



December 5, 2021

Trinity Presbyterian Church  
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## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

\* Please rise in body or in spirit.

#### Prelude

**“Pifa” from Messiah**  
*by G.F. Handel*

#### 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: Like the childhood game of “musical chairs,”  
we are convinced that there are not enough places at the table.  
**People: And so we shrink the guest list just in case there is not enough,  
and we scramble to occupy the chairs first.**  
Leader: And yet our sacred texts invite us to imagine and make real  
the gathering of all people to the table,  
robed in the garments of a Peace that comes with justice.  
**People: This is what really matters – this is the fruit of what is right and good.**

#### \* Opening the “Door” Music

“Peace Waits for Us at Advent”

by Amanda Udis-Kessler

**Peace waits for us at Advent  
Peace waits for us to rest.  
Peace waits for our acceptance  
of the truth that we are blessed.  
In this time of preparation**

**for the work of co-creation,  
for the birthing of a world  
of gentleness and play.  
Peace is born in us each day!**

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

**Leader:** Today we offer the Light of Peace 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 second candle of Advent here in the sanctuary and in our homes may Peace 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**

**Peace waits for us at Advent  
Peace waits for us to rest.  
Peace waits for our acceptance  
of the truth that we are blessed.  
In this time of preparation  
for the work of co-creation,  
for the birthing of a world  
of gentleness and play.  
Peace is born in us each day!**

**\* Gathering Advent Song**

**People, Look East**  
*Glory to God #105, v. 1-5*

**\* Invitation to Confession**

**Leader:** So many talking, so much noise – how do we hear God’s words?  
So many people, such crowded days – how do we see the One coming to us?  
Let us confess how the distractions of our lives  
keep us from knowing, and living, the true meaning of the season  
as we pray together saying:

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

**Forgive us, Alive God, that in the music in the stores and the jingles in the air, we do not hear the songs of the angels; that in the hustle and bustle of every day and every one, we do not see the child standing alone in tears, the family struggling for existence, the outcasts pushed further away from hope; that in the pitches over the airwaves and online, we do not find the peace, the hope, the joy, all the gifts you offer to your children.**

**Pour out your tender mercy upon us, God of blessings, and finish what you have started in us. As we share in your grace, may we also share in the work of the gospel of peace, of hope, of reconciliation begun in the birth of Jesus, our Sibling, our Savior through whom we pray. Amen.**

**\* Assurance of God’s Forgiveness**

**Leader:** Like a warm shawl, God drapes tender mercy around our souls;  
like the moon on a winter night,  
God’s Light breaks through our shadows, showing us the path to life.

**People:** The street of peace, the avenue of hope, the path of grace, the road to service – hand in hand, we walk the ways of our God. Alleluia!

**\* Passing The Peace**

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

**\* 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:** We are preparing our homes, and our gifts, Holy God, but we need help in preparing our spirits to receive your message of Peace. Free us from the stresses and strains of this time, and place your peace which passes all our understanding in our hearts. For we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

**First Scripture Reading**

**Baruch 5:1-5 (CEB)**

Take off your mourning clothes  
and oppression, Jerusalem!  
Dress yourself in the dignity  
of God's glory forever.  
Wrap the justice that comes from God around yourself like a robe.  
Place the eternal one's glory  
on your head like a crown.  
God will show your brilliance everywhere under heaven.  
God will give you this name  
by which to be called forever:  
The Peace That Comes from Justice,  
The Honor That Comes  
from Reverence for God!  
Get up, Jerusalem!  
Stand on the high place,  
and look around to the east!  
See your children gathered  
from the west to the east  
by the holy one's word,  
as they rejoice that God has remembered them.

**Anthem**

**Good King Wenceslas**  
*arr. Christian Hendricks*

## Second Scripture Reading

**Philippians 1:3-11 (CEB)**

I thank my God every time I mention you in my prayers. I'm thankful for all of you every time I pray, and it's always a prayer full of joy. I'm glad because of the way you have been my partners in the ministry of the gospel from the time you first believed it until now. I'm sure about this: the one who started a good work in you will stay with you to complete the job by the day of Christ Jesus. I have good reason to think this way about all of you because I keep you in my heart. You are all my partners in God's grace, both during my time in prison and in the defense and support of the gospel. God is my witness that I feel affection for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.

This is my prayer: that your love might become even more and more rich with knowledge and all kinds of insight. I pray this so that you will be able to decide what really matters and so you will be sincere and blameless on the day of Christ. I pray that you will then be filled with the fruit of righteousness, which comes from Jesus Christ, in order to give glory and praise to God.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## Making Room for Peace Video

Message "Making Room at the Table of Peace"

Rev. Marilyn Gamm

### WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\* Advent Song of Response

**For Everyone Born**  
*Glory to God #769, v. 1-5*

## Offering

### Invitation

\* Doxology #

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

\* Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

**Ever-Creating God, you come in this holy season with the simple gift of life itself. You invite us to share from the abundance of our lives, so others might be filled with life, with peace, with hope, with love, and with grace. Bringer of Peace, bless these gifts we return to you, so they may be used to share your gospel of wholeness and welcome for all. Amen.**

## Celebration of Holy Communion

### Invitation

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

*A time for silent prayers will be offered during the Great Prayer.*

Leader: The Holy One be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People:** We lift them up to our God.  
**Leader:** Let us give thanks to the God of Peace that comes with justice.  
**People:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Leader:** It is right .... their unending hymn:

### Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)

*by Christian Hendricks*

Piano

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, lord God of love and light, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

The musical score is for a piano accompaniment. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a time signature of 6/8. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes.

**Leader:** Holy are you .... we call faith:

### Memorial Acclamation (Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen)

*by Christian Hendricks*

1. 2. 3. 4.

Christ has died, Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain. A - - - men.

The musical score is for a vocal line. It features a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a time signature of 4/4. The melody is written on a single staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. There are four numbered phrases.

**Leader:** Pour out your ... And now let us pray together the prayer  
Jesus taught his disciples to say:

### 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.**

### Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup

### Sharing the Bread and Cup Together

### Prayer after Communion: (Unison)

**Nourishing God, thank you for inviting making room for us at your Table of Peace where all are welcome, and for feeding us with the Bread of Life and quenching our thirst with the Cup of Blessing. As you have filled our lives with Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, may we be a source of your Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love for others who hunger and thirst for good news. Amen.**

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

### \* Carol of Service

**It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**  
*Glory to God #123, v. 1-5*

### \* Commission and Blessing

### Postlude

**Still, Still, Still**  
*Traditional Austrian Carol*

### Participants in Today's Worship

**Pastor** – Marilyn Gamm

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

**Liturgist** – Pat Gibbons

**Children & Youth Minister** – Hannah Peters

**Communications Coordinator** – Katie Gibbons

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

**Ushers** – John Merker, Corie Merker, Stacey Carman

### **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 DECEMBER 5, 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, along with framing the traditional Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols, and for the Sunday after Christmas is "The Inn: Housing the Holy."

This 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.

Our 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 are being 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.”

## **CATCH THE VISION 2022 Financial Pledge Update**

### **Our 2022 financial pledge stewardship campaign continues!**

Stewardship is a time to rededicate ourselves to the mission and ministry of Trinity Church.

In the words of our stewardship hymn, God “[empowers] us to catch the vision, dream the dream! In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!”

For those of you who have submitted your “Catch the Vision” 2022 financial pledge to Trinity’s mission and ministry, Thank You!

As of November 29, 2021 Trinity’s 2022 Financial Pledges were:

30 households     \$156,470

Trinity is truly a Generous congregation!

More than 60% of the pledges received so far are increased compared to 2021 or from new pledgers.

Together you have committed a more than 20% increase compared to a similar point in time last year.

This compares with total financial pledges for the past two years as follows:

2021:	53 households	\$210,290
2020:	60 households	\$254,750

If you have not yet made a financial pledge, please join me in prayerfully considering what you can give in 2022.

Each of us is important, and every gift is a blessing.

- Jenn Clodi

### **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