

*CLOSING HYMN #111

From Heaven Above

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

The First Noel; English melody arr. Fred Bock

Congregation remains seated

Liturgist	Marty Reese
Ushers	Debbie Johnson, Debi Hess, Joleen Goens
Candle lighters	The Tenga Family
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.” Please fill out the worship registration pad found in the pew, and pass it to the person next to you. Once the form is completed the last person to receive the form places the form in the offering plate.

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 are adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1* © 2014 Westminster John Knox Press and *Fresh Winds of the Spirit, Book 2, Lavon Bayler, Worship Resources for Year A, 1992* by The Pilgrim Press.

Trinity Presbyterian Church



www.trinitypresbyfairfield.org
Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2023 10:15 AM

Worship leaders in plain type/ Congregation in bold type

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

GATHERING MUSIC

O Little Town of Bethlehem by Lewis Redner

arr. David The

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

INTROIT #116

The Snow Lay on the Ground

LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

The Tenga Family

Advent shouts out Joy!

For God has come to us in the image of a boy.

Advent shouts out Joy!

Not a gimmick, not a ploy;

God Divine in human form.

Advent shouts out Joy! For God has come to us.

We light now the candle of Joy—Joy that is ours through Christ Jesus.

(Congregation sings #105 verse 1-3, People Look East while the candle is being lit.)

*OPENING HYMN #143

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

CALL TO CONFESSION

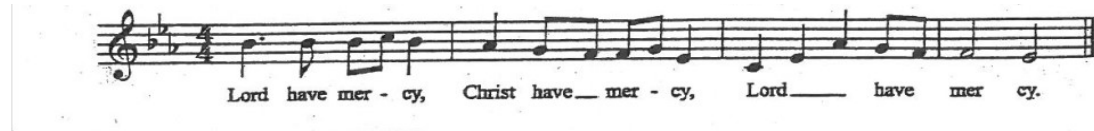
Old habits and new wrongs wear ruts through our lives and relationships. But God is able to restore us. Like water coursing through a desert, the waters of baptism flow through us, reminding us that we belong to God and are raised to new life.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you love justice; why, then, do we persist in wrongdoing and every form of evil? You have given us the gift of your Spirit; why, then, do we quench the Spirit among us? You have given us the words of the prophets and the Word himself; why, then, do we despise and ignore what we have heard from you? You have sent the light into the world; why, then, have we loved darkness rather than light? Forgive us. Restore us. Till and tend us as your garden until righteousness and praise spring up, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

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

KYRIE—All Sing



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Jesus Christ, the Lord has done great things for us! Even if we have gone out in tears, God brings us home shouting for joy. Thanks be to God: we are forgiven!

ANTHEM

How Will We Know Him? by Charlotte Algozin
Trinity Singers and Bell Choir
Brandon Reese, saxophone

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

Holy One, giver of life and light, as your word is read and proclaimed, illumine our hearts and minds, that by the power of the Holy Spirit, our lives may reflect God's glory. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING: II Samuel 17:8-17
Luke :26-38

SERMON

From Above

Rev. Tom Dunlap

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***HYMN #129**

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Leader: We affirm that the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Miriam, Hannah, and Mary, is our God.
People: **We affirm that God has come to us in our likeness, taking the form of a servant in Jesus of Nazareth.**
Leader: We believe that God, in Christ, suffered the pain and agony of the cross to provide for our salvation.
People: **We believe that God demonstrated power over sin and death by raising Jesus from the dead and declaring that the risen Christ is our Lord.**
Leader: God has given us new life and freedom in the fullness of the Holy Spirit, who is the guide and power of the community of believers.
All: **We believe that in the end, God's rule of peace and justice will be fully established and Jesus Christ will reign forever and ever.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

At this time of year, the abundance of some and the needs of so many stand in marked contrast. As we bring now our tithes and offerings, may Christ's heart rejoice and the needs of others be tended.

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

Der Christbaum, German carol

***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, teach us to give thanks in all circumstances, for you are always with us. Thank you for the privilege of sharing what we have with others, of giving ourselves away in love, and of receiving the gifts that others share with us. With our whole being, spirit and soul and body, we rejoice in you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER — Hymn #471 (verse 1)

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (DEBT, DEBTORS)