



TRINITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Liturgy for Home Worship

The Second Sunday of Advent
— December 6, 2020 —

Words for Reflection

To practice Advent is to lean into an almost cosmic ache: our deep, wordless desire for things to be made right and the incompleteness we find in the meantime. We dwell in a world still racked with conflict, violence, suffering, darkness. Advent holds space for our grief, and it reminds us that all of us, in one way or another, are not only wounded by the evil in the world but are also wielders of it, contributing our own moments of unkindness or impatience or selfishness.

-Tish Warren

The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, and who look forward to something greater to come.

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Jesus Christ the servant is attracted to hopeless cases. He cares for the fragile. He loves people who are beaten and battered and bruised. They may not show it on the outside, but inside they are dying. Jesus sees all the way into the heart and he knows what to do. The Lord binds up the brokenhearted and heals our wounds.

-Tim Keller

Advent Reading & Candle Lighting

Return, O LORD! How long? Have pity on your servants!

—Psalm 90:13 ESV

Reader: Prepare the way of the Lord. We light this candle in *lament*, grieving for our broken world that Jesus, our Savior, will come to heal. He will wipe away every tear.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

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.

Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God;
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

—Psalm 147:1-3 ESV

Hymn of Praise | Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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.

Come Thou Fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!

Let that grace now like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Words: Robert Robinson Music: Folk Tune

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

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.

Gracious Father and Loving God,

Forgive us our sins, and cleanse our hearts through the shed blood of Your Son Jesus. Fill us with hope where there has been despair, compassion where there has been indifference, and faith where there has been unbelief. Help us to live in reliance upon Your grace. Protect us from growing callous to the glory of Christ's Incarnation and the hope of his return. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

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

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

—Isaiah 61:1-3 ESV

Hymn of Response | O Come, O Come Emmanuel

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

O come, O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appears.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel*

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory over the grave.
(Chorus)

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.
(*Chorus*)

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. (*Chorus*)

Words: Latin Hymn; Music: Thomas Helmore; Arr:
Sufjan Stevens

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. You may give online at www.trinitypresfn.org/give or through the Church Center App.

The Prayers of the People

We lift up our requests to God knowing that He hears us when we pray and conclude with an Advent prayer that focuses on Jesus' coming.

Michelle & Adam Cain

MTW Honduras

Merciful God, who sent Your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Reading of the Word

Isaiah 42:1-4

God speaks to us through His Word.

42:1 Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. **2** He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; **3** a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. **4** He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Preaching of the Word

Pastor Brian Davis

*A Weary World Rejoices
"Weary from Our Wounds"*

Sermon Notes

Hymn for Communion I Heal Us, Emmanuel

*Heal us, Emmanuel, here we are
We long to feel Thy touch
Deep wounded souls to Thee we fly
Oh Savior, hear our cry*

Our faith is feeble, we confess
We faintly trust Thy word;
But will You pity us the less?
Be that far from You Lord!
(Chorus)

Remember him who once applied
With trembling for relief;
"Lord, I believe," with tears he cried;

"O help my unbelief!"
(Chorus)

She, too, who touched You in the press
And healing virtue stole,
Was answered, "Daughter, go in peace;
Thy faith has made thee whole."

(Chorus)
Like her, with hopes and fears we come
To touch You if we may;
O send us not despairing home;
Send none unhealed away.

(Chorus)

Words: William Cowper; Music: Kevin Twit

Life at Trinity

Departing Hymn I This Is My Father's World

We respond in faith and song.

This is my Father's world, and to my
listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings the
music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the
thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their
carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, declare
their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all

that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass;
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er
forget
That though the wrong seems oft so
strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world: the battle is not
done:
Jesus Who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and Heav'n be one.

Words: Maltbie D. Babcock; Music: Traditional
English Melody

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.

Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." 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 15:12-13 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!

* CCLI #5043663 – all songs used by permission

Announcements

Christmas Celebration

Covid may have cancelled our annual Christmas party, but we still want to raise a glass (of hot chocolate) together. Please join us after worship today in the parking lot for a quick treat!

Women's Fall Bible Study

Our study on Genesis is a wrap! Thanks to all who participated in our women's bible study, covid-style! We look forward to studying "Hebrews: Jesus Seals the Deal" beginning in late January. More info to come after the holidays on how to participate.

Mission Spotlight

Trinity Christmas Giving Tree

Join us in supporting our local ministry partners this Christmas. Look for the tree in the foyer at church. There are ornaments with gifts listed on the back to purchase for our partners. Select an ornament this Sunday and help bless the people served by DASH, the Net, Pregnancy Lifeline, and Rivertree Academy. There will be boxes in the foyer to place gifts through Dec 13.

You can also drop-off here:

Church office: Tues/Thursdays 12-330pm (3750 S. University)

Sherry Denton/Pregnancy Lifeline gifts (2304 Medford Ct., W.)

Emily Williams/Rivertree gifts (5500 Dennis Ave)
Jonathan Dumas/DASH gifts (4416 Stonedale Rd)
Brendan Reagan/the Net gifts (2529 Cockrell Ave)

If you cannot grab one of the physical tree items, or if you are not attending church in person, we have set up a fund specifically for the giving tree on our Church Center giving page. You can give in any amount you like, and funds will be allocated to purchase items for our partner ministries. Please select "Trinity Christmas Giving Tree" in the drop-down menu to make sure your donation is allocated appropriately.