



TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth

Words for Reflection

The church lives in Advent. That is to say, the church lives between two advents. Jesus Christ has come; Jesus Christ will come. We do not know the day or the hour. If you find this tension almost unbearable at times, then you understand the Christian life.

– Fleming Rutledge

From the beginning, God gets as close to us as he can.

– Curt Thompson

Corporate worship is designed to stimulate your hunger for the one thing that has the power to satisfy your heart; relationship with God.

– Paul Tripp

Certainly there was an Eden on this very unhappy earth. We all long for it, and we are constantly glimpsing it: our whole nature at its best and least corrupted, its gentlest and most humane, is still soaked with the sense of “exile.”

– J. R. R. Tolkien

Order of Worship

The First Sunday of Advent

— November 28, 2021 —

Prelude

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing*

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: G. F. Handel

Advent Reading & Candle Lighting

Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

—Psalm 27:14 ESV

Reader: Prepare the way of the Lord. We light this candle in longing, waiting for our coming Savior, Jesus, who will come again to make all things new.

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.

○ God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.

Because your steadfast love is better than life,

my lips will praise you.

So I will bless you as long as I live;
in your name I will lift up my hands.

—Psalm 63:1-4 ESV

Hymn of Praise I Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

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 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.

Joy to those who long to see thee
Day-spring from on high appear
Come thou promised Rod of Jesse
Of Thy birth we long to hear
O'er the hills the angels singing
News glad tidings of a birth
Go to him your praises bringing
Christ the Lord has come to earth.

Come to earth to taste our sadness
He whose glories knew no end
By his life he brings us gladness
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend
Leaving riches without number
Born within a cattle stall

This the everlasting wonder
Christ was born Lord of all.

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.

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: Rowland Prichard

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.

Most Merciful God,

We thank You that You have created us for Yourself and that our hearts are restless until they find their rest in You. Yet, Lord, we confess the ways we have rejected You and fled from Your presence. We have run to the far country and squandered what we have in You. And yet You are a God who shows great mercy. We ask that You would forgive us through the blood of Your Son, and that by Your Spirit, we would draw near to You once again. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

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

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace.

—Ephesians 2:13-14 ESV

Hymn of Response | From the Depths of Woe (Ps 130)

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

From the depths of woe I raise to Thee
The voice of lamentation;
Lord, turn a gracious ear to me
And hear my supplication;
If Thou iniquities dost mark,
Our secret sins and misdeeds dark,
 O who shall stand before Thee?
 O who shall stand before Thee?

To wash away the crimson stain,
Grace, grace alone availeth;
Our works, alas! Are all in vain;
In much the best life faileth;
No man can glory in Thy sight,
All must alike confess Thy might,
 And live alone by mercy
 And live alone by mercy

Therefore my trust is in the Lord,
And not in mine own merit;
On Him my soul shall rest, His word
Upholds my fainting spirit;
His promised mercy is my fort,
My comfort and my sweet support;
 I wait for it with patience
 I wait for it with patience

What though I wait the live-long night,
And 'til the dawn appeareth,
My heart still trusteth in His might;
It doubteth not nor feareth;
Do thus, O ye of Israel's seed,
Ye of the Spirit born indeed;
 And wait 'til God appeareth
 And wait 'til God appeareth

Though great our sins and sore our woes
His grace much more aboundeth;
His helping love no limit knows,
Our upmost need it soundeth.
Our Shepherd good and true is He,
Who will at last His Israel free
 From all their sins and sorrow
 From all their sins and sorrow

Words: Martin Luther; Music: Christopher Miner

Confession of Faith | The Heidelberg Catechism #1

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

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Allie Elizabeth Wieser

Luke William Wieser

1. Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy? **I do.**
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel? **I do.**
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ? **I do.**
4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability? **I do.**
5. Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace? **I do.**

Emery Adeline Wieser

To the Parents (Beth & Jay Wieser):

1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit? **We do.**
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises in her behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for her salvation, as you do for your own? **We do.**
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before her a godly example, that you will pray with and for her, that you will teach her the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring her up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord? **We do.**

To the Congregation:

Pastor: Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting these parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

People: **We do.**

"For you Jesus came into the world; for you he lived his life; for you he was crucified; for you he was raised from the dead; and for you he is coming again. You may not know this story now, but we, your church, promise to tell you this story until you make it your own."

(based on French Reformed Baptismal Liturgy)

The Offering

In gratitude, we offer our gifts to God.

Children are now dismissed for TrinityKids (4 years old -2nd Grade). After the sermon, their teachers will return them to worship where they may come directly to you, or you may meet them in the back of the sanctuary.

The Prayers of the People

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

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which Your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Reading of the Word Genesis 2:5-10, 15-17; 3:6-10

God speaks to us by His Word.

2:5 When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, **6** and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground— **7** then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. **8** And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. **9** And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of

good and evil.

10 A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers.

15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. **16** And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, **17** but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

3:6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. **7** Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. **9** But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" **10** And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Preaching of the Word

Pastor Brian Davis

Drawing Near
"Dwelling with God in the Garden"

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: We serve wine during communion. If you'd prefer non-alcoholic grape juice, please indicate by pointing at the tray.*

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

We Are Not Overcome

Flesh will fail, bones will break
Thieves will steal, the earth will shake
Night will fall, the light will fade
The Lord will give and take away.

Put no trust in the earth
In the sod you stand upon
Flowers fade into dust,
The Lord will make a place for us.

*Because of His great love,
We are not overcome
Because of His great love,
We are not overcome*

Have no fear for your life;
Turn your cheek, turn your cheek
Bear the yoke of love and death;
The Lord will give life and breath.
(Chorus)

Words & Music: Robert Heiskell & Isaac Wardell

Psalm 126

Our mouths they were filled,
filled with laughter;
Our tongues they were loosed,
loosed with joy.
Restore us, O Lord! Restore us, O Lord!

*Although we are weeping,
Lord, help us keep sowing
The seeds of Your Kingdom
for the day You will reap them!
Your sheaves we will carry;
Lord, please do not tarry!
All those who sow weeping
will go out with songs of joy!*

The nations will say,
"He has done great things!"
The nations will sing songs of joy.
Restore us, O Lord! Restore us, O Lord!
(Chorus)

Words & Music: Bifrost Arts

Life at Trinity

Departing Hymn | This Is My Father's World

We respond in faith and song.

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

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!

Announcements

Trinity Christmas Party

Please save the date for the Trinity Christmas Party! It will be on **Thursday, Dec 9**. Details can be found in the Church Center app.

Trinity Local Missions Angel Tree

This Christmas Trinity is delighted to again serve our local ministry partners with gifts for their clients, residents, and students. Needs vary from \$25 Walmart or Target gift cards for DASH residents, to new baby and mom gift bags for Pregnancy Lifeline, to a child's wish list for The NET and Rivertree Academy students. Please pick up an ornament on the Missions Angel Tree in the church foyer, shop for the need, and bring your items wrapped (and clearly labeled with the ornament itself for children's Angel Tree gifts) to the church by **Dec 12 (Dec 5 for The NET gifts)**.

An option for those giving to Rivertree; we are delivering on Thursday, Dec 16 at 1230 and they have invited us to do a craft with the PreK students, have Christmas cookies, and celebrate Christmas! All are invited and welcome. Email Emily (williams.emmie13@gmail.com) with any questions.

Sunday School Christmas Party

Join us on **December 12 after worship @ Connell until 630pm** for our Sunday School Christmas Party! Sunday School is for ages 4 through 4th Grade (Five Six will be having their party during this time as well). We will start in the Fellowship Hall with pizza and then head upstairs to O'Malley Alley for some Christmas fun. Even if you haven't made it to Sunday School yet this year we would love for your children to come celebrate with us! If you would like to help contact Megan Granaghan (mgranaghan@gmail.com).

Five Six Christmas Party

Join us for our Christmas party **after worship @ Connell Dec 12 until 630pm**. We will have pizza and festivities.

Young Adults Group

Trinity Young Adults is a group for post-undergrad, in grad school, career, single, or young marrieds. Come join us after church on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at Central Market. **Our last dinner for the year is Dec 5, but we are having a Christmas party on Dec 17 @ 630pm!** Details can be found in the Church Center app or for more information contact Rachel (rachelkuchem@gmail.com), Jeff (jeffrey.bryant14@gmail.com), and Ian (ianclark2492@gmail.com).

Youth Group Christmas Party

Calling all 7th-12th graders! Please join us on **Dec 12 for our end of the year Christmas party (tacky sweaters welcome) at the Bates' home (3817 Mockingbird Lane) from 6-8pm**. There will be food, desserts, group games, and fellowship with friends and small group leaders. To help give an idea of numbers, please register through Church Center app under "events"; there are also helpful party details there.

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, and participate in worship. Children learn how to worship by imitating you. We say parts of our worship service every week in order to help our non-reading children to participate, and we have children's bulletins available in the back. There are also ages, stages, and times when it might not be best for your children to be in worship. We 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 2nd grade. We also have a nursing mothers' room available across from the library if you need to nurse or change a diaper! All nursery volunteers have been through both background checks and Ministry Safe training. 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. He calls us to worship, and then we respond and move through the different elements of the service. We have both spontaneous, personal prayers as well as ancient, printed prayers. Please look over the service beforehand to see what we will hear and say along the way.

4pm

We plan on meeting at 4pm for the foreseeable future. We hope you will enjoy a Sunday morning to sleep in, spend time with your non-church going friends and neighbors or relax with your family and friends.

Welcome Notepads

At some point during service, a welcome pad will be passed down your row. We would love for you to fill it out and pass it to the person on your right, so that we will have record of your visit. We promise we won't spam you.

Youth Group

Our youth group intern is John Porter. Please email him @ john@trinitypresfw.org for more information.

Interested in Helping with Music?

We are always looking to add to our great team of musicians. If you're interested in learning more, please contact Wade Jewett (jewettwade@gmail.com).

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. 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

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Deacon of the Day

Brendan Reagan

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

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