

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 22, 2024

Worship 10:30 AM

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

#### *Gather*

Prelude "O Come, All Ye Faithful" arr. Jim West

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

#### **Lighting of the Advent Candle - Gratitude**

Family: Our Advent journey continues as we get ready to meet the promised Lord.

**People: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we are reminded that the Advent of our Lord is near, and in gratitude we are called to make God's love known in our world.**

Family: We light the three purple candles and one pink candle on the Advent wreath as we ponder waiting upon the Lord with gratitude.

**People: We wait for your coming with thanksgiving, O Lord!**

Family: Zechariah was grateful to the Lord at the birth of his son who would prepare the way for Jesus.

**People: Now we wait for you with grateful hearts, O Lord!**

Family: Jesus is the light of the world. No one can put out that light! It will last forever!

**People: We worship as we wait with gratitude for Christmas and for Jesus to come again.**

Advent Welcome Video

#### *Praise*

#### **\*\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Wait upon the Lord.

**People: Be strong and courageous.**

Leader: Wait upon the Lord. That's what Zechariah did. Then he gave thanks, saying—

**People: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel.**

Leader: For he has visited and redeemed his people.

**People: To guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Leader: We are grateful that God created us, Jesus redeemed us, and the Spirit lives in us!

**People: We worship in gratitude, as we wait for the fullness of his blessing.**

Leader: Be strong and courageous. Wait upon the Lord!

**People: This Advent, we will wait upon the Lord with Gratitude!**

**People: When the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leapt for joy.**

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always! I will say it again, Rejoice!

**People: We rejoice that our Savior has come and will come again on the clouds with glory!**

Leader: Be strong and courageous. Wait upon the Lord!

**People: This Advent, we will wait upon the Lord with Rejoicing!**

*Prepare*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Lord whose advent we await, you have called us to live lives of gratitude for all your blessings. We confess Lord, we have lived as if you don't matter, as if others are less than us, and as if I matter most. We have lived our life selfishly and have failed to be grateful for your blessings. Forgive us and set our heart on the right track so that we may bless you with it. Renew in us a right spirit, O God, give us thankful and grateful hearts, and keep us patiently waiting for the promised coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Time for Silent Confession **Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Friends, do you feel it? God's tender mercy resting on you, healing you, transforming you. Do you see it? God's Light breaking into our lives and showing us the way. Beloved, renewed and made whole, we now have the strength to wait upon the Lord and follow the path God has prepared for us—the way of faith, the way of hope, the way of rejoicing, the way of gratitude. Thanks be to God. Amen!

**People: Amen.**

\*\*Congregational Response “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” (vs.3)

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*Listen*

Children's Message (The Christmas Joy Offering will be received.)

First Scripture Reading *1 Thessalonians 5:2, 4-6, 8-11, 15—18, and 23 (CEB)*

Anthem

“Mary's Little Boy Child”  
Jim Muench, soloist

by Jester Hairston

Pastoral Prayer

**Lord's Prayer**

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

Video

“Advent Love”

Second Scripture Reading

*Luke 1:67-79*

Respond

\*\*Hymn (Vss. 1& 3)      “When Old Zechariah Saw What God Had Done!”      MUELLER

Sacrament of Baptism      Benton Michael Osborn-Reed  
*Parents: Bethany and Autumn Osborn-Reed*

Offering

Prayer of Dedication  
**Amen.**

\*\*Doxology      VENI EMMANUEL  
*O Glorious God, to you we bring; Praise, treasures, lives as offering;  
Spirit of love, within us dwell; Come, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

\*\*Passing the Peace

\*\*Hymn (Vss. 1& 2)      “O Lord, How Shall We Meet You”      GOD REST YE

\*\*Benediction

Choral Response      “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Extinguishing of Candles

Postlude      “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”      arr. Jim West

\*\*Those who are able, please stand.

*Leaders in and for Worship*

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Preaching Today	Reverend Ronnie Osborn
Liturgist	Bill Daly
Lighting the Advent Candles	The Norris Family
Organist/Pianist	Jim West
Director of Music	J. West
Audio/Visual Technicians	Debbie Newkirk, Odell Newkirk, Bob Winkelmann
Greeter	Judy Hughes
Ushers	Delbert Botes, Seth Krause

## **Announcements for December 22, 2024**

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP:** We are glad you are here today. If you are visiting Trinity for the first time, we'd love to get to know you better. Please leave your contact information in the guest book by the front door; or, if you are worshiping online, please use our website contact form or the Facebook chat feature. We will be in touch with you soon.

**NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES:** If you have not yet done so, please be sure and pick up your copy of the new church directory after worship today.

**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING:** Today, we receive this special offering of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions to provide critical financial support to church workers and their families and to Presbyterian-related school and colleges equipping communities of color. The children of the church will assist with the collection of the Offering during the Children's Time.

**PRESBYTERIAN CHILDREN'S HOMES AND SERVICES (PCHAS) ANGEL TREE:** You can share seasonal wishes with your church friends and help the kids and families who are cared for by PCHAS by sending a Christmas card to Trinity along with a minimum \$5.00 donation. An ornament with your name(s) on it will be placed on the small Christmas tree in the church lobby and your card will be displayed on the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING!** If you are going caroling today, please join the other carolers in the Fellowship Hall after worship for a potluck lunch before leaving to sing.

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT AND COMMUNION SERVICE:**  
Tuesday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary and live-streamed via Facebook Live.

**CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED:** The offices will be closed on December 25 and December 26.

**HOLIDAY POTLUCK BREAKFAST:** Plan on joining us at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, December 29, in the Fellowship Hall as we bid farewell to the current year and prepare to welcome 2025. Bring your favorite breakfast dish to share.