

November 27, 2022



Trinity Presbyterian Church  
6800 Washington Avenue  
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[www.trinityucity.org](http://www.trinityucity.org)

[Facebook.com/trinityucity](https://Facebook.com/trinityucity)  
[trinityucity.org/worship](http://trinityucity.org/worship)

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - HOPE

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

#### Prelude

Violin Concerto in F minor, "Winter": Mvmt. I  
*by Antonio Vivaldi*

\* Please rise in body or in spirit.

#### Welcome & Announcements

Leader: The Lord be with you  
All: And also with you

#### \* Call to Worship

**Hope Is a Light**  
*v. 1*

Leader: The world says, "all is lost."  
People: **God says, "all is loved."**  
Leader: The darkness says, "the light is dying."  
People: **the light says, "the fire is catching."**  
Leader: Fear says, "Cover your eyes and your ears."  
People: **Hope says, "wait, watch, and listen."**

Hope is a light

Leader: As we light our first Advent candle,  
People: **we pray for the hope, God has promised.**  
Leader: Come now, O Child of Mary.  
People: **Come now, Emanuel, God with us.**

#### \* Gathering Song

**Prepare the Way, O Zion**  
*Glory to God #106, v. 1-3*

#### \* Invitation to Confession

**\* Prayer of Confession** (Unison)

**God of hope,  
from the lips of prophets and angels,  
you have brought words of warning and promise  
that one day you will draw near again,  
to bend swords into plowshares,  
to make streams in the desert,  
to liberate the oppressed  
to feed the hungry.**

**And yet, we listen to other voices  
that tell us to harbor hate and prepare for war,  
to hoard resources we think are ours,  
to uphold oppressive systems,  
to look past those in need.**

**Forgive us O God.  
Open our hearts to hear again,  
the promises you bring,  
and by your Spirit,  
allow us to watch and wait in abundant hope  
for your arrival in the world.  
Amen.**

**\* Assurance of God's Forgiveness**

Leader: Beloved, know this:  
the God who has come near,  
the God of transformation,  
the God of abundant hope,  
hears our prayers  
and pours God's love  
into our hearts.  
Believe the good news that  
through Christ we are forgiven!

**People: Thanks be to God – Amen!**

**\* Passing The Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you

**People: And, also with you.**

*Please share the peace of Christ with those around you*

**\* Song of Praise**

**Angels We Have Heard on High**  
*Glory to God #113, v. 1*

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**

**Time with Children**

**\* Prayer for Illumination**

**Retelling of the Story**

**Zechariah, Gabriel and Elizabeth**

**Anthem**

**Blest Be the God of Israel**  
*Glory to God #109, v. 1-3*

**Message**

**Rev. Mel Smith**

**Affirmation of Faith**

**Christ Jesus,  
though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death –  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:  
Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.**

**Song of Response**

**The People Who Walked in Darkness**  
*Glory to God #86, v. 1, 3, & 5*

**Prayers of the People**

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and glory forever. Amen.**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**Call to Offering**

**Invitation**

## Offertory

## Ad te levavi

Translation: To I have lifted up my soul, my God. In you I trust, I shall not be ashamed. Let not my enemies laugh me to scorn; for those who wait upon you shall not be confounded.

### \* Doxology

**We Are an Offering**  
*Glory to God #710, v. 1*

### Prayer of Dedication

**Merciful God,  
You have saved us from the worst the world can do  
and you have promised to redeem all of creation  
when Christ comes again.  
In faith and hope, we offer our gifts of money and self,  
that we may be part of what you are doing in the world even now,  
as we watch and wait for Christ to come in glory. Amen.**

### \* Song of Service

**I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**  
*Glory to God #377, v.1-3*

### \* Commission and Blessing

### Postlude

**Concerto Grosso, Op. 6, No. 8 “Fatto per la Notte di Natale”: Mvmts. I & II**  
*by Arcangelo Corelli*

**Please join us in the chapel after worship for fellowship!**

### About the Music

Advent begins from darkness, from far back: to prepare for something good, we must be coming from a place longing for it, for something new. The music this morning sets such a mood, starting with Vivaldi's depictions of the biting weather of winter; to a hymn about we who are in darkness; ending with the first two minor key movements Corelli's "Christmas" concerto. But intermingled are the first sprouts of expectation, such as with "Hope Is a Light," "Blest Be the God of Israel," "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light," and the first plainchant in the Liber Usualis (Book of Use), "Ad te levavi."

### Participants in Today's Worship

**Acolyte** – Lizzie Henderson

**Children & Youth Minister** – Hannah Peters

**Communications Coordinator** – Katie Gibbons

**Director of Music & Pianist/Organist** – Christian Hendricks

**Liturgist** – Cathy Smith

**Pastor** – Melanie Smith

**Technical Support** – Dylan Voss

**Ushers** – Jayne Howard

### **The Trinity Choir:**

*Soprano – Aleta Klein, Cricket Gordon, Jenn Clodi, Madeline Black (Section Leader)*

*Alto – Margy Brown, Nancy Wagoner, Rachel Presti, Janelle Pierce (Section Leader)*

*Tenor – Pat Courtney, Evan Babel (Section Leader)*

*Bass – Nigel Holloway, Brian Schroer*

Contact Trinity's staff and leadership by emailing [admin@trinityucity.org](mailto:admin@trinityucity.org) or contacting the church office.

## TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS AND NOTES FOR NOVEMBER 27, 2022

*We open our doors to all persons to join in worship, fellowship, educational programs, and service.*

*We welcome into membership all who profess faith in Jesus Christ without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, worldly conditions, sexual orientation, disability, or any other human condition.*

*We elect and ordain persons who are called by God and committed to serving the Lord Jesus Christ in the Church.*

**This Advent season, Trinity will be supporting the critical work of Saint Louis Crisis Nursery.** For over 36 years, the Saint Louis Crisis Nursery has been committed to preventing child abuse and neglect. The Crisis Nursery provides a short-term, safe haven for almost 5,000 children a year, birth through age 12, whose families face an emergency caused by illness, homelessness, domestic violence or overwhelming parental stress. Providing respite care to stressed parents in crisis can prevent child abuse.

In support of the Nursery, we will be collecting items baby Jesus would need if born today. Collection areas will be in the Narthex and Kingsland church entrances beginning Sunday, November 27 through Christmas Eve, December 24.

Blankets  
Pacifiers  
Training pants  
Soy formula

Anti-gas formula  
Anti-reflux formula  
Baby wipes  
Large size diapers

**Save the Date:** All women of the church are invited to our annual Christmas party and white elephant gift exchange. The date is Saturday, December 3, 11:30-1:30 in the church dining room. It will be a salad, dessert pot luck again this year. We had such fun last year and excellent attendance. Please put it on your calendar. Any questions, please contact Sandy Norkaitis, slnork@charter.net or 314-863-7699.

### **Kitchen Cabinet Future Gatherings**

Discussions were had and the future meetings of the Kitchen Cabinet will be in Person the First Thursday's of the month, and on Zoom the Third Thursday's of the month. See below for our tentative schedule:

#### **Next gatherings:**

Saturday, December 3 - Christmas party at Trinity - No Thursday gathering

Thursday, December 15 - Zoom

Thursday, January 5 at Trinity, Weems Chapel

Thursday, January 19 - Zoom

**The Food Pantry uses the local Schnucks store to purchase canned goods and other non-perishables for the pantry.** We are taking part in the Schnucks reward program and receive award credits to use as credit against our food pantry purchases. If you shop at Schnucks, you too can add to this by using Trinity's phone number 725-3840 when checking out. The credit will go against future food pantry purchases. The small amounts add up!

**Trinity is "broadcasting" our Sunday morning 10 a.m. worship service via our Facebook page or you can watch the recording on YouTube later on.** Those who participate in this way on home computers or mobile devices can even type messages to one another during the live service, such as doing a virtual passing of the peace. Also, Facebook has captions! While watching the service, find the gear icon at the bottom of the video and click on it. When you do, an option pops up to turn on closed captioning!

**While we live in this challenging time, Trinity continues to be available to all those who need us.** Members desiring pastoral care are encouraged to call the church office at 314-725-3840 or to reach out to Deacon Corie Merker, 314-434-8286. Your need will be shared confidentially with our Pastor the Reverend Mel Smith. You also can email her directly at [melanie.smith@trinityucity.org](mailto:melanie.smith@trinityucity.org)

**Supporting the church through your financial gifts continues to be encouraged!** Please mail your contributions to Trinity Presbyterian Church, Att'n: Linde, 6800 Washington Ave., University City, MO 63130, or check out the online giving instructions below.

- 1) Text the code TPCDONATE \$[your gift] to 73256. You'll receive a text back with a link that lets you complete your online donation.
- 2) Log in to your Onrealm account ([onrealm.org](http://onrealm.org)) and click on the "Giving" tab.

#### **Session**

Diana Gray, Kevin Harkins, Diane Hemphill, Jayne Howard, Jane Kaiser, Mary Klingensmith,  
Sarah New Mayer (Clerk), Mary McKown, Bob Parks, Jan Schulte-Glad

#### **Deacons**

Anna Gardner-Andrews, DeAnne Brown, Stacey Carman, Cricket Gordon, Jennifer Higginbotham,  
Corie Merker, John Merker, Jim Person, Art Platt, Christy Schindler