



November 28, 2021

Trinity Presbyterian Church  
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[Facebook.com/trinityucity](https://www.facebook.com/trinityucity)  
[trinityucity.org/worship](http://trinityucity.org/worship)

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

\* Please rise in body or in spirit.

#### Prelude

**Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme**  
*by J.S. Bach*

#### Welcome & Announcements

Leader: This is a day that God has made!  
All: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

*Time for sharing news of the church.*

#### \* Opening the “Door” to Worship

Leader: The pandemic has laid bare, and widened,  
economic disparity locally and globally.

**People: As we enter the Advent season,  
how can our church become a house where the Holy will be born anew –  
offering respite, sustenance and care,  
opening the doors ever wider  
to those seeking shelter from the onslaught of life?**

Leader: No one church can do it all, but each can do something.  
As we study the biblical prophets that call us to care for our neighbors  
and “make room in the inn,”  
the lonely and frightened spaces within us  
are filled with the light of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

**\* Opening the “Door” Music**

“Hope Waits for Us at Advent”

by Amanda Udis-Kessler

**Hope waits for us at Advent  
Hope waits for us to trust.  
Hope waits for our commitment  
to a land that’s kind and just.  
In this time of preparation  
for the work of co-creation,  
for the birthing of a world  
that heals the ones in pain.  
Hope is born in us again!**

**\* Lighting the “Hope” Candle on the Advent Wreath**

**Leader:** Today we offer the Light of Hope to illumine the Door of Welcome.

**People:** **May this light shine in our hearts, in our lives, and in our church.**

**Leader:** As we light our first candle of Advent here in the sanctuary and in our homes may Hope awaken us to possibilities and lead us to greater hospitality.

**People:** **There *IS* room in this Inn, a House for the Holy.**

**\* Opening the “Door” Music Reprise**

**Hope waits for us at Advent  
Hope waits for us to trust.  
Hope waits for our commitment  
to a land that’s kind and just.  
In this time of preparation  
for the work of co-creation,  
for the birthing of a world  
that heals the ones in pain.  
Hope is born in us again!**

**\* Gathering Advent Song**

**All Hail to God’s Anointed**  
*Glory to God #149, v. 1-4*

**\* Invitation to Confession**

**Leader:** If only our hurtful words, our damaging actions,  
our foolish choices would just go away.  
But they don’t, and so we offer them, as well as ourselves,  
to God for forgiveness and for our healing.  
Please join me, as we pray together saying:

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

**The chances we have to be more compassionate; the moments to offer hope to a lonely friend; the good fortune we could give to those who have so little. The signs are all around us, Good and Upright God, of how we fail to live as your people.**

**Do not meditate on our bungling ways, God of steadfast love, but remember the mercy of Your heart. That mercy which forgives us; that mercy which makes us whole; and especially, that living mercy who came down one night so long ago, Jesus the Advent of our redemption, through whom we pray. Amen.**

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

Leader: Raise your heads, children of God!  
In the bleak mid-winter of our lives, our redemption draws near.  
In the springtime of our doubts, the Realm of God approaches.

People: **Even when we feel most alone,  
the One who comes to us is the salvation promised so long ago.  
Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Alleluia!**

**\* Passing The Hope**

Leader: Since God in Christ Jesus has forgiven us,  
let us forgive one another.  
The Hope of Jesus Christ be with you all.  
Please wave and say to one another or type in the comments  
“We are people of Hope!”

**\* Song of Praise**

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

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**

**Prayer for Illumination**

Leader: Holy Source of life and hope, as we come together this day, open our ears to hear, open our eyes to see, and open our hearts to love, that we may come to know your ways and follow your paths. Amen.

**First Scripture Reading**

**Jeremiah 33:14-16 (CEB version)**

The time is coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill my gracious promise with the people of Israel and Judah. In those days and at that time, I will raise up a righteous branch from David's line, who will do what is just and right in the land. In those days, Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is what he will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

**Anthem**

**The Manger is Stranger**  
*Amanda Udis-Kessler*

**Second Scripture Reading**

**Psalms 25:4-5 (CEB version)**

Make your ways known to me, Lord;  
teach me your paths.  
Lead me in your truth—teach it to me—  
because you are the God who saves me.  
I put my hope in you all day long.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.  
All: **Thanks be to God.**

**Making Room for Hope Video**

Message

**“Making Room for Hope”**

**Rev. Marilyn Gamm**

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### \* Advent Song of Response

**Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus**  
*Glory to God #82, v. 1-2*

### Prayers of the People

*A time for silent prayers will be offered during the Prayers of the People.*

#### Prayer Song Verse 1

“Make of My Heart a Stable”

by Amanda Udis-Kessler

**Make of my heart a stable,  
a house for the holy,  
a warm and sturdy place  
for [hope] to live and grow.**

Leader: In this moment we open the doors of our hearts  
to honesty before God about what we've done and left undone  
that created less hope in a hurting world.

Let us breathe out this regret...  
and breathe in the life-giving, for-giving Spirit of God...  
and out again with the Hope of Christ...

#### Prayer Song Verse 2

“Make of My Heart a Stable”

by Amanda Udis-Kessler

**Make of my life a stable,  
a house for the holy,  
a warm and sturdy place  
for [hope] to live and grow.**

Leader: In this moment we open the doors of our lives to the call of the Spirit,  
inviting us to become more than we can ask or imagine.

Let us breathe out our fear...  
and breathe in the courage of the Spirit of God...  
and out again, with the Hope of Christ...

#### Prayer Song Verse 3

“Make of My Heart a Stable”

by Amanda Udis-Kessler

**Make of our church a stable,  
a house for the holy,  
a warm and sturdy place  
for [hope] to live and grow.**

Leader: In this moment we open the doors of this church,  
filling it with the compassion of Christ for all those who are struggling.

We remember and pray for.... We pray this in the name of Jesus,  
who taught us to pray:

## 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 the glory forever. Amen.**

## Offering

### Invitation

### \* Doxology

**God, We Honor You**  
*Glory to God #709, v. 1*

### \* Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

**Because of you, Abundant God, we have blessings to offer to others. May you use our gifts to restore hope to the despairing, to feed the hungry, and to fill the empty hearts of the lonely. This we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

## WE GO FORTH TO SERVE IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

### \* Carol of Service

**O Little Town of Bethlehem**  
*Glory to God #121, v. 1-4*

### \* Commission and Blessing

## Postlude

**“The Christmas Tree” Op. 36, No. 2**  
*by Niels W. Gade*

### Participants in Today's Worship

**Pastor** – Marilyn Gamm

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

**Liturgist** – Susan Rava

**Children & Youth Minister** – Hannah Peters

**Communications Coordinator** – Katie Gibbons

**Technical Support** – Dylan Voss and John Roman

**Ushers** – Jim Person, Diane O'Brien, Cathy Smith

### **The Trinity Choir:**

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

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

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

*Bass – George Van Hare, Nigel Holloway, John Galczynski*

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 28, 2021**

*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.*

**2021 Advent-Christmas Worship Series**

Our theme for the four Sundays of Advent beginning November 28, along with framing the traditional Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols, and for the Sunday after Christmas is “The Inn: Housing the Holy.”

As we enter the Advent season, we are being invited to consider ways our church can become a “house” where the Holy may be born anew – offering respite, sustenance, and care, opening our doors ever wider to those seeking shelter from the onslaught of life.

This special worship series is an invitation to spend this Advent and Christmas seeing our church, community, and world situations through the light of the Star of Bethlehem that shone on an unlikely shelter for the holy – a stable, a barn, a shelter for farm animals.

Each week, in the midst of our church family’s ongoing transitional and pandemic uncertainties, we will be reminded that the Light of Christ continues shining on us, inviting us to become a beacon of hope, peace, joy and love to others.

As such, our weekly worship format has been modified to include a time of “Opening the ‘Door’ to Worship” liturgy, music, and Advent wreath candle lighting "as we from wherever in person and online we are gathering are “called to worship.”

There will also be an appropriately for the Sunday hope, peace, joy, and love themed “Making Room” video as part of the weekly sermon message.

And the weekly Prayers of the People, except for Holy Communion Sunday December 5, will include liturgy and music encouraging us to “Make of My Heart a Stable.”

**Advent Wreath and Daily Devotions**

Beginning this Sunday, we will be sending a daily email Advent devotion for your own and your family’s use during this season of waiting and preparation to celebrate the Christmas gift of Emmanuel coming into the world as the baby Jesus once more.

Printed versions of these new 2021 devotions written by Trinity members and friends have also been mailed to those without email, and a few copies are still available for pick up in the sanctuary.

A way to set aside even a short a space of time to reflect upon each daily devotion is to use an Advent wreath, which those joining us online can also light each Sunday as you participate in worship with us.

### **Kitchen Cabinet Annual Christmas Gathering**

All women in the church are invited to our annual Christmas party on December 4, 11:30-1:30 in the church dining room. Please bring a salad or dessert to share. A white elephant gift exchange is also planned. A white elephant is something you no longer use but you know someone else would love!!!

We missed being together last year and look forward to seeing everyone for this fun party. Please wear a mask and vaccinations are certainly encouraged for all attendees.

Questions please call Sandy Norkaitis, 314-863-7699.

### **Called Congregation Meeting via Zoom**

**Sunday, December 12, 2021**

**11:30 a.m.**

The Session has called a Congregation meeting via Zoom Sunday, December 12, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. for the purpose of electing members to the Session and to the Board of Deacons, to elect two members of the congregation to the 2022 Nominating Committee, and to elect three members to the Endowment and Planned Giving Committee.

### **The Holiday Season is upon us!**

#### **Christmas Eve 5:00 Family Service**

Third grade children through high school youth are invited to participate as a reader or in the prelude .

Please let Miss Hannah know by December 10 if you are interested. If you are participating in the prelude, I will need to know the Christmas carol and instrument you are playing. Happy Holidays to All!!

### **Advent Mission Opportunity**

This holiday season, Trinity staff have chosen to support our ever growing Winger Food Pantry. Throughout Advent (November 28 - December 19) we ask Trinity members to bring any of the following donations to the room off of the Narthex:

Personal care items, for example:

soap

deodorant

toilet paper

toothpaste

toothbrushes

laundry detergent (smaller containers)

Merry Christmas and thank you!

**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 Sundays.** 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!

**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 Deacons Corie Merker, 314-434-8286, or Cathy Smith, 314-725-0586. Your need will be shared confidentially with our Transitional Pastor the Reverend Marilyn Gamm. You also can email her directly at [Marilyn.gamm@trinityucity.org](mailto:Marilyn.gamm@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**

Gordon Brown, Diana Gray, Kevin Harkins, Nigel Holloway, Mary Klingensmith, Sarah New Mayer, Mary McKown, Brian Muegge (Clerk), Bob Parks, Rachel Presti, Jan Schulte-Glad

#### **Deacons**

DeAnne Brown, Bill Cahoon, Stacey Carman, Anna Gardner-Andrews, Corie Merker, John Merker, Jim Person, Art Platt, Diana Regan, Joanne Roman, Cathy Smith, Spirit Sorensen