

*Order of Worship and Announcements  
for the Week of December 13, 2020*



The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey W. Beebe, Transitional Pastor  
Heasuk Che, Director of Music/Organist  
Brooke Tucker, Director of Faith Formation  
Lillian Warner, Director of Handbell Choir  
Tom Buonocore, Sexton  
Judy Grady, Finance and Administration Assistant  
Dana Mack, Church Receptionist

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Facebook: Trinity Presbyterian Church USA

*Sunday, December 13, 2020*  
*Third Sunday of Advent - Joy*

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Preparation for Worship-Let us join together now and prepare for worship.

Dear Family of God – these are trying days in God’s beloved world. As Christ’s Church, sustained by the Holy Spirit, we have gifts and a call by which to care for one another and our neighbors. Worship in which we encounter our living God and know ourselves connected to the body continues. So this day, even though we worship at a distance, we read the same Scriptures, and share in the same prayers, we are held together on this Sunday morning. Let us prepare our hearts and minds to worship the living Lord.

Prelude "Mary Did You Know?" with "Silent Night" arr. Page

Call to Worship\* (Lay Reader – Carol Corson)

Once upon a time, there was a little girl who had a terrible day.  
She left her lunch at home.

She skinned her knee on the playground, and no one wanted to sit with her on the bus.  
As she sank into her mother’s arms at the end of the day, her mother said,  
“Honey, what was the best part of today?”

The little girl cried and said, “Nothing! The entire day was terrible.”  
So the mother got down on one knee, wiped away her tears and said,  
“There is always some good. Sometimes we just really have to look for it.”

The little girl looked up at her mom and said, “What is good about today?”  
And the mother said, “For starters, you’re here in my arms.”

Friends, anytime we gather together to worship God, we are here in God’s arms.  
So may we recognize that gift, and in doing so, may we sow joy.  
Let us worship Holy God.

Hymn #106	"Prepare the Way, O Zion"	Berthier
1 Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near! Let every hill and valley a level way appear. Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story. <b>[Refrain]</b>	2 He brings God’s rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above. His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love. Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding. <b>[Refrain]</b>	

<b>Refrain:</b> O blest is Christ who came in God’s most holy name.	3 Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior’s rule embrace, and tidings of salvation proclaim in every place. All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing. <b>[Refrain]</b>
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Candle Lighting (Lance, Brandie, Zoe and Addie Alred)

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, “Rejoice.”  
The world says, “Worry,” and we say, “Rejoice.”  
The news says, “Fear,” and we say, “Rejoice.”  
The world says, “Be happy,” and the church says, “Be faithful.”  
As we light our third Advent candle,  
**We pray for hope, peace, and joy.**  
Come now, O child of Mary.  
**Come now, O Prince of Joy.**

Prayer of Confession\*

O Great Writer,

With a sky full of stars and a world full of flowers, there should be no end to my joy.  
And yet, instead of decorating my very being with joy, I let it slip away like loose change.  
Instead of singing like Mary, or dancing like David,

I pass by remarkable beauty and love most days, unfazed. Forgive me.

Teach me the ways of children, who laugh and dance and sing  
as if joy is the very thing that keeps them alive.

Maybe they have joy figured out.

Gratefully we pray, amen. (*Silence for Reflection*)

Declaration of Forgiveness

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Anthem

"O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"

arr. Warner

Handbell Choir

The Road to Bethlehem

Affirmation of Faith\*

Great Creator,

We are in awe of you.

We will never know how you managed to dream up

Mountains and valleys,

Freckles, dimples, and curly hair,

A cool morning mist,

The change of seasons,

Or the magic of music.

Your greatness is beyond our reckoning.

And because we are in awe of you,

We believe we must follow Mary's lead

And allow our souls to sing.

We believe that the appropriate reaction to your goodness

Is complete gratitude,

Which looks like love for our neighbor,

Justice for the poor,

Food for the hungry,

And joy that overflows.

And even though we do not always believe in ourselves,

We believe that our song is pleasing to you.

We believe. Help our unbelief.

In Christ's name we pray, amen.

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 the glory, forever. Amen.**

Responsive Reading

Psalm 126

**126**<sup>1</sup> When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
**we were like those who dream.**

<sup>2</sup> Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy;

**then it was said among the nations,  
“The LORD has done great things for them.”**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD has done great things for us,  
**and we rejoiced.**

<sup>4</sup> Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
**like the watercourses in the Negeb.**

<sup>5</sup> May those who sow in tears  
**reap with shouts of joy.**

<sup>6</sup> Those who go out weeping,  
bearing the seed for sowing,  
**shall come home with shouts of joy,  
carrying their sheaves.**

Prayer for Illumination\*

Creator God,

Scripture is flooded with dream-like images:

the lion lying down with the lamb,  
justice rolling like a mighty river,  
swords being beaten into plowshares,  
the prisoner being set free,  
good news to the oppressed,  
the whole world rejoicing.

To our human ears, there are times when these words can sound  
like nothing more than a far-off dream—  
downplaying prophecy to fantasy.

However, what we know is that to dream is to hope,  
and to hope is to imagine,  
and to imagine is to wonder,  
and to wonder is to believe,  
and to believe is to live and breathe for your promised day.

So give us the strength to listen as we dream, O God.

For deep down, we know your words are the very thing we need.  
Amen.

Old Testament Reading     Isaiah 61:1-4; 8-11

**61** The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;

<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;

<sup>3</sup> to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,

the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.  
<sup>4</sup> They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.

<sup>8</sup> For I the LORD love justice,  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
<sup>9</sup> Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

<sup>10</sup> I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup> For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

Hymn #105

"People Look East"

French Folk Melody

**1** People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

**2** Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.

**3** Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled.  
Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Bird, is on the way.

**4** Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.

**5** Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Gospel Lesson

Luke 1:46-55

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said,  
"My soul magnifies the Lord,  
<sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
<sup>48</sup> for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.  
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
<sup>49</sup> for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

50 His mercy is for those who fear him  
 from generation to generation.  
 51 He has shown strength with his arm;  
 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.  
 52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
 and lifted up the lowly;  
 53 he has filled the hungry with good things,  
 and sent the rich away empty.  
 54 He has helped his servant Israel,  
 in remembrance of his mercy,  
 55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
 to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

Meditation

“Joy, Joy, Joy”

Dr. Jeff Beebe

Sending

Congregational Response (Hymn #306)

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.  
 The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

Postlude

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Adestes Fideles

*\*Prayer by Sarah Are / A Sanctified Art LLC / sanctifiedart.org.*

*Cover Art: Design by Lauren Wright Pittman; Photography by Lisle Gwynn Garrity/ A Sanctified Art LLC / sanctifiedart.org*



**OFFERING**



Please continue to give your offering. God calls us to give all of who we are, and all of what we have used in and thru the Church. So let us present our lives. Let us present our gifts unto God. Contribution baskets are available after the service or offerings can be received in the Church by mail or you may utilize online banking options at [www.trinitypalmcoast.org](http://www.trinitypalmcoast.org).

***Join us in prayer for our members and loved ones***

If someone is in need of prayer, please let the church office know: (386) 445-4757 or [trinityoffice@cfl.rr.com](mailto:trinityoffice@cfl.rr.com).  
 Those listed in bold are members of the church and the asterisk indicates active military service.

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|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Bob Aitken</b>     | Angela Grussing           | <b>Jan Markiewicz</b>  | <b>Hawley Rogers</b>          |
| <b>Mary Batailo</b>   | Glenn Gynizio             | <b>Walt McRae</b>      | <b>Frances Sampson</b>        |
| Jason Bradley*        | Stanley Hannum*           | Declan Mitchell*       | <b>Gloria Scandariato</b>     |
| Tom Brinton           | Clark Hessen              | Rob Morris             | Jennifer Sheringham*          |
| <b>Al Burgess</b>     | A.J. Jebbia               | Joseph C. Orr*         | <b>Joe Shull</b>              |
| <b>June Carlson</b>   | Vicki Jebbia              | <b>Howard Parker</b>   | <b>Diane Simmons</b>          |
| Jasper Casey          | <b>Janet Johnson</b>      | <b>Janet Pegg</b>      | <b>Bonnie Slager</b>          |
| Maverick Dennis*      | <b>Javan N. Jones*</b>    | <b>Jane Pellmann</b>   | <b>Yvonne Smith</b>           |
| <b>Joe Digby*</b>     | <b>Sylvester Jones</b>    | <b>Bea Pison</b>       | Maria Soares                  |
| <b>Eleanor Eidson</b> | <b>Dave Knight</b>        | <b>Alice Powell</b>    | <b>Bill Tate</b>              |
| Patrick Floyd*        | <b>Jennifer Kaczmarek</b> | <b>Helene Read</b>     | <b>Gene Thrower</b>           |
| <b>Rich Gaulding</b>  | Robyn Lloyd               | <b>Ginny Reisinger</b> | <b>Ryan Tugas*</b>            |
| <b>Red Gensch</b>     | <b>Florence Lyman</b>     | Bradford Robinson      | Ronald Warwell                |
| Sylvia Gosztyla       | Kenny Mack*               |                        | <b>Matthew Winternheimer*</b> |



### BIBLE STUDY

Join us online every week for an Advent Bible Study titled "Those Who Dream" with Dr. Jeff Beebe.

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Sunday, December 13th:**

- Join us for **Worship at 10:00am in the Sanctuary**; Reservations, Masks and social distancing required. Reservations can be made online from the Church website or by calling the Church office during office hours.
- Join us for Online Worship at [trinitypalmcoast.org](http://trinitypalmcoast.org) or on Facebook: Trinity Presbyterian Church USA
- Worship independently by following along with the bulletin.



### CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

Dianne Bradley 12/13  
 Cooper Collier 12/14  
 Sabrina Rampersad 12/15



Leslie Russo 12/15  
 Doris Valenti 12/17  
 Rebecca Bower 12/18



### TRINITY ANGEL TREE

Important: Please return all angel tree packages by Tuesday, December 15th. Thank you so much to all who have already returned the packages for your angel. Many thanks to all who participated in the Angel Tree project this year. Remember, the church office is open Monday-Thursday from 9 am-noon.

### STEWARDSHIP UPDATE: 2021 ENVELOPE STATUS AND THE PLEDGING NUMBERS

The Stewardship Committee wants to thank all the volunteers who participated in the Workshop to make the 2500 offering envelopes for 2021. They are as follows: Carol Corson, Barb Davis, Martha Gioielli, Sandy Glasner, Marc Hitchins, Kelli Jebbia, Jane Lippian, Cyndy McCormick, Marilyn Millar, Judy Murgitroyde, Maudie Parker, Joyce Peters, Janet Schaaf, Sally Smeaton, Jeanette Smith, Judy Spurrell, Lillian Warner, Ron and Penny Weidner, and Shirley Wilson. We certainly could not have done it without the assistance of these staff members: Dana Mack, Judy Grady, and Tommy Buonocore. Thank you for using your time and talent to make the offering and tithe envelopes for the congregation. It was truly stewardship in action! We had a safe fun event visiting with each other while social distancing in shifts and saving the church money at the same time.

Your envelopes are available in the church office. Stop by, pick up yours, and sign the check-out sheet. Please remember to put your number on your check and/or envelope particularly when you give a cash offering. With the Covid-19 pandemic, a lot of us have become accustomed with giving monthly, so the default number of envelopes for you is 15, one for each month with the three extras for the Presbytery per capita, Christmas, and Easter special offerings. We do have a few boxes of weekly envelopes that you may request until they are gone.

We are still accepting your tithes and gifts pledges for next year. If you have not yet turned in your estimated giving for next year, **please drop off your pledge card when you pick up your envelopes**, if you have not already done so. It is extremely important for planning the church budget.

#### **Now for the numbers!**

As of Thursday, December 3, 2020 Trinity has received \$186,478 in pledges for the 2021 budget from 93 pledging units. The Session's committee Chairs have reviewed their needs and turned in their requests for the 2021 budget and it totals approximately \$392,000. While the Session will continue to look for every savings we can find, we ask you to remember whose we are and how much He sacrificed for us that we might live and love for Him! We are His hands and feet!

Is it time to ask Jesus' blessing over our two fishes and five loaves? He can help us find ways to make what we have into exactly what He needs to show His love to the Trinity members and friends as well as the local community.

### MESSAGE FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE

We want to thank all of you who have so generously provided time, talent, and treasure in support of Trinity Presbyterian Church and its ministries. As the end of the year draws near, our hope is to close or narrow the gap that remains between what has been pledged so far and what is still needed to allow us to realize our ambitious goals. Any extra boost you can give to these efforts is greatly appreciated.

The IRS requires that books for 2020 be closed on December 31. Make sure your tithes is postmarked by December 31 for your contribution to be applied to your 2020 contribution statement. You may also transfer ownership of stocks, bonds, or mutual fund shares to Trinity. Marketable securities are a great way to maximize your giving, because you receive an immediate income tax deduction for the full fair market value of your securities. In addition, you pay no capital gains tax on the difference between your cost and the fair market value. Contact Martha Gioielli or Judy Grady for further instructions.

Trinity Presbyterian Church's mission, as approved by Session, states the church is called by the Holy Spirit, to be a worshiping, nurturing and serving community. While Session remains hopeful that December giving will result in a positive outcome for 2020, the Finance Committee will meet on December 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss ways to address the significant 2021 budget issues. Your prayers during this time of discernment and decision-making are greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact anyone on the Finance Committee or the Session with your questions/concerns.

### SESSION BRIEFS

At its Stated Meeting on November 16, 2020,

- Heard the report of the PNC, stating that the committee has nominated Dr. Beebe as Trinity's next Called Pastor. This has to be approved by Presbytery at their next stated meeting; then by the congregation. This will happen in early February.
- Noted the deaths of active members Ted Leshner on October 30, 2020; and Virginia Nicewonger on November 12, 2020.
- Approved a request from Narcotics Anonymous for the use of Mehaffey Hall on Friday evenings from 7:00 to 8:00pm.
- Noted that Trinity's Minutes Book has been reviewed at the Presbytery level.
- Approved using the earnings of \$8,000 from the Gilda Blair Fund to feed hungry families at Christmas.
- Noted that total operating expenses year to date (through October) exceeded revenue by \$9,654.
- Noted that on Christmas Eve, there will be one live service in the Sanctuary at 4:00, and a live outdoor service at the barn at the Florida Agricultural museum at 6:30. There also be an online service available.
- Approved updated position descriptions for church staff.
- Approved Resolution of Thanks letters to the 2018 Financial Review Team, to Ken Mettler for the sanitizing job he does each week in the sanctuary; to Judy Spurrell and Sharon Grussing for making the artificial flowers arrangements used in the sanctuary, when there are no memorial flowers; to Martha Gioielli for updating the job descriptions.

Jane Pellmann, Clerk of Session

**\*\*If you would like to submit an announcement to be included in the weekly bulletin, please have in by 9am Monday morning. Due date for the next bulletin is Monday, December 14th.  
Please email to Judy at [trinityoffice@cfl.rr.com](mailto:trinityoffice@cfl.rr.com).**



*Trinity Presbyterian Church is called by God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, to be a **worshiping, nurturing and serving** community.*