



TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth

Words for Reflection

Look up, you whose eyes are heavy with tears and who are heavy and who are crying over the fact that the earth has gracelessly torn us away. Look up, you who, burdened with guilt, cannot lift your eyes. Look up, your redemption is drawing near. Something different from what you see daily will happen. Just be aware, be watchful, wait just another short moment. Wait and something quite new will break over you: God will come.

– Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The opposite of joy is not sadness. It's hopelessness.

– Tim Keller

This is the challenge for the believer this side of eternity: we cannot trust our perception of God's closeness to be accurate. God is near whether we feel him to be or not. How mindful we are of this truth will directly affect the way we live.

– Jen Wilkin

The temple—the intersection of heaven and earth—finds its new locus in the person of Jesus, the God-man. If you wanted to meet with God, you once traveled to a building. Now, you only have to look for Jesus.

– Mike Cosper

Order of Worship

The Third Sunday of Advent

— December 12, 2021 —

Prelude

*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.*

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

Advent Reading & Candle Lighting

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior . . ."

—from the Magnificat, Luke 1:46-47 ESV

Reader: Prepare the way of the Lord. We light this candle in joy, the joy that we have in Jesus, our Messiah and greatest treasure. He loves us with an everlasting love.

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.

My soul magnifies the Lord,
 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
For he who is mighty has done great things for me,
 and holy is his name!
And his mercy is for those who fear him
 from generation to generation.

—Luke 1:46, 48-50 ESV

Hymn of Praise | Once in Royal David's City

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.

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall:
With the poor, the mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in Heav'n above,
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him; but in Heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander; Music: Henry J. Gauntlett; Arr. by Sufjan Stevens

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 in Heaven,

We confess that we long for joy and gladness but that we are frequently overcome by our sin and disgrace. We acknowledge our tendency to look elsewhere for the joy and gladness that only You can provide. Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us and rouse in us by Your Holy Spirit a joyful hope and expectation for our Coming King. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

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

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

—Hebrews 10:19-22 ESV

Song of Response | How Deep

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

You were broken that I might be healed
You were cast off that I might draw near
You were thirsty that I might come drink
Cried out in anguish that I might sing

*How deep is Your love
How high and how wide is Your mercy
How deep is Your grace
Our hearts overflow with praise
To You*

You knew darkness that I might know light
Wept great tears that mine might be dried
Stripped of glory that I might be clothed
Crushed by Your Father to call me your own
(Chorus)

Words & Music: Stephen Altrogge

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 Gospel Reading

John 2:13-22

God speaks to us by His Word.

2:13 The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. **14** In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. **15** And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. **16** And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." **17** His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

18 So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" **19** Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." **20** The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" **21** But he was speaking about the temple of his body. **22** When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that

he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

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 and conclude with an Advent prayer that focuses on Jesus' coming.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let Your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

The Reading of the Word

1 Kings 8:1-14, 27-30

God speaks to us by His Word.

8:1 Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the fathers' houses of the people of Israel, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion. **2** And all the men of Israel assembled to King Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month. **3** And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark. **4** And they brought up the ark of the LORD, the tent of meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent; the priests and the Levites brought them up. **5** And King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, who had assembled before him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and oxen that they could not be counted or numbered. **6** Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the Most Holy Place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. **7** For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim overshadowed the ark and its poles. **8** And the poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the Holy Place before the inner sanctuary; but they could not be seen from outside. And they are there to this day. **9** There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses put there at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the people of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt. **10** And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD, **11** so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.

12 Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he would dwell in thick darkness. **13** I have indeed built you an exalted house, a place for you to dwell in forever." **14** Then the king turned around and blessed all the assembly of Israel, while all the assembly of Israel stood.

27 "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you; how much less this house that I have built! 28 Yet have regard to the prayer of your servant and to his plea, O LORD my God, listening to the cry and to the prayer that your servant prays before you this day, 29 that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you have said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may listen to the prayer that your servant offers toward this place. 30 And listen to the plea of your servant and of your people Israel, when they pray toward this place. And listen in heaven your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive."

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 Temple"

Sermon Notes

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

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

Psalm 46

God is our refuge, our strength and our shield;
An ever present help
We will not fear, though the earth give way,
And the mountains crash into the sea

*There is a river whose streams will make glad;
the city of our Most High King
God is within her and she will not fail;
He helps her at break of the day*

Nations in uproar, men's kingdoms they fall.
He speaks and the Earth melts away.
The worst we imagine, the strongest of storms,
Our fortress, it will remain.

*There is a river whose streams will make glad;
the city of our Most High King
God is within her and she will not fail;
Listen to hear the Lord say:*

Be still and know that I am God
Come, let us see what the Lord has done,
the ruins He brings to the Earth.
He makes wars to cease at the end of the Earth
He shatters the bow and the spear.

*There is a river whose streams will make glad;
the city of our Most High King
God is within her and she will not fail;
Listen to hear the Lord say:*

Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God

Words & Music: Mike Crawford (alt. by Isaac Wardell)

Departing Hymn | Joy to the World

We respond in faith and song.

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

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

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.

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

—Numbers 6:24-26 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 Local Missions Angel Tree

Thank you, Trinity family, for your great participation in our Local Missions Angel Tree again this year! Today is the last day to bring your gifts!

For those giving to Rivertree, we are delivering gifts on Thursday, Dec 16 at 1230. Rivertree has invited us to do a craft with the PreK students, have Christmas cookies, and celebrate Christmas! All are invited and welcome. Email Emily Williams if you'd like to participate (williams.emmie13@gmail.com).

Sunday School Christmas Party Today

Join us on **today 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 Today

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

Young Adults Group Christmas Party

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. We are on break during Christmas, 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 **today 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.

Trinity Christmas Eve Service

Join us on **Dec 24 @ 3pm** for our family- & kid-friendly Trinity Christmas Eve Service. While there will be no nursery available, the entire service will involve children. **Please register in the Church Center app** so we can plan accordingly. Invite your friends and neighbors!

Winter Conference—Save the Date

Mark your calendars for a winter conference with Tom Gibbs on **Feb 4 & 5**.

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

Andrew Reed

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).