



**TRINITY**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Trinity Presbyterian Church

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth.

## Words for Reflection

Christmas is an argument against personal hopelessness—it's the celebration of when the power and grace of God appeared on earth in Jesus.

– Paul Tripp

Christianity says God has been all the places you have been; he has been in the darkness you are in now, and more. And, therefore, you can trust him; you can rely on him, because he knows and has the power to comfort, strengthen, and bring you through.

– Tim Keller

# Order of Worship

The First Sunday of Christmas

— December 29, 2019 —

## The Call to Worship

*God invites and calls us into His presence to worship Him. He enters into our busy lives to speak to us.*

The people who walked in darkness

**have seen a great light;**

those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,

**on them has light shone.**

For to us a child is born,

**to us a son is given;**

and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

**and his name shall be called**

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,**

**Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

—Isaiah 9:2, 6 ESV

## Hymn of Praise | Joy to the World

*We sing praises to God and proclaim through song the good news of what He has done in Jesus' death and resurrection. Some songs might be initially unfamiliar, but we believe the rich, true, beautiful words of these hymns will make their way into your heart.*

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 earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their 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.

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: George F. Handel

## Opening Prayer & Lord's Prayer

*We ask for God to be present among us and conclude with the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray.*

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Doxology

*Doxology means "glory words." We lift our voices and our hands to give God glory for who He is and all that He has done.*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## Confession of Sin

*We fight the temptation to hide our sin and instead acknowledge it openly to God, but we do so in light of the grace offered in Jesus.*

Our Father and Our God,

We confess our indifference and distraction towards the Incarnation of Your Son Jesus that arises so easily in our hearts. Forgive us for our sins, which are many. Thank You for sending Jesus into the world to rescue us from our sin. Create awe in our hearts for the wonder of Your condescending love. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

## Silent Confession

## Assurance of Forgiveness

*God reminds our forgetful hearts of the grace that is ours in Jesus.*

Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

—Luke 2:10-11 ESV

# Hymn of Response | Hast Thou Heard Him Seen Him Known Him

*We respond in thanks and praise for God's redemptive work in Christ.*

Hast thou heard Him, seen Him, known Him?  
Is not thine a captured heart?  
Chief among ten thousand own Him,  
Joyful choose the better part.

*Captivated by His beauty,  
Worthy tribute haste to bring.  
Let His peerless worth constrain thee,  
Crown Him now unrivaled King.*

What can strip the seeming beauty,  
From the idols of the earth?  
Not a sense of right or duty,  
But the sight of peerless worth. (*Chorus*)

'Tis that look that melted Peter,  
'Tis that face that Stephen saw,  
'Tis that heart that wept with Mary,  
Can alone from idols draw. (*Chorus*)

Words: Ora Rowan; Music: Joel Littlepage

# Confession of Faith | The Apostles' Creed

*We join the church in history by confessing this basic statement of what Christians believe.*

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell.\*  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic\*\* church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*\*While Jesus didn't literally descend to hell, he did endure the torment of hell on the cross and remained under the power of death until his resurrection.*

*\*\*universal*

## The Offering

*In gratitude, we offer our gifts to God.*

*There will be no TrinityKids (4 years old -2nd Grade) today, but be sure to grab some fun pew activities in the foyer.*

## The Prayers of the People

*We lift up our requests to God knowing that He hears us when we pray.*

## The Reading of the Word

2 John 1-13

*God speaks to us through His Word.*

**1** The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all who know the truth, **2** because of the truth that abides in us and will be with us forever:

**3** Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love.

**4** I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we were commanded by the Father. **5** And now I ask you, dear lady—not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning—that we love one another. **6** And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, so that you should walk in it. **7** For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist. **8** Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward. **9** Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. **10** If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house or give him any greeting, **11** for whoever greets him takes part in his wicked works.

**12** Though I have much to write to you, I would rather not use paper and ink. Instead I hope to come to you and talk face to face, so that our



## The Celebration of Holy Communion

*Communion (also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist) is the family meal of baptized Christians. It's not a meal for good people. It's a meal for desperate people who trust in Jesus alone for salvation, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength and grace to live more faithfully with Jesus. You will be invited to come forward. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal today, we encourage you to use the prayers printed below and spend this time in reflection or prayer.*

*Children who have not received their first communion are welcome to come forward with their families. We invite children who are ready to make a public profession of faith in Christ to arrange a meeting with the elders, and thus become "communicants" at the Lord's Table.*

*\*Note about communion wine: The red inner cups in each tray contain non-alcoholic grape juice. The clear outer cups and the common cup contain wine.*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**  
Pastor: Lift up your hearts!  
People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:  
People: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.  
Hallelujah!**  
Pastor: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.  
Hallelujah!  
People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast.**  
Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God.

## Prayers During Communion

### *A prayer for those searching for truth:*

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me the ability to follow you no matter what it might cost me. Give me an understanding for you that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

### *A prayer of belief:*

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead and are now representing me at the Father's right hand in heaven, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen.

### *A prayer for those struggling against sin:*

Lord Jesus, give me the ability to see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and desires, and help me to turn from every false source of satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me, and run with perseverance the race that you have set before me, looking only to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

### *A prayer for covenant children who have not yet made a profession of faith:*

Lord Jesus, thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow up in a Christian family where I am surrounded by the good news of the gospel. Help me to grow in my understanding of who you are and what you have done for me on the cross. Help me learn what it means for me to turn from my sins and trust in you alone for my salvation. Teach me what it means to follow you as one of your disciples. Amen.

# Hymns for Communion

## Magnificat

My soul magnifies the Lord  
My spirit rejoices in God  
My soul magnifies the Lord  
My spirit rejoices in God

For He Who is mighty  
Has done great things for me  
Holy, holy  
Holy, holy  
Holy, holy  
Is His name.

Words: Mary, mother of Jesus  
Music: Flo Paris Oakes

## Draw Nigh

Draw nigh and take the body of the Lord.  
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured.  
Offered was He for greatest and for least,  
Himself the Victim and Himself the Priest.

He that, His saints in this world rules and shields  
To all believers life eternal yields,  
With heavenly bread makes them that hunger whole,  
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Approach ye, then, with faithful hearts sincere  
And take the pledges of salvation here.  
O Judge of all, our only Savior Thou,  
In this Thy feast of love be with us now.

Words: Latin Hymn, c. 680; Music: The Welcome Wagon

## Life at Trinity

### Departing Hymn | Go Tell It on the Mountain

*We respond in faith and song.*

\*Children are invited to come to the front to lead & sing. Parents are also welcome.

*Go, tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain,  
That Jesus Christ is born!*

While shepherds kept their watching  
Over silent flocks by night,  
Behold throughout the heavens,  
There shone a holy light: *(Chorus)*

The shepherds feared and trembled  
When lo! above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus  
That hailed our Savior's birth: *(Chorus)*

Down in a lowly manger  
Our humble Christ was born  
And God send us salvation,  
That blessed Christmas morn: *(Chorus)*

Words & Music: African-American Spiritual; Arr. by John W. Work

## The Benediction

*God sends us out with his blessing. A benediction is not a prayer. We don't bow our heads. We lift them up and even lift up our hands to receive his blessing as we are sent out as participants in His mission to Fort Worth.*

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

—Romans 15:13 ESV

## The Sending

*The people of God are sent into the world to love God, love people, and love Fort Worth.*

Pastor: Let us go forth to serve Fort Worth and the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## Announcements

### Morning Prayer

There will be no morning prayer this Thursday (1/2) due to the holiday.

### Winter Conference with Rev. Russ Whitfield

Join us Friday, Jan 31 for dinner and an evening with Rev. Russ Whitfield on the topic of loving our neighbors and engaging our community. Russ is the planter and pastor of Grace Mosaic in Washington, DC, and also serves as the Director of Cross Cultural Advancement for RUF. Details TBA but we're planning for a fun night together!

### Women's Spring Bible Study

Ladies, our Bible Study in Luke resumes in January! Our spring semester will begin January 17 for our Friday morning study from 9:15-11am with childcare at Connell. Our Wednesday evening study will resume January 22 from 7-9:30pm with a new location at the home of Becky Burt (6412 Curzon Fort Worth). Please mark your calendars, invite friends, and if you are new to the Bible Study for the spring, please register and pay \$20 online by January 10th. We would love to have you join us! Contact Courtney ([admin@trinitypresfw.org](mailto:admin@trinitypresfw.org)) with questions.

### Women's Ministry Town Hall Meeting

Ladies! Save the date for an important meeting on January 26 at 230pm in the Fellowship Hall. An infant nursery will be available with reservation (please contact [nursery@trinitypresfw.org](mailto:nursery@trinitypresfw.org) to register). The Ministry Development Committee is excited to roll out the new Trinity Women's Ministry mission statement as well as strategies for 2020 and beyond. We'd love for you to be part of this next phase of women's ministry at Trinity!

## Membership Seminar

If you're interested in joining Trinity or learning more about who we are as a church, **we will be having a membership seminar at the home of Jeanette and Brian Davis (4128 Whitfield Ave) on January 18 from 9am-1230pm.** Please RSVP to [admin@trinitypresfw.org](mailto:admin@trinitypresfw.org).

## Upcoming Dates

TODAY No TrinityKids

1/9 Morning Prayer

1/12 Five Six

1/17 Women's Morning Bible Study

1/18 Membership Seminar

1/19 College Dinner

1/22 Women's Evening Bible Study

1/26 Women's Ministry Town Hall

1/26 Five Six

1/31-2/1 Winter Conference

2/9 Children's Ministry Town Hall

2/9 Second Sundays/Five Six

## Information

### To the Parents of Young Children

Welcome! We are so glad you are here. We believe the church is for all people, even children, and we want Trinity to be a church where children are both seen and heard. So don't worry if your children wiggle in the pews or make a little noise! We invite you to keep your children in our service and help them understand what is going on, sing the songs with you, use the children's bulletins (available in the back), and participate in worship. We do also have a nursery program that is set up to handle children from birth to 4 years old, and a TrinityKids program during the sermon for children 4 years old through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Parents often check their children out of the nursery and/or TrinityKids prior to Communion so that they can help lead us in our departing hymn.

### The Liturgy

Our order of worship may be new to you. Every worship service in every church has a structure. We want to be intentional about ours as it is a real back-and-forth conversation between us and God. We have both spontaneous, personal prayers as well as ancient, printed prayers.

### Online Giving

If you'd prefer to give online as either a one-time gift or as a recurring gift, you may do so through our website: [www.trinitypresfw.org/give](http://www.trinitypresfw.org/give). Giving is seen only by the Deacon & the team in charge of counting the offering for that particular day and by our Church Administrator.

## Church Contact Information

### Pastoral Staff

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### Deacon of the Day

Ryan Opgenorth

# Trinity Presbyterian Church

## Our Mission

Trinity exists to embrace, embody, and extend the redemptive message of Jesus to the people and places of Fort Worth and beyond.

## Our Core Commitments

Trinity is a gospel-centered church committed to following Jesus by...

- Worshipping God together through historic liturgy that is rich, accessible, and emotionally honest
- Striving to know and be known in our life together
- Engaging in formative spiritual practices
- Extending the welcome of the gospel in word and deed
- Serving our city

Meeting Address: 4736 Bryce Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76107

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Web: [www.trinitypresfw.org](http://www.trinitypresfw.org)

*We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).*