



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 22, 2024

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 TO THE WORLD
No. 125

***HYMN OF GRATEFUL PRAISE**THE FIRST NOEL
No. 136

***CONFESSION OF FAITH**.....NICENE CREED¹

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe one holy catholic² and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING.....PSALM 116

READER: The Word of the Lord

CONGREGATION: **Thanks be to God**

CAROLSEE, AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW

See, amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below,
see the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.

**Hail, thou ever-blessed morn! Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

Lo, within a manger lies he who built the starry skies:
he who, throned in height sublime, sits amid the cherubim.

Say, ye holy shepherds, say- what's your joyful news today?
Wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep?

Sacred infant, all divine, what a tender love was thine,
thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this!

"As we watched at dead of night, lo, we saw a wondrous light;
angels singing, 'Peace on earth,' told us of the Savior's birth."

¹The Nicene Creed originated at the Council of Nicea (325) and was formulated to answer heresies that denied the biblical doctrine of the Trinity and the person of Christ. ²The term catholic refers to the church universal, knowing no racial, economic, or geographic barriers.

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 PARDONPSALM 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.....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.

SHEPHERDING PRAYER.....RE FRANK MYERS

SERMONISAIAH 52:13 - 53:12

¹³ Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.
¹⁴ As many were astonished at you— his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—¹⁵ so shall he sprinkle many nations.
Kings shall shut their mouths because of him, for that which has not been told them they see,
and that which they have not heard they understand.

Isaiah 53

¹ Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been
revealed? ² For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.

³ He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

⁴ Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement
that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he opened not his mouth. ⁸ By oppression and judgment he was taken away;
and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people? ⁹ And they made his grave with the wicked
and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an
offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

¹¹ Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the
righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the
strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

SERMON NOTES

THE MISUNDERSTOOD SERVANT OF THE LORD

ISAIAH 52:13 - 53:12

PARADOX (52:13-15)

FAULTY ACCOUNTING (53:1-3)

WE GOT IT ALL WRONG! (53:4-6)

A GUILTY PLEA (?) (53:7-9)

THE FATHER'S PLAN IS THE SERVANT'S DELIGHT (53:10-12)

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR
No. 128

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold;
"Peace on the earth, good-will to men,
From heav'n's all-gracious King!"
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still thru the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav'nly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow,
Look now! for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hast'ning on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years
Shall come the time foretold,
When the new heav'n and earth shall own
The Prince of Peace their King,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

***BENEDICTION**

BULLETIN BOARD

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE IS TUESDAY AT 6:00 PM

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service is planned for 6:00 pm this Tuesday, Dec. 24. Join us for this special time of worship and invite your neighbors, friends and family.

2025 BIBLE READING PLAN AVAILABLE

Join us as we continue our three-year Bible reading plan and develop a new habit or reinforce an old one: reading God's word every day! The plan is simple - usually just one chapter a day. The Session is regularly praying for your growth in Christlikeness - God's Word is one of the primary means He uses to change our lives and make us more like Jesus. Reading His Word together provides both accountability and deeper fellowship in our body. Laminated copies of the 2025 plan are available on the counter in the Narthex.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR PASTORS & WIDOWS

Today we are taking up a special offering for the PCA Relief Fund that helps support retired pastors, widows, and other PCA staff in need. Please consider participating by donating in the offering plate today. You may also give online or by calling 678-825-1272. See the insert in today's bulletin for more information.

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to all who have helped decorate the the church over the last several weeks. We are especially thankful to Richard Brunson for sharing his time, talents and gifts to make the church so beautiful!

VISITATION SCHEDULE		
WEEK OF DECEMBER 23-29	WEEK OF DEC. 30-JAN. 5	WEEK OF JAN. 6-12
Jane Junquet	Alan & Susan Ulmer	Kathy Forward

REMEMBERING IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Ministry Partner: Jeff & Iris Ketcham - serving with Navigators, based in Colorado while coordinating ministries in twelve countries in Africa for training pastors and village leaders

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

Church of the week: Grace Coastal Presbyterian, Okatie; Jason Crenshaw, pastor

TRINITY FAMILY

Jimmy Wells and family: in the loss of his wife Linda

Joe Junquet: continued healing of his nerves

Melonie Anderson: recovering at home from recent 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 Karen Ford, Administrative Assistant Sandral Jackson, Bookkeeper	
ELDERS	DEACONS
Michael Salley Alan Ulmer Woody Watford	Jeff Folk Wayne Walling Jeff Watford
DEACON ASSISTANTS	
Larry Adicks, Terri Morrell, Lyle Polson	

CALENDAR		
SUN 12/22	8:45AM 9:30AM 10:30AM	PRAYER SUNDAY SCHOOL MORNING WORSHIP
TUE 12/24	6:00PM	CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE
SUN 12/29	8:45AM 9:30AM 10:30AM	PRAYER SUNDAY SCHOOL MORNING WORSHIP

TRINITY READING TOGETHER					
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
PSALM 117	PSALM 118	PSALM 119:1-32	PSALMS 119:33-64	PSALMS 119:65-104	PSALMS 119:105-136

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

Please scan this QR code and fill out our contact form.



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