

*CLOSING HYMN #134

Joy to the World

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *We Wish You a Merry Christmas; English folksong arr. Tom Roed*

Congregation remains seated

Liturgist	Debbie Johnson
Ushers	Kathy Kessler, Kurt Schuler, Wilson Tayong
Director of Music	Davis McKinney
Co Pastor	Rev. Tom Dunlap

Bolded words are read by the congregation. *Indicates please stand as you are able.

Welcome: to all who worship with us this morning, especially our visitors! If you have a joy or concern that you would like to share with the congregation, please use the yellow card in the pew pocket and place it in the offering plate. These will be shared with the congregation during our “Joys and Concerns.”

We hope you feel at home at Trinity, and that you will join us again. We invite you to consider becoming part of our church family.

Portions of today’s liturgy *Portion of today’s liturgy are from Close to Home, Words for Worship for Advent-Epiphany, Year C, “Adapted from a prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org.”*

Trinity Presbyterian Church



www.trinitypresbyfairfield.org
1st Sunday of Christmas
December 26, 2021 10:15 AM

Worship leaders in plain type/ Congregation in bold type

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

GATHERING MUSIC *How Far is it to Bethlehem? with Baloo Lammy;
English and Scottish carols*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PEACE
The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you!

*CALL TO WORSHIP
Jesus said,
“This is my Father’s house.”
So come into this space
just as you are.
Come into this space
speaking your truth.
Come into this space
with your authentic self.
This is God’s home.
This is our home.
Let us worship God.

*OPENING HYMN #119 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

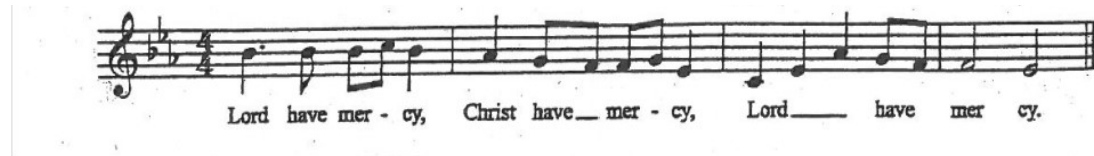
CALL TO CONFESSION
Research shows that on average, humans make about 35,000 choices in a day. In the prayer of confession, we acknowledge the moments when our choices do not reflect God’s love and we ask for grace. So let us pray together, trusting that God is with us in each of those 35,000 moments, cheering us on, and guiding us home. Let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We could offer welcome, but we often choose judgment. We could choose action, but we often choose silence. We could choose advocacy, but we often choose comfort. We could choose truth, but we often choose ignorance. We could choose God, but we often choose ourselves. Forgive us, gracious God, for the moments when we chose poorly. Open our hearts to choose you, to choose community, to choose love. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

MINUTE OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION *Let us sing to the Lord...*

KYRIE—All Sing



ASSURANCE OF PARDON— Family of faith, no matter how we choose, we cannot lose God’s love. It is undeserved, overwhelming, ever-present, and always with us. So may we accept God’s grace, and use it as fuel for better days. Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel: **No matter how many times we walk away, God always welcomes us home. We are loved. We are forgiven. We are invited. Thanks be to God, Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC *When Christ Was Born; Polish carol arr. Larry Shackley*

PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #591 *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*

CHILDREN’S MOMENT *Children’s Sermon*

(The children will be dismissed to Children’s Church after the Children’s Moment.)

RECESSIONAL HYMN *Jesus Loves the Little Children*
Jesus loves the little children, All the children of the world.
Red, and yellow, black, and white, They are precious in His sight,
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Author God, Scripture tells us that when Jesus taught in the temple, all who heard were amazed. We want to be amazed too. We want to hear your word with new ears. We want to be unraveled and transformed by the truth tucked between those sentences. We want to be opened up by the hope in these holy pages.... So as we read today, transport us to those early days in the temple. Open our hearts so we can hear your word like never before. We are listening. We are grateful. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke: 2:41-52

SERMON “Relocating” *Rev. Tom Dunlap*

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***HYMN #118** (*verses 1, 2, 3, 6*) *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We belong to God, eternal and infinite, Creator of all things and all that is to come.

We follow Christ, who comes to us from God, and reveals God to us.

He heals people and transforms lives, and calls us to join in his ministry. He was crucified, died, and was raised by God, and reigns over all Creation; and he bids us to die and rise with him in the service of the healing of the world.

We live by Spirit, together with the communion of saints, as members of the Body of Christ, God’s holy universal church. We are confident in the forgiveness of sin, the power of resurrection, and the reality of eternal life. In all things it is our desire to follow Christ, by the grace of the Holy Spirit, for God’s glory. Amen.

***DOXOLOGY Hymn #609**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Praise God, all creatures high and low Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious God, Your story is one that forever invites us to be our full selves, to take up space, to go where we feel called, and to allow this community to feel like home. So use these gifts to keep building your home here. With gratitude as tall as the ceiling, we pray. **Amen.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER — Hymn #471 (*verse 1*)

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER (DEBT, DEBTORS)

OPENING HYMN #119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King.
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

***HYMN #118 (verses 1, 2, 3, 6)**

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.
And glory shone around.

"Fear Not," said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind;
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and human kind.
To you and human kind."

"To you, in David's town this day,
Is born of David's line
The Savior, who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign,
And this shall be the sign."

"All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace:
Good will to all from highest heaven
Begin and never cease!
Begin and never cease!"

CLOSING HYMN #134

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns: let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.