



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

December 15, 2019 Third 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 15, 2019 Third Sunday of Advent

Preparation for Worship: Psalm 59:14-17

Welcome

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

* *Call to Worship* Psalm 96:2, 3, 13

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

Congregation: Amen!

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called

Congregation: Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Pastor: Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever.

Congregation: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

* *Hymn of Preparation* Trinity Hymnal, #147
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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 Maker. *(Those unable to kneel may be seated.)*

Eternal God and our Father, in You we live and move and have our being; Do not hide Your face from us because of our sins, but have compassion on us, and subdue our iniquities. Cleanse us from all our offenses; deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires. Grant that we may draw near to You, in lowliness and meekness. Confessing our sins, we confide in Your grace and mercy through Christ, Your Son, our Lord and Savior. Amen!

(Silent, personal confession of sin)

Arise, lift up your heads, and hear the comforting, good tidings of great joy! Our God, in His great mercy, gave His only Son to die for us, and for His sake pardons

and rescues you from all your sins, that He might present you spotless before His glory with great joy! 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 Psalter, #59 A&B (tune: 22C)
Save Me, My God (4 stanzas, v 1 of 59A & all of 59B)

Let us pray: **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!**

* *Old Testament Lesson* 1 Samuel 19:8-18
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

* *New Testament Lesson* Acts 9:22-25; 14:21-22
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

* *Gospel Lesson* Matthew 2:12-18
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus.
Praise to You, O Christ!

Sermon "Scatter our enemies, my Strength,
God my defense, My God of mercy" (Ps 59)

* *Hymn of Consecration* Trinity Hymnal, #145
Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

* *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 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

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

* *Hymn of Thanksgiving* Psalter, #96 A&B (tune: *God Rest You Merry*)
O Sing a New Song (6 stanzas)

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

* *The Lord's Commission of Us* Psalm 96:2, 3, 13

* *We Receive God's Blessing, His Good Word to Us* Numbers 6:24-26

* *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)

Trinity Presbyterian Church

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