .....LYLE & D'LYNN POLSON

The Advent wreath is a circle with no beginning and no end. It is a symbol of God's unending love and faithfulness.

**Isaiah the prophet calls us to prepare for the coming of Jesus by making straight all that is crooked.**

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

**Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."**

Let us prepare for Jesus, the Christ, who is anointed by God to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners.

**For as a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.**

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP .....LUKE 1:46-55

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
**for he has looked on the humble estate of his servants. For behold, he who is mighty has done great things for us, and holy is his name.**

And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

**He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;**

he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;

(ALL:) **He has helped his people, remembering his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.**

## \*DOXOLOGY

## \*INVOCATION

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE .....JOY HAS DAWNED

WORDS & MUSIC BY KEITH GETTY AND STUART TOWNEND

1. "Joy has dawned upon the world, Promised from creation— God's salvation now unfurled, Hope for ev'ry nation. Not with fanfares from above, Not with scenes of glory, But a humble gift of love—Jesus born of Mary.

3. Shepherds bow before the Lamb, Gazing at the glory; Gifts of men from distant lands Prophesy the story. Gold—a King is born today, Incense—God is with us, Myrrh—His death will make a way, And by His blood He'll win us.

2. Sounds of wonder fill the sky With the songs of angels As the mighty Prince of Life Shelters in a stable. Hands that set each star in place, Shaped the earth in darkness, Cling now to a mother's breast, Vuln'erable and helpless.

4. Son of Adam, Son of heaven, Given as a ransom; Reconciling God and man, Christ, our mighty champion! What a Savior! What a Friend! What a glorious myst'ry! Once a babe in Bethlehem, Now the Lord of hist'ry."

## SCRIPTURE READING .....PSALM 108

**HYMN OF ADORATION**.....IMMANUEL

WORDS & MUSIC: STUART TOWNEND

From the squalor of a borrowed stable By the Spirit and a virgin's faith  
To the anguish and the shame of scandal Came the Savior of the human race  
But the skies were filled With the praise of heav'n Shepherds listen as the angels tell  
Of the gift of God come down to man At the dawning of Immanuel

King of heaven now the friend of sinners Humble servant in the Father's hands  
Filled with power and the Holy Spirit Filled with mercy for the broken man  
Yes He walked my road and He felt my pain Joys and sorrows that I know so well  
Yet His righteous steps give me hope again I will follow my Immanuel

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal He was lifted on a cruel cross  
He was punished for a world's transgressions He was suffering to save the lost  
He fights for breath He fights for me Loosing sinners from the claims of hell  
And with a shout our souls are free Death defeated by Immanuel

Now He's standing in the place of honor Crowned with glory on the highest throne  
Interceding for His own beloved 'Til His Father calls to bring them home  
Then the skies will part as the trumpet sounds Hope of heaven or the fear of hell  
But the bride will run to her lover's arms Giving glory to Immanuel

**CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN**

**Even as we ask you, Lord, for a meaningful and blessed Advent season,  
we sadly confess having done so little with so much.  
Forgive us Lord,  
for not bending the knee,  
for not reading your Word,  
for not searching our hearts,  
for not facing our sins.  
Forgive us according to your tender mercies, O God!  
Grant that when Christmas morning breaks for us this year,  
we may have a fresh sense of your presence  
and a renewed resolve to live to the praise of Christ's glory. Amen.**

Please silently confess your sin before the LORD.

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**.....PSALM 103:10-12

"He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.  
For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear  
him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us."

**\*HYMN OF ASSURANCE**.....GOOD CHRISTIAN MEN, REJOICE

No. 151

**COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Please take a moment to record your attendance in the black folder as it is passed down the row.  
**Visiting?** Please fill out a **Connect Card** and bring it to the Welcome Table in the Narthex after the service.

**OFFERTORY**

**SHEPHERDING PRAYER**.....PASTOR JOHN MARK

**SERMON**.....JOHN 2:23-3:8

<sup>23</sup> Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. <sup>24</sup> But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people <sup>25</sup> and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

# SERMON NOTES

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE** .....O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL  
 No. 145

**\*BENEDICTION**

TRINITY READING TOGETHER					
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
PSALM 109	PSALM 110-111	PSALM 112	PSALM 113	PSALM 114	PSALM 115

**REMEMBERING IN PRAYER THIS WEEK**  
**Ministry Partners:** Keith & Ruth Powlison - Serving on MTW's Hinterland team in Cusco, Peru. They focus on unreached people groups in the Andes.  
**Our Troops:** pray for our troops and their chaplains around the world  
**Church of the week:** Hilton Head Presbyterian; Bill McCutcheon, pastor

**TRINITY FAMILY**  
**Linda Wactor:** in the loss of her sister  
**Lucius Gray:** recovering from minor stroke, for proper diagnosis of cause  
**Brush Babb:** recovering from elbow surgery  
**Linda Wells:** complications from cancer treatment  
**Deborah Finkelstein:** recovering from knee surgery  
**Connie Porter:** recovering from ankle surgery  
**Mark Cash:** recovering from back surgery  
**Rebecca Sibley:** recovering from back surgery  
**Willie Lou Jackson:** at home in Orangeburg battling multiple health issues  
**Christie Churchwell:** relief from headaches  
**Ann Betsill:** at Calhoun Convalescent Center

# BULLETIN BOARD

## CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE AND CAROLING TONIGHT

The Patricks are hosting a Christmas Open House tonight, and you are encouraged to wear your favorite tacky Christmas sweater! The evening begins at 5 pm at church, where we will gather to go out and sing carols to our shut-ins and other members. After caroling, children (5th grade and under) can be dropped off at the church for supper, games and a movie. Adults and youth can head over to the Patrick home on Moss Street. If your last name begins with A-H, please bring an appetizer; I-Z bring a dessert.

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY THIS THURSDAY

A Christmas party for Trinity's children is planned for this Thursday, December 20 at the Myers' house. The kids will be decorating gingerbread houses and enjoying Christmas treats from 5:30 to 8 pm.

## DAZZ ANGEL TREE GIFTS DUE TODAY

Thank you to all who signed up to give to DAZZ through the Angel Tree. Please bring your unwrapped gifts back to the church by this evening.

## POTLUCK BREAKFAST DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL DEC 23

Bring a breakfast dish to share next Sunday, December 23 when we will all gather together during the Sunday School hour.

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a congregational meeting immediately following morning worship next Sunday, December 23, 2018. We will elect officers (elder candidates are Mark Ford, Dr. Sam Lambrecht, and Dan Steffen and deacon candidates are Les Carter and Bubba Morrell.) There will also be a presentation of the 2019 budget.

## 2018 FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

All gifts must be received by Sunday, December 30, to be credited toward 2018 giving. We encourage our members to make use of the PCA Foundation to assist with processing non-cash gifts (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and real estate) to support the work of the church. Simply call (800-700-3221), email (pcaf@pcanet.org), or visit their website (pcafoundation.com). They've helped process more than \$150M in gifts to advance God's kingdom.

# THIS WEEK @ TRINITY

SERVING	DECEMBER 16		DECEMBER 23	
	SUNDAY SCHOOL	WORSHIP	SUNDAY SCHOOL	WORSHIP
0-3	Jane Junquet	Wanda & Michael Salley	Susan Ulmer	D'Iynn Polson & David Myers
USHERS	Sam Lambrecht, Evan Lambrecht, Les Carter, Larry Adicks			

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

BUDGET RECEIPTS	\$4,104
BUDGET NEEDS WEEKLY	\$5,337

## FAITH PROMISE

\$350 GIVEN	\$1,137 BUDGETED WEEKLY
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## STAFF

John Mark Patrick, Pastor  
 Dr. Sam Lambrecht, Families w/ Students  
 Mary Beth Myers, Middle School Ministry  
 Susan Ulmer, Women's Ministry  
 Deborah Finkelstein, Pianist  
 Karen Ford, Administrative Assistant  
 Ann Axson, Bookkeeper

## ELDERS

Steve Hawley  
 Michael Salley  
 Jeff Watford  
 Alan Ulmer

## DEACONS

Brian Henson  
 Daniel Peeler  
 Gregg Waters  
 Daniel Pantaleon

**Deacon Assistants:** Larry Adicks, Linda Bonnette, Terri Morrell, Lyle Polson, Jerry & Lee Ann Smith, Alan Ulmer, Randy Zeigler

## CALENDAR

SUN 12/16	8:30AM 9:15AM 10:30AM 5:00PM 6:00PM	PRAYER SUNDAY SCHOOL MORNING WORSHIP CHRISTMAS CAROLING OPEN HOUSE AT THE PATRICKS
TUES 12/18	6:00AM	MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
THURS 12/20	5:30PM	CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY
SUN 12/23	8:30AM 9:15AM 10:30AM 12:00PM	PRAYER SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST MORNING WORSHIP CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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