

# Trinity Presbyterian Church Palm Coast

December 11, 2022  
Third Sunday of Advent  
Joy



FROM  
GENERATION  
TO GENERATION...  
*We can choose a better way*

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey W. Beebe, Pastor  
Brooke Tucker, Director of Faith Formation  
Heasuk Che, Director of Music/Organist  
Lillian Warner, Director of Handbell Choir  
Judy Grady, Financial and Administrative Assistant  
Thomas Buonocore, Sexton  
Jane Pellmann, Clerk of Session  
Jeff Cooke, Ken Mettler & David Wheeler, Visual/Audio

156 Florida Park Drive N. Palm Coast, FL 32137  
(386) 445-4757 ♦ [www.trinitypalmcoast.org](http://www.trinitypalmcoast.org)  
Facebook: Trinity Presbyterian Church USA  
Live-Stream our Worship at [www.trinitypalmcoast.org](http://www.trinitypalmcoast.org)



Trinity Presbyterian Church is called by God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, to be a **worshipping, nurturing and serving** community.

Prelude - Choir "Fanfare Gloria" Eliot

Welcome

Introit – Choir "On Christmas Night" arr. Duren

Advent Candle Lighting<sup>+</sup> *Jason, Shelley, David & Andrew Wheeler*  
Over a hundred people, from the ages of two to eighty years old, were asked the question, "What brings you joy?"

Hear now their answers:

A clean kitchen. Sand between my toes. Being outside.  
Sleeping in my own bed after a night away. Having a camera in my hands. My partner's laugh. Mountain air. When my parents pick me up. The end of my to-do list. Hugs from my niece and nephew. Baby giggles. My cat. Putting my hands in the garden. A chord resolved. Stargazing. Bedtime books. A warm cup of coffee with friends. My new granddaughter. Lingered at the table after dinner. Time with family.

Today we light the candle of joy.

May its light remind us of all the good news this season brings. May its light remind us of the many sources of joy in our lives, and may that joy not only draw us closer to one another, but closer to God. Family of faith, what brings you joy? Amen.

\* Hymn #133 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Call to Confession<sup>+</sup>

A series of experiments by Princeton psychologists, Janine Willis and Alexander Todorov, taught the world that it only takes a tenth of a second for us to form an impression of a stranger. In other words, it only takes a tenth of a second for us to look at someone's face and determine a stereotype about who they are.<sup>3</sup> With decisions happening that quickly, it is not hard to imagine why we might need this moment of confession. The prayer of confession is an opportunity to slow down. We take that tenth of a second and give it room to breathe. We reflect on the decisions that we've made this past week and we ask for God's mercy to be in all of them. And without fail, God wiggles God's self into the cracks of our lives, and we are made better for it. So with that confidence, let us go to God in prayer:

Prayer of Confession<sup>+</sup>

**God of mercy, a million times a day we have the opportunity to be gracious, to assume the best in others, to give the benefit of the doubt. A million times a day we could choose the better way, but so often we don't. Fear and greed kick in. Assumptions and insecurities take the wheel. Comparison and critique lead the charge. Forgive us for forgetting that we are descendants of Joseph. Forgive us for forgetting that grace and mercy are in our blood. Forgive us for forgetting**

**that all belong to you. Give us the courage to love even bigger than before, and the wisdom to choose a better way. Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness<sup>+</sup>

Family of Faith, hear this good news: We who have chosen wrong, are given a second chance. We who have lost our way, are welcomed into community. We who feel alone, are seen, held, and known. This is the good news of the gospel. No matter how many times we choose wrong or lose our way, God continues to be a God of second chances, community, and love. Thanks be to God! Amen.

\* Gloria in Excelsis Deo (from "Angels We Have Heard on High")

**Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

\* Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

\* Affirmation of Faith<sup>+</sup>

**We believe in a God who offers second chances and does not hold grudges. We believe in a God who opens the door to new life and leaves the porch light on for us when we get lost. We believe in a God who believes in us— believes that we can make a difference, that we can choose grace over comparison, love over hate, peace over war. And so we strive to live our lives in love. We strive to listen as Joseph listened, and to be the people that God calls us to be. It's all that easy, and it's all that hard. This we believe. Amen.**

Road to Bethlehem

Poem

"Instructions for a Hard Choice"<sup>+</sup>

First, you must take a deep breath. Let oxygen dance through your lungs. Exhale it slowly. Allow the hurt, the shame, the anger to rise up in you. Let your mind run wild, like a million loose horses. Let the narratives unfold, unroll, a river of choppy water. Ask yourself how you got here. Look down at your feet. Roll your shoulders back. Remember who you are. Take another deep breath. Then, walk it back to the beginning.

Instead of looking at your feet, look at hers. Imagine where she stands. Imagine what he needs. Dry the river of false stories in your mind. Turn rushing water into a dry creek bed, certainly not clean enough to drink. Call the horses. Bring them home. Watch as they shake off the dust of the day. Name what you're feeling. Inhale again. Now you are ready to choose a better way.

Anthem – Choir "Christmas Worship Medley"

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus," "Great Are You, Lord,"  
and "The First Noel"

Prayer for Illumination<sup>+</sup>

Holy God, scripture tells us that you came to Joseph through an angel— loud and clear, impossible to miss. Scripture also tells us that Joseph listened. He rearranged his life to follow your invitation. God, we long for that— all of that. We long to hear your voice—loud and clear, impossible to miss. We long for invitations to something more, something deeper. And we long to be like Joseph and find the courage to follow. So clean out our ears. Brush the dust off our hearts. Trace us back to our roots—back to Joseph—who heard and followed. With gratitude we listen. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson      Isaiah 35:1-10  
Gospel Lesson                Matthew 1:18-25  
Meditation                    "We Shall See"                Rev. Dr. Jeff Beebe  
\* Hymn #110                    "Love Has Come"

Prayers of the People<sup>+</sup> and The 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.**

\* Hymn #119                    "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

\* Invitation to Discipleship and Offering of our Gifts

\* Benediction<sup>+</sup>

**As you leave this place, may you go knowing that from generation to generation, we have been claimed and loved. From generation to generation, God has been by our side. From generation to generation, we are not alone. The God of yesterday and the God of tomorrow knows you by name, loves you, and calls you forth, saying, "Go be the person you are called to be, love wildly, do justice, and come back soon." May it be so. Amen.**

\* Benediction Response - Choir    "Joy To The World"                arr. Duren  
Postlude                    "Angels We Have Heard on High"                arr. Page

*\* Denotes please stand if able.*

<sup>+</sup>Prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

WORSHIP NOTES

**Greeters:** Roger Ailshie and Susan Kopyar  
**Ushers:** Marti Benz, Ron & Penny Weidner, Bill & Sandy Boland and Ed & Judy Murgitroyde  
**Lay Reader:** Evelyn Clickard                **Audio Tech:** Steve Yeh

Join us in prayer for our members and loved ones

Gail Alvaro, Margaret Applegate, Andrew Billings, **Doris Boone**, Bret Bosier, Jason Bradley\*, Dontrell Brown, Eliza Brown, **Al Burgess, Priscilla Cahill**, Jasper Casey, John Chappa, **Hal Childs, Gary Clickard**, John Decina, Maverick Dennis\*, Rev. Dr. Jeff DeYoe, Dickiesons Family, **Joe Digby\***, William Downs, **Saida Evensen**, Patrick Floyd\*, Clarisa Gibson, **Carol Graff**, Stanley Hannum\*, **Pat Head**, A.J. & Vicki Jebbia, **Bob Johnson, Javan N. Jones\*, Kathy Jones-Mills, Jennifer Kaczmarek**, Bruce Lee, **Florence Lyman**, Marissa Mallicote, **Ed Manen, Jan Markiewicz, Marie McCray**, Declan Mitchell\*, Pam Mitchell-Hess, Joseph C. Orr\*, **Howard Parker, Paul Parker**, William Patterson, **Bob Pearson, Helene Read, Ginny Reisinger**, Bradford Robinson, Ian Samuel, Jennifer Sheringham\*, **Lois Settles, Diane Simmons, Bonnie Slager**, Michelle Smith, **Brian Thomas, Ryan Tugas\***, Norma Warwell, **John Waugaman**, Todd Whipper, Ben Whitenack, **Matthew Winterheimer\*, Theodore Winterheimer\*, Kenny Wittmer**

*Sympathy is extended to the friends and family of **Janet Pegg**, who died on December 2, 2022. A service is being held on December 9<sup>th</sup> in New Jersey.*

If someone is in need of prayer, please let the church office know.

Those listed in bold are members of the church and the asterisk indicates active military service.

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

Louisa Childs	12/11		Sandy Glasner	12/15
Margaret Best	12/12		Sabrina Rampersad	12/15
Dianne Bradley	12/13		Leslie Russo	12/15
Cooper Collier	12/14		Doris Valenti	12/17

This Week in our Church (Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs.: 9:00am-12 noon)

Sunday, December 11th

10:00 AM      Worship Service  
11:00 AM      Fellowship Luncheon (Mehaffey)  
5PM-6:30PM    Outdoor Christmas Movie "The Star"

Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

9:30 AM      Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)  
10:00 AM      Service & Outreach Committee (Kepler)  
6:00 PM      Session Meeting (Kepler)  
6:15 PM      Scouts-Pack 281 (Mehaffey/Youth Rooms)

Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

5:30 PM      Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)  
5:30 PM      Trinity Troopers (Youth Rooms)  
6:30 PM      Scouts-Troops 281 & 4281 (Mehaffey)

Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

9:00 AM      PW Team Meeting (Kepler)  
10:00 AM      Stretch & Balance with Brooke (Calvin)  
11:00 AM      PW Christmas Gathering (Mehaffey)  
8:15 PM      AA (Mehaffey)

Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>

5:00 PM      ALANON Meeting  
6:30 PM      NA Meeting

Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

3:00 PM      College Youth Outing at Top Golf in Jacksonville

Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

10:00 AM      Worship Service  
3:00 PM      Christmas Caroling

**Share your gifts!**  
**Trinity Online Giving:**



**DECEMBER FELLOWSHIP LUNCH:** All are invited to join us today after worship to come and celebrate the season with your church family.

**OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS MOVIE:** Tonight at 5pm we will be showing the Christmas movie, "The Star" in the outdoor courtyard. Bring a blanket and a chair. Pizza, popcorn and drinks provided. All are invited and welcome!

**COLLEGE AGED YOUTH OUTING:** Join us at Top Golf in Jacksonville for fun and fellowship on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. Contact Brooke Tucker to reserve your tee time!

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CHRISTMAS GATHERING:**

Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – 11:00 am in Mehaffey Hall  
All are invited to join us in fellowship, featuring a Christmas Carol Sing-along and the Installation of 2023 PW Coordinating Team.  
Lunch will be provided by Miriam Circle

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING:** Want to help spread some Christmas cheer? Join us for Christmas Caroling next Sunday, December 18th! Meet us in the front parking lot at 3pm, dressed in jolly clothes. We will caravan across Flagler County spreading the joy of the season where ever we go ending at the Butlers home for refreshments at 6pm. Contact Brooke Tucker for more information.

**ADVENT DEVOTIONAL:** Don't forget to pick up your Advent devotional in the Narthex today or find a link to our online version on our Trinity website! Thank you to all our writers for sharing their stories and a big thank you to Kelli Jebbia for putting together this year's edition.

**ADVENT SPIRAL WALK AND PRAYER ROOM:** We are pleased to once again offer an Advent Spiral Walk throughout December. The spiral is set up in the Chapel and available anytime. Each week, a different prayer station will invite you to prepare for Advent, walk the spiral, and take time to ponder and pray.

**ADVENT SPIRITUALITY ROOM:** This sacred space resides in the Wesley room and is open Mon-Thurs 9am-12pm. In this room you will find self-guided lessons on the week's scripture and an art project that will help you dive further into your advent walk. All supplies are provided.

**STRETCH & BALANCE WITH BROOKE:** Join Brooke every Wednesday in December at 10am in Calvin for a time of gentle stretching, deep breathing and giving thanks to God for this season in time. All ages and abilities welcome!

**FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION** reminds us of the ways our lives, histories, actions, and stories are interconnected and woven together. The work of God is always unfolding—in and through us. This Advent, may you remember that you belong—to a story etched into the wrinkles of time, to generations that have come before and will come after, to a love that won't let you go.