



Trinity Presbyterian Church PCA
Gathering in the Name of the Triune God

December 8, 2019
 First Sunday of Advent



The Tree of Life

In the Bible, trees are given to man for food and medicine as well as beauty and shade. Trees are an emblem of God’s glory in the world and so are fitting symbols of God’s people. We can flourish “like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither” (Psalm 1:3). The growth of the kingdom is likened to a rising, spreading tree (Ezek. 17; Matt. 13:31-32). Adam’s fall severed us from access to the Tree of Life, but united to Christ we again have access to its life-giving fruit (Rev. 22:2). The Tree of Life is a symbol of Jesus. The time between Pentecost and Advent is called Trinity Season. The color green is used to symbolize life, growth, and the maturation of Jesus’ kingdom.

LORD’s Day Service – December 8, 2019
 Second Sunday of Advent

Preparation for Worship: Isaiah 11:3-4

Welcome

Entrance – God Calls Us; we gather together and praise Him

* *Hymn of Praise* (See insert)
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

* *Call to Worship* Psalm 72:18-19

Pastor: Grace to you and peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen!

Pastor: Blessed are You the LORD God...Who only does wondrous things!
 And blessed is Your glorious name forever!

Congregation: And let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen and Amen.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

* *Hymn of Preparation* Psalter, #58A
You May be Gods, but Can You Claim

Reading from Psalm 58; 72:1-8

Purification - God Cleanses Us; we confess our sins to Him and are forgiven in Christ

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God, Who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let us kneel before the Lord our God. *(Those unable to kneel may be seated.)*

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against You, opposing Your will in our lives and breaking Your law. We have denied Your goodness in our thoughts and in failing to do good to others. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, and the evil we have done. Forgive, restore and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in Your love and serve only Your will. Amen!

(Silent, personal confession of sin)

Now lift up your heads, arise, and hear the good news! Brothers and sisters, your sins are forgiven and your lives are rescued in our Lord Jesus Christ. Believe this and rejoice! And the people say...

Thanks be to God! Our sins are forgiven in Jesus' name. AMEN!

**Ascension – God Consecrates Us; we listen to Him
and offer our works and lives to Him**

* Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

It is proper and right to do so!

Truly it is fitting and our greatest joy to give thanks to You at all times and in all places, O Lord, holy Father, Almighty and everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, and with the church on earth, we praise and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and singing...

**The Sanctus* (inside hymnal or psalter cover)

Hymn of Preparation (See insert)
Of the Father's Love Begotten

Let us pray: **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!**

* *Old Testament Lesson* Isaiah 11:1-10
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

* *New Testament Lesson* Romans 15:4-13
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

* *Gospel Lesson* Luke 1:46-55
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus.
Praise to You, O Christ!

Sermon "Tyrants on Trial: *there is a God who judges in the earth*"

* *Hymn of Consecration* Trinity Hymnal, #236
The King Shall Come (vs 1-3, 6-7)

* *Dedication of Tithes & Offerings*

Prayers of the Church Requests & Lord's Prayer

Peace - God Communes with Us; we eat at His table

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Mark 14:22-26

We Confess Our Faith in the Triune, Incarnate God Creed (inside hymnal cover)

* *Hymn of Thanksgiving* Trinity Hymnal, #165
Savior of the Nations, Come

Benediction - God Commissions & Blesses Us; we march out to serve Him

* *The Lord's Commission of Us* Romans 15:9

* *We Receive God's Blessing, His Good Word to Us* Romans 15:13

* *We Bless the Lord, Lifting Our Hands and Voices to Him* *Gloria in Excelsis Deo*

* *Threefold Amen*

LORD'S SUPPER

We observe Communion, or the Lord's Supper, weekly in our midst.

We believe it is worthily received by those who:

1. Have been baptized in the name of the Triune God (Matt 28:18-20);
2. Do profess faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel (Ro 10:9-10);
3. Do live in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit and endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Jesus Christ (Gal 5:16-26); and
4. Are communing members in good standing in an evangelical church (1 Cor 10:1-6)

If these things are all true, we rejoice with you and invite you to commune with us at the Lord's Supper. If any of these are not true of you, we ask that you refrain. We invite you to speak to one of the Elders if you have doubts or questions regarding any of these beliefs, or if you are interested in learning more about Trinity.

Though collections are not ordinarily taken during a service, giving is a vital element of worship. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the basket at the rear of the church. (2 Corinthians 9:6-11)

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