



# Trinity Church

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

building God's Church...blessing our community

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 21, 2025

## REFLECTION & PREPARATION

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**.....BASED ON: ISAIAH 7:10-16,  
PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19, ROMANS 1:1-7, MATTHEW 1:18-25

The voice of the prophets cry out: Look, the young woman shall bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel which means, "God is with us."

**Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

His name is Jesus and he will save us from our sins.

**Stir up your might, and come to save us!**

He is descended from David according to the flesh.

**You who reign on high with the angels, shine forth your light!**

He was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead.

**Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

We belong to him, obedient in faith for the sake of his name.

**Then we will never turn back from you; give us life,  
and we will call on your name.**

Jesus is coming, prepare the way of the Lord!

**Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Jesus is coming and he will save us from our sins.

**Shine your light, O Lord, and we shall be saved!**

## \*DOXOLOGY

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;  
evermore your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

## \*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, 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."

**\*CAROL OF GRATEFUL PRAISE** .....HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

No. 133

**SCRIPTURE READING** .....REVELATION 12

READER: The Word of the Lord

CONGREGATION: **Thanks be to God**

**HYMN OF ADORATION** .....O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars together Proclaim the holy birth!  
And praises sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth.

O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend on us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in; Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel.

**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**.....THOU WHO WAST RICH BEYOND ALL SPLENDOR

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, All for love's sake becamest poor;  
Thrones for a manger didst surrender, Sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.  
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, All for love's sake becamest poor.

Thou who art God beyond all praising, All for love's sake becamest man;  
Stooping so low, but sinners raising Heavenwards by thine eternal plan.  
Thou who art God beyond all praising, All for love's sake becamest man.

Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.  
Emmanuel, within us dwelling, Make us what thou wouldst have us be.  
Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.

**SHEPHERDING PRAYER**.....RE ALAN ULMER

**SERMON**.....MATTHEW 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us).

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup> but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

VISITATION SCHEDULE		
WEEK OF DECEMBER 22-28	WEEK OF DEC 29-JAN 4	WEEK OF JAN 5-11
Connie Porter	Michael & Wanda Salley	Sam & Rosa Helen Reid

# SERMON NOTES

## CONSIDER JOSEPH MATTHEW 1:18-25

### I. GOD'S GRAND DESIGN

### II. MISSING OUT

### III. COMMON SENSE VS. GOD'S WISDOM

**\*HYMN OF PREPARATION** .....GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN  
EIGHTEENTH CENTURY ENGLISH CAROL

God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
let nothing you dismay,  
remember Christ our Savior  
was born on Christmas day,  
to save us all from Satan's pow'r  
when we were gone astray;

**O tidings of comfort and joy,  
comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.**

From God our heav'nly Father,  
a blessed angel came;  
and unto certain shepherds  
brought tidings of the same:  
how that in Bethlehem was born  
the Son of God by name.

"Fear not, then," said the angel,  
"let nothing you affright;  
this day is born a Savior  
of a pure virgin bright,  
to free all those who trust in him  
from Satan's pow'r and might."

The shepherds at those tidings  
rejoiced much in mind,  
and left their flocks a-feeding,  
in tempest, storm, and wind;  
and went to Bethlehem straight-way,  
the Son of God to find.

**\*BENEDICTION**

# BULLETIN BOARD

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE AT 6 PM

Grab some cards on the information counter to invite your friends and neighbors to join us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight service at 6:00 pm on December 24.

## NEW BIBLE READING PLAN STARTS JAN. 1

We will begin a new Bible reading plan next year called [The Bible Recap](http://www.thebiblerecap.com), reading through the entire Bible in one year and in chronological order. For more information about The Bible Recap, go to [www.thebiblerecap.com/start](http://www.thebiblerecap.com/start) and explore the options for using either the digital or print format. Copies of the reading calendar for January through March are available on the information counter. Stay tuned for more information!

## DAZZ ANGEL TREE GIFTS DUE TODAY

Thank you to all those who have purchased gifts for the DAZZ Angel Tree. If you have not done so already, please turn in your gifts as soon as possible. DAZZ Orangeburg is a Christian ministry serving women and families facing unplanned pregnancies, offering free counseling, medical consultations and baby items.

## THANK YOU FROM HELEN

Dear Trinity Family,

Thank you so much for the Christmas bonus. It was a very sweet gift. I appreciate your generosity and look forward to more music-making.

Merry Christmas to you all!

*Helen Meacham*

## REMEMBERING IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

**Ministry Partner:** Phil & Wendy Stogner - serving and assisting pastors and church planters in Scotland and Europe with MTW

**Our Troops:** pray all of our troops and their chaplains around the world

**Church of the week:** Grace Coastal Presbyterian, Okatie; seeking a pastor

## TRINITY FAMILY

**Deborah Finkelstein:** ongoing medical concerns

**Brush Babb:** continued strengthening and improvement

**Joe Junquet:** adjustment to the loss of his vision

**Melonie Anderson:** recovering from knee replacement surgery

**Claudia Wilkes:** for her kidney function to continue at 25 percent to avoid dialysis, balance issues

**Lawton Porter:** ongoing therapy

**Christie Churchwell:** relief from headaches

# THIS WEEK @ TRINITY

## STAFF

John Mark Patrick, Pastor  
 Dr. Sam Lambrecht, Families w/ Students  
 Susan Ulmer, Women's Ministry  
 Deborah Finkelstein, Pianist  
 Helen Meacham, Pianist  
 Karen Ford, Administrative Assistant  
 Sandral Jackson, Bookkeeper

## ELDERS

Mark Ford  
 Sam Lambrecht  
 Michael Salley

## DEACONS

Jeff Folk  
 Evan Lambrecht  
 Frank Myers  
 Chris Rickenbaker  
 Jeff Watford

## DEACON ASSISTANTS

Larry Adicks, Terri Morrell, Lyle Polson

## CALENDAR

SUN 12/21	8:45AM 9:30AM 10:30AM	PRAYER POTLUCK BREAKFAST MORNING WORSHIP
TUES 12/23	7:00AM	MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
WED 12/24	6:00PM	CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
SUN 12/28	9:30AM 10:30AM	PRAYER MORNING WORSHIP

## TRINITY READING TOGETHER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
REVELATION 13	REVELATION 14	REVELATION 15	REVELATION 16	REVELATION 17	REVELATION 18

**WELCOME TO TRINITY!**  
**WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!**

Please scan this QR code, fill out our contact form, and sign up for our weekly emails. We'd love to get you connected in the life of our church.



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