

# Trinity Presbyterian Church

November 28, 2021



Homesick  
First Sunday of Advent



Rev. Dr. Jeffrey W. Beebe, Pastor  
Heasuk Che, Director of Music/Organist  
Brooke Tucker, Director of Faith Formation  
Lillian Warner, Director of Handbell Choir  
Thomas Buonocore, Sexton  
Judy Grady, Financial and Administrative Assistant

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Facebook: Trinity Presbyterian Church USA

Live-Stream our Worship at [www.trinitypalmcoast.org](http://www.trinitypalmcoast.org)



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

First Sunday of Advent "Hope" • November 28, 2021 • 10:00a.m.

Prelude "Once in Royal David's City" arr. Kim

Welcome and Announcements

Musical Interlude #360 "Christ Is Coming!"

+Advent Candle Lighting: *Edie, Heather and Madilyn May*

Can you be homesick for something you've never known?

**We are homesick for a world where all are fed, where laughter is contagious, where the doors are wide open.**

We are homesick for a world with more bridges than walls, where trees grow tall and rivers run clear.

**We are homesick for a world where all people feel at home—in their bodies, in their churches, in their homes.**

We long for that world.

**We hope for that world.**

So today we light the candle of hope, because hope keeps our hearts alive as we wait. May this light be a reminder that the wait is always worth it.

**We are homesick, but we are on our way.**

**Let us worship God.**

Hymn #88 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verses 1, 6, 7)

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

**Refrain:**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight. **[Refrain]**

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;  
fill the whole world with heaven's peace. **[Refrain]**

+Call to Confession

When you're a kid and you get homesick at a sleepover or a summer camp, you call home and your parents come and get you. Sometimes, that's what love looks like. Love bails us out.

In the same way, when we call upon God to confess that we've messed up, or forgotten something, or overlooked the truth, God answers with grace. God answers with love. So let us confess today, knowing that nothing could keep God from loving us.

+Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God,**

**We find ourselves with two options every day—**

**to stay homesick for the world you had in mind, or to allow cynicism to win.**

**Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel?**

**Do we insist on a better world, or do we assume it's impossible?**

**Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins. Forgive us for numbing our homesick hurt instead of using it to fuel a better world. Kindle in us a hope that won't let go. Gratefully we pray, amen. (Silence for Reflection)**

+Declaration of Forgiveness

Family of faith, even when we throw in the towel, even when we give up on

hope, God does not give up on us. We are loved. We are claimed. We are invited closer to God's home. So hear and trust this good news:

**There is room for us in God's house, and nothing can separate us from that love. We are claimed. We are forgiven. We are welcomed home. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Anthem "God So Loved the World" arr. Smith  
Lillian Warner and Heasuk Che, Piano & Organ duet

The Way Home

+Poem *Homesick*

How do you describe homesickness to a child?

You don't. They know.

Children know the feeling of being away from home.

It's fear, dipped in loneliness,

that "What if I've been forgotten?" sonnet,

or the "What if I can't go back?" refrain.

Even a healthy, scrubbed-clean,  
showered-with-love child knows the longing of home.

But if I *had* to.

If I had to describe that aching feeling, I would say:

"Homesickness is when longing and grief  
wrap themselves around you like a blanket.

It's the door to comfort thrown open.

It's an eye on the horizon for what could be and the only way out is to keep walking, to keep dreaming, to keep looking for signs that will point you back home."

And if you tell that to a child,  
you just may realize that a part of your spirit has shoes on  
and has always been walking, always been dreaming,  
always been looking for the home that could be.

The door to comfort has been blown open.

Tell God I'm homesick. I'm on my way.

+Prayer for Illumination

God of the stars and God of our hearts—  
our days will pass but your words will last.

The earth might fade but your words will last.

Our memories might blur but your words will last.

The grass will wither but your words will last.

The sky could go dark and your words would last.

So as we listen today, help us to hold onto what will last.

Help us hold onto you.

Gratefully we pray, amen.

Scripture Lesson 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

3<sup>9</sup> How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? 10 Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

11 Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. 12 And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. 13 And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Gospel Lesson Luke 21:25-36

**21** <sup>25</sup> “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup> “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup> like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Meditation “Far From Home” Rev. Jeff Beebe

Affirmation of Faith (by Rev. Stephen M. Fearing)

We believe that God has come to us;  
that God brought us into being,  
that this God gave us breath and purpose,  
that we have been blessed to be a blessing to others,  
that we have fallen short of this commandment  
but that God has nevertheless loved us despite our brokenness.

We believe that God is coming to us;  
that God is not happy to leave us alone,  
that this God will come to us as a particular human being,  
that God will be made known to us in flesh and bone like ours,  
that Mary will soon give birth and Joseph will soon clap his hands in joy,  
that Jesus Christ will be born and our salvation made complete.

We believe that God will come to us;  
that God will have the final word and that Word will be good,  
that this God will give us the presence of the Spirit to continue our work,  
that we are called to be disciples to all the corners of the earth,  
that the day is coming when tears and pain will be no more,  
and all will gather at the Table to sing an endless and perfect “Alleluia!”

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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.**

Sharing the Bread

This is the Body of Christ, the Bread of Life—given for you. Amen.

Sharing the Cup

This is the Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation—shed for you. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Hymn #82 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (verses 1 &2)

**1** Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us;  
let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel’s strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

**2** Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

<sup>†</sup>Benediction - As you leave *this* service, *your* service begins:

**Comfort the homesick. Open your doors to others. Seek sanctuary.  
Be brave enough to go home by another way. And remember that here in  
God’s house, all are welcomed—so come back soon.  
In the name of our Foundation—God, Spirit, and Son—go in peace.**

Postlude "Hyfrydol" arr. Metzger

<sup>†</sup> Prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.”

Join us in prayer for our members and loved ones

**Jean & Roger Ailshie, Bob Aitken,** Gail Alvaro, **Mary Batailo,** Andrew Billings, Bret Bosier, Jason Bradley\*, **Doris Boone, Al Burgess,** Jasper Casey, John Decina, Maverick Dennis\*, Rev. Dr. Jeff DeYoe, Dickiesons Family, **Joe Digby\***, Patrick Floyd\*, Clarisa Gibson, Stanley Hannum\*, **Pat Head,** Clark Hessen, A.J. Jebbia, Vicki Jebbia, **Bob Johnson, Javan N. Jones\*, Jennifer Kaczmarek, Susan Kopyar, Florence Lyman,** Marissa Mallicote, **Ed Manen, Jan Markiewicz, Lynn Martin,** Sue McCarthy, **Walt McRae, Marie McCray,** Declan Mitchell\*, Pam Mitchell-Hess, Pastor Mark Odle, Rev. David Oertel, Joseph C. Orr\*, **Howard Parker,** William Patterson, **Janet Pegg, Bea Pison, Helene Read, Ginny Reisinger,** Bradford Robinson, Jennifer Sheringham\*, **Lois Settles, Joe Shull, Diane Simmons, Bonnie Slager, Gene Thrower, Brooke Tucker, Ryan Tugas\*,** Ben Whitenack, **Matthew Winterheimer\*, Kenny Wittmer,** Norma Warwell

*Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of **Jim Spencer***

*who died on November 18, 2021. Jim was a longtime member of the Choir.*

We are happy to pray for you and your loved ones. If someone is in need of prayer, please let the church office know: trinityoffice@cfl.rr.com. Those listed in bold are members of the church and the asterisk indicates active military service.

WORSHIP NOTES

**Greeters:** Susan Kopyar & Gene Johnson  
**Ushers:** Marti Benz, Ron & Penny Weidner,  
Bill & Sandy Boland, Jim & Sally Smeaton  
**Lay Reader:** Carol Corson **Audio Tech:** Colin Earle  
**Live-Stream Tech:** Jeff Cooke and Ken Mettler  
**Flowers:** The flowers this morning are given by Al and Ellinor Rogero  
in honor of their 68<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

Isabel Jones	11/28	Hailey Tucker	12/1
Sally Smeaton	11/30	Madilyn May	12/1
Fadi Faraj	11/30	Bill Campbell	12/3
Daisy Davey	12/1	Ellie Hodson	12/4

POINSETTIAS SALE

Poinsettias will be available for purchase again this Christmas season!  
This is a wonderful opportunity to honor and remember loved ones.  
Order forms are available in the Narthex or outside the Church office.  
The price is \$15 each.  
Please submit your orders on or before December 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

CLOSE TO HOME

The icon in our *Close to Home* logo conveys a theological concept of home. The hands express our deep longing for connection, intimacy, and for God to come close. As the hands—representing both God’s hands and the hands of humanity—draw closer to one another, they form a structure of home. The home structure is not one dimensional; it expands outward, with a doorway offering an open invitation to us all. The hands break through the house structure, centering human connection and mirroring the inbreaking of God in our lives. The logo is both structural and personal, comforting and nostalgic—reminding us of the ways God’s home is close but not yet complete.”

ADVENT SPIRAL WALK AND PRAYER ROOM

This Advent Season, we are pleased to once again offer an Advent Spiral Walk. The spiral is set up in the Chapel and will remain there throughout December. You are invited to the Chapel either before Worship, after Worship or during the week to take time to ponder, pray and prepare for Advent. Each week, a different prayer station will invite you to prepare for Advent. You are then encouraged to walk the spiral, taking time to ponder and pray.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, November 30, 2021, 10:00 am – Mehaffey Hall

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Wednesday, December 1<sup>ST</sup> 2021 – 10:00 am – Sanctuary

Special Guests

TPC Handbell Choir – Director, Lillian Warner

Selections from Advent/Christmas Seasons and

Installation of PW 2022 Coordinating Team by

Daryl Mullee – PW Moderator – St. Augustine Presbytery

All are invited to join us together in Christ’s name

The Gathering can be viewed live at: <https://youtu.be/kzTS1WEaUEQ>

GIVING TUESDAY

Tuesday, November 30 is a global movement to celebrate all acts of giving. If you would like to consider Trinity in your giving for that special day, you can donate to our general operating fund or to any of our special funds (Youth, Birthday Mission, Deacons, Memorial Fund, and others) online or by mailing a check to the church, designating your preference in the memo line. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

This Week in our Church

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-12:00 noon

**Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup> - Sacrament of Communion**

10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary) In-person and Live-Stream

**Monday, November 29th**

9:30 AM Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)

5:00 PM Trinity Troopers (Youth Room)

5:30 PM Deacon’s Meeting (Sanctuary)

6:15 PM Cub Scout Pack 281 (Mehaffey/Youth Room)

**Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 AM PW Team Meeting (Kepler)

6:30 PM Scout Troops 281 and 4281 (Mehaffey Hall)

**Wednesday, December 1st**

10:00 AM PW Gathering (Sanctuary)

8:15 PM AA (Mehaffey)

**Friday, December 3rd**

6:30 PM NA (Mehaffey)

**Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary) In-person and Live-Stream

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Giving by scanning  
here:*

