

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. If you are new to Trinity Presbyterian Church, you are our very special guest! Our desire is to help you get connected in a warm and genuine way. Would you consider sharing your name and address with us in the Friendship Pad located on the left end of the row you are sitting on now? We welcome you this morning in the strong name of our Lord Jesus Christ and would love to see you again next week!

WHO WE ARE

Our mission statement is this: *Trinity Presbyterian Church is a worshipping community that exists to proclaim the Gospel of the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ in word and deed to our suburban communities and the world.* We are guided by three core values: the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ to change lives, a commitment to the gospel-created community called the church, and a mission to see God's Kingdom extended to our world.

PLEASE VISIT THE "INFORMATION CENTER"

For information or answers to questions that you might have about TPC, please visit our Information Center which you will find in the Narthex. There you will find information about Trinity, the PCA and our church activities. Someone will be available to assist you before and after the worship service.

ADULT BIBLE FELLOWSHIP HOUR 9:00 A.M.

The Book of Zechariah	Room 130	Steve LeBlanc
College/Career : John's Gospel	Room 230	Eubanks and Kirkpatrick

WEEKLY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	TIME/PLACE	ROOM
Sunday	Sunday School	9:00 a.m.	Various
	Worship	10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
Monday	No ESL Classes	7:00—8:30 p.m.	Various
Wednesday	Blue Christmas	6:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
Thursday	No ESL Classes		
Saturday	Christmas Eve Service	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD
TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 18, 2011 ▪ 10:30 a.m. ▪ FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Thoughts for Worship Preparation

A prison cell, in which one waits, hopes...and is completely dependent on the fact that the door of freedom has to be opened from the outside, is not a bad picture of Advent.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Our freedom has come in an unexpected way. Freedom from the consequences of sin, gained for us by One born of peasants in a truck-stop town in Judea.

Charles Colson

Christmas is the most stunning rescue story of all time.

John Eldredge

I love the fact that some of the most beloved carols essentially originated as rebel songs. In England during the 15th century, Catholics were forbidden to sing in the English language, or to even sing at all for the most part. Yet carols were the one exception. Additionally, certain factions of Puritanism during the late 16th century forbid any outward display of emotion. But again, carols remained the one type of song that allowed people to celebrate with their lips, instruments and even dancing. For those forbidden to even smile or smirk during the remainder of the year, this was much cause for rejoicing!

Keith Getty

When Christ entered our world, He didn't come to brighten our Decembers, but to transform our lives.

Rich Miller

Joseph didn't know whether to call Him Junior or Father. But in the end called Him Jesus, since that's what the angel said and since he didn't have the faintest idea what to name a God he could cradle in his arms.

Max Lucado

Harp and Organ Prelude *"I Saw Three Ships"* *arr. Dale Wood*

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Rev. Michael and Denise Wichlan family

Prayer of Invocation

The Rev. John McCracken

*Thank you for
disabling your cell
phones as you
prepare for worship.*

Wonderful Words of Christmas Worship

A Concert of Special Words that set Christmas Apart

Music from a French dance, lyrics by Englishman, William Morris, 1860. Extolls God's concern for the poor, exemplified in the first people to hear about Jesus' birth—Shepherds! "Holpen: archaic word for "help."

Anonymous 17th Century English carol. Each stanza narrates a different aspect of the Christmas story. Some think "Noel" is from the Latin word "novella," meaning news, Good News!

"Masters in This Hall"

arr. Audrey Snyder, adpt. D. Leeman

Masters in this hall, hear ye news today brought from over sea, and ever I you pray. Noel, noel, noel! Noel sing we clear! Holpen are all folk on earth, born. Born is God's Son so dear. Refrain: Noel, noel, noel! Noel sing we loud! God today hath poor folk raised up and cast adown the proud. "How name ye this lord, shepherds?" Then said I, "Very God" they said, "Come from heaven high." Refrain: Noel, noel, noel! Noel sing we loud! God today hath poor folk raised up and cast adown the proud. This is Christ the Lord, Masters, be ye glad! Christmas has come in and no folk should be sad! Refrain: Noel, noel, noel! Noel sing we loud! God today hath poor folk raised up and cast a-down the proud. Noel!

"The First Noel"

arr. Dave Leeman

All sing

**The first Noel, the angels did say,
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel!**

Ladies Only

**They looked up and saw a star
shining in the East beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel!**

Men Only

**And by the light of that same star,
three Wise Men came from country far;
To seek for a King was their intent
and to follow the star wherever it went.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel!**

Solo, Laura Seale

**This star drew nigh to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both pause and stay
right o'er the place where Jesus lay.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel!**

All Sing, quietly.

**Then entered in those Wise men three full reverently upon their knee;
And offered there in His presence their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel!**

**All Sing, loudly!*

**Then let us all, with one accord, sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made Heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood mankind has bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel!**

Pastoral Commentary: NOEL and MERRY

“God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen” No. 211, arr. John Jay Hess, adpt. D. Leeman
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 Heavenly 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: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy. Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place, and with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace; this holy tide of Christmas all other doth deface: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

Arranged in a five-part round of the stanzas. This is not about merry gentlemen, but a prayer for gentlemen to be merry! “Rest” means “make.”

Sung to Scrooge in Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol,” he responds with such anger the singer flees!

* **“Good Christian Men, Rejoice”** Hymn No. 207

IN DULCI JUBILO

*A marcaronic
(bilingual) carol—
Latin and German.
It offers an
alternative to the
worn-out “Merry
Christmas”:
“Christ was born
to save!”*

**Good Christian men rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Give ye heed to what we say, News! News! Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before Him bow and He is in the manger now,
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice,
Now ye hear of endless bliss; Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven’s door and we are blessed forevermore;
Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!**

**Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Jesus Christ was born to save;
Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!**

Pastoral Commentary: COME

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

arr. John Ferguson

*O come, o come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear; Rejoice! Rejoice!*

*A truly American
carol, written by
Phillip Brooks,
pastor of Holy
Trinity Church in
Boston. His
organist, Lewis
Redner, wrote the
tune in 1868, but
named it
ST LOUIS
instead of LEWIS
so as not to
embarrass him!*

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” Hymn No. 201

ST LOUIS

**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.**

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to 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.**

Pastoral Commentary: CAME

“He Came Here for Me”

words and music, Ron Nelson

Born in a stable, he came here for me; born of a virgin he came here for me. God’s only Son, come to set the world free. Born of God’s love and he came here for me. Savior of the world I praise Thee. Jesus, Lamb of God, I pray to thee, hear me, as I praise Thy birth. Bend down thine ear and hear my prayer. Over the stable a star shone so bright, guiding three Wise Men who rode through the night. He was called Baby Jesus, he came here for me. Born to this world, then he died here for me.

“Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor” Hymn No. 230

QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGRABLE

**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,
heavenward 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.**

Pastoral Commentary: MYSTERY

Nelson, retired professor of music composition at Brown University. An unusual Christmas song that tells the end of the story! Recorded by Karen Carpenter on her Christmas album.

Written at a difficult time in the history of the missions to China; missionaries were captured by the communist Red Army. Some were beheaded. When the news reached the mission’s headquarters in Shanghai, Frank Houghton began a tour to visit various missionary outposts. While traveling at Christmas over the mountains of Szechwan, words of 2 Corinthians 8:9, “though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor,” were his inspiration for this unusual Christmas hymn.

A responsorial
chant from the
Matins for
Christmas in the
Catholic worship
service. This
setting was
commissioned by
the Los Angeles
Master Chorale
in 1994.

“O Magnam Mysterium”

Morten Lauridsen

*O magnum mysterium,
et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum
natum, jacentem in praesepe!
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera
meruerunt portare
Dominum Christum. Alleluia!*

O great mystery,
and wondrous sacrament,
that animals should see the new-born
Lord, lying in their manger
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb
was worthy to bear the
Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten,” Hymn No. 162 DIVINE MYSTERIUM

A plainsong
(chant) melody
from the 13th
century. To be
sung in unison
and speech-
rhythm rather
than rigid tempo.
It is a doxology of
worship drawn
from John’s
visions in
Revelation.

MEN ONLY

**Of the Father’s love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!**

WOMEN ONLY

**O ye heights of heaven adore Him; angel hosts, His praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before Him, and extol our God and King!
Let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert sing,
Evermore and evermore!**

ALL

**Christ, to Thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn and chant with high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore!**

Welcome and Invitation to Giving

Mr. McCracken

Musical Offering “Greensleeves Variations” arr. A. Fleury and Dewey Owens

Flute and Harp

Pastoral Commentary: CHILDREN

“Your Little Ones, Dear Lord” words, Hans A. Brorson, music, David Cherwien

Your little ones, dear Lord are we, and come your lowly bed to see; enlighten every soul and mind, that we the way to you may find. With songs we hasten you to greet, and kiss the ground before your feet. Oh, blessed hour, oh, sweetest night that gave you birth, our soul’s delight. Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord, and to us all your grace accord; true faith and love to us impart, that we may hold you in our heart.

*Traditional
Danish Lutheran
children’s lullaby
from the 1700’s.*

“Away in a Manger” Hymn No. 205 solo, Carlye Parmar CRADLE SONG

SOLO

**Away in a manger no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head,
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

*Traditional
American lullaby
from the mid 1800’s.
Another tune
commonly used is
MUELLER, but this
was the original
tune to this text. A
wonderful children’s
bedtime prayer for
Christmas.*

ALL

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes,
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle til morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray,
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.**

Pastoral Commentary: ROSE

“There is No Rose” words, anonymous ca. 1420; music, Stephen Caracciolo
Duet, Julie Lantiere and Ilana Lemke

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu. Alleluia. For in this rose contained was Heav’n and earth in little space. Resmiranda (marvelous thing). By that rose we may well see there be on God in persons three. Pares forma. (equal in form). Leave we all this worldly mirth, and follow we this joyful birth. Transeamus. (Let us go) There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu. Gaudeamus. (Let us rejoice)

*English traditional
carol, describing the
God-head as a many-
pedaled rose;
complex, beautiful,
fragrant, virtuous.
Recorded by Sting
on his Christmas
album.*

German carol that combines Old Testament prophecies of the rose and stem of Jesse in Isaiah 11:1 and 35:1-3 with theology of the saving work from the New Testament. It is a hymnic-sermon telling us the birth story, and then the meaning of the imagery: "true man, yet very God."

Hairston was an American composer and actor in dozens of movies and TV shows, but most commonly known on the TV comedy series, "Amen."

18th century French carol with Latin refrain.

Pronunciation:

Glaw-ree-uh
een
egg-shell-sees
Day-oh

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" Hymn 221 ES IST EIN ROS ENTSPRUNGEN

**Lo, how a rose e'er blooming, from tender stem hath sprung.
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung;
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.**

**Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind;
To show God's love aright, she bore to men a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.**

**O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere;
True man, yet very God; from sin and death he saves us,
and lightens every load.**

Pastoral Commentary: GLORIA

"Wonderful Counselor" Solo, Eric Baesel Jester Hairston, adpt. D. Leeman

*Tell me who do you call the wonderful counselor, oh, oh, oh, oh Glory, Hallelujah!
Glory, Hallelujah to the new-born King. Well I call Jesus the wonderful counselor...
and you'll find him in Bethlehem wrapp'd in de manger...Well you follow de star and
you'll find de baby...Den de three wise men went looking' for de baby...And they
found him in Bethlehem wrapped in de manger...Tell me who do you call de wonder-
ful counselor?...Now I call Jesus de wonderful counselor...oh, oh, oh, oh Glory, Hal-
lelujah! Glory, Hallelujah to the new-born King.*

* **"Angels We Have Heard on High"** Hymn No. 214

GLORIA

Gloria, in excelsis Deo, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.
**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.**
Gloria, in excelsis Deo, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.
**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.**
Gloria, in excelsis Deo, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

Trinity Opportunities for Christmas Worship

Mr. McCracken

Introduction of New Members

Mr. Wichlan

Marcus and Mimi Bowie, Cary and Esta Ann Geron

Emma Gorman, *Communing member admitted to the Lord's Table*

George and Linda Northcott

***Charge and Benediction**

Mr. McCracken

Minister: Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. The wise in heart are called discerning, and pleasant words promote instruction. Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers, and blessed is he who trust in the LORD.

Proverbs 16:20-21, 24

People: With God's help, we will.

Minister: Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loves us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word. Amen.

II Thessalonians 2:16-17

People: Thanks be to God! Amen!

Organ Postlude

Trinity Choir: Concert program created and directed by Dave Leeman

Soprano: Joanne Brown, Judy Franklin, Julie Lantiere, Barbara Leeman, Ilana Lemke, Mona Lindsey, Jo Moffett, Janet Recker, Laura Seale

Alto: Janice Arion, Selorm Arku-Nyadia, Karin Elliott, Connie Heersink, Debbie Montgomery, Kellie Parmar, Gretchen Rehlin, Tina Thiel

Tenor: Eric Baesel, Coleman Eubanks, David Eubanks, Brett Lemke, Bob Gehman

Bass: Les Ackerman, Gary Brantz, Allen Hunter, Paul Moffett, Steve Recker, Mark Stevenson

Harp: Juliette Buchanan **Flute and Recorder:** Tina Thiel

Viola: Emily Hunter **French Horn:** Virginia Primozic;

Double Bass: Graham Eubanks **Percussion:** Thomas Primozic;

Organ and Keyboard: Douglass McFarland

Juliette Buchanan, harpist, lives in McKinney and is a member of the Plano Symphony Orchestra. All other instrumentalists are members of Trinity Presbyterian Church.