



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

December 29, 2019
Christmastide



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 29, 2019
Christmastide

Preparation for Worship: Psalm 89:5-6

Welcome

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

- * *Call to Worship* Psalm 89:1, 2, 5-7
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 heavens will praise Your wonders, O LORD;
Congregation: Your faithfulness also in the assembly of the saints.
Pastor: You are greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints,
Congregation: And to be held in reverence by all those around Him.
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
Congregation: And also with you.

- * *Hymn of Preparation* Trinity Hymnal, #149
Joy to the World!

- * Reading Psalm 89:30-32

**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.)*

O most merciful God, since You have given Your only begotten Son to die for me, have mercy on me, and for His sake grant me remission of all my sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in me true knowledge of You and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, that by Your grace I may come to everlasting life; 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, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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)

Let us pray: **Almighty God, You make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of Your only Son Jesus Christ, and You have poured upon us the new light of Your incarnate Word: Grant that this Light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives, and grant that we, who joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge, Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!**

* *Old Testament Lesson* Psalm 89:1-18
The Word of the Lord. Responsive Selection 42
Thanks be to God! Trinity Hymnal, p 639

Hymn of Preparation Trinity Hymnal, #151 (v 1, 2)
O Come, All Ye Faithful

* *Gospel Lesson* Luke 2:8-20
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus.
Praise to You, O Christ!

Hymn of Response Trinity Hymnal, #151 (v 3, 4)
O Come, All Ye Faithful

* *New Testament Lesson* Colossians 1:13-18; Revelation 5
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon "The LORD's Forever Covenant with David"
Part 2: *The Throne above the Throne*

* *Hymn of Consecration* Psalter, #89B & D (6 stanzas)
Who with the LORD

* *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* Trinity Hymnal, #168
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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

* *The Lord's Commission of Us* Psalm 89:15-16

* *We Receive God's Blessing, His Good Word to Us* Jude 24-25

* *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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