

# Trinity Presbyterian Church Palm Coast

December 25, 2022

## Christmas Day



FROM  
GENERATION  
TO GENERATION...  
*God dwells with us*

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

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Live-Stream our Worship at [www.trinitypalmcoast.org](http://www.trinitypalmcoast.org)

Prelude "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" arr. Che

Welcome<sup>+</sup>

Family of faith, Merry Christmas and welcome to worship here at Trinity Palm Coast!

Just last night we gathered together to celebrate Christmas Eve. We lit candles. We told the story. We sang along with the angels. Many of you were here with us. And now, just a few hours later, we are back! Christ has been born. God is good, and our joy overflows.

We want to take a moment to acknowledge that some among us may be a little extra tired, or squirmy, or joyful. Some of us may be eager to return home to family, and some of us may be eager to be here with our church family. Know that however you feel today, whatever joy or weariness you bring into this space, God welcomes all of it, and we do too. We're so glad you're here.

Today's service is a little different from our normal flow, since this is such a unique and special day. In today's service we will sing, we will pray, and we will listen.

Now, may we all take a deep breath and center ourselves in this place. Christ is born. God has come. We are not alone. Let us celebrate that Good News. Let us dwell with God!

Introit

Call to Worship Isaiah 9:2-7

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;

those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation;  
you have increased its joy;

they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;

authority rests upon his shoulders,  
and he is named

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

<sup>7</sup> Great will be his authority,  
and there shall be endless peace

for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Prayers of the People<sup>+</sup> and The Lord's Prayer

Holy God of candlelight and open doors, God of tables and feasts, God of holly and of ivy, we give you our prayers. Like pennies shaken loose from our pockets, we turn over every corner of our hearts to give you our truth through prayers of gratitude, prayers of fear, prayers of grief. Collect them all and hold us close on this Christmas morning, for today, especially today, we long to feel you near. With gratitude and joyful hearts we pray.

**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 #143 "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Call to Confession<sup>+</sup>

On a day like today we may want to skip the prayer of confession because today is a day for joy. Why should we pause to think and talk about the ways we as humans mess things up? We get that argument. However, we also believe that the joy of this day is even more joyful when we are honest about who we are. We humans tend to be messy, scattered, and full of doubt at times. Knowing that Jesus was born in a manger for us, and that Jesus loves and forgives us, is even better news. So let us confess together to God, knowing that the honest truth of our lives only makes this Good News better. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession<sup>+</sup>

*The prayer of confession will be centered around the already lit Advent wreath. One by one, the liturgist will extinguish the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, only to relight them from the Christ candle at the end.*

Holy God, too often we feel as if change is hopeless. The problems of this world feel too big, the path forward is unclear, and we are not confident that we can truly make a difference. We give up hope. *Liturgist snuffs out the candle of hope.*

Together we pray: **Forgive us for extinguishing hope.**

Holy God, too often we believe that peace is a thing of fairy tales. Our spirits are anxious. Our bodies are weary. Our world is fractured. Instead of praying for peace—both in ourselves and in our society—we assume that peace is no longer on the table. We give it up. *Liturgist snuffs out the candle of peace.*

Together we pray: **Forgive us for extinguishing peace.**

Holy God, too often we paint joy as naive—a luxury reserved for children and pets. We forget that you ate with friends, that you went to weddings, that you laughed and rested and hiked mountains. We forget that you knew joy, and that you want joy for us in this fractured world. Forgive us for turning away from your light. *Liturgist snuffs out the candle of joy.*

Together we pray: **Forgive us for extinguishing joy.**

Holy God, too often we treat love like a vending machine. We put some coins in and assume that we'll get something back. However, in our wiser moments, we know that love is not meant for keeping score. Love is meant to overflow, to spill out to our neighbors, to transform our world. Forgive us for holding love so tightly. *Liturgist snuffs out the candle of love.*

Together we pray: **Forgive us for extinguishing love.**

Family of faith, sin separates us from things like hope, peace, and joy. Sin wiggles its way between us and love, both love of neighbor and love of self. Fortunately for us, God had something else in mind. God sent God's only son to this world so that we could see another way. So friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: no matter how many times we turn our back on hope, or extinguish peace, or snuff out joy—no matter how many times we let love burn out—God continues to light our way. *Liturgist relights the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love from the Christ candle.*

We are forgiven. We are seen. We are loved. The good news of this day—the hope, the peace, the joy, and the love of this day—exists for you. Thanks be to God! Amen.

\* Gloria in Excelsis Deo  
(Refrain 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.**

Anthem "What Child Is This"  
Jillian Koenig, flute

Faith Formation Moment

Prayer for Illumination<sup>+</sup>

God of manger straw and swaddle cloth, God of silent nights and joyfully-chaotic mornings, we long to know you. The hustle and bustle of this time of year can be more than distracting, so for a moment, we pray, still our busy hearts. Quiet our minds. Help us to sink deeply into this day. Help us to pause here, to linger here as we hear your good news spoken over us. God, we long to know you, so speak to us now. With grateful hearts, we pray. With grateful hearts, we listen. Amen.

Gospel Lesson John 1:1-18

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

**Like Mary, we believe in cherishing good news.**

**Like the angels, we believe in singing God's praise.**

**Like the shepherds, we believe that God's presence in our life is something worth talking about.**

**Like generations before, we believe that God is with us.**

**Like the generations to come, we believe that God is with us.**

**God is here. God is love. We believe. Thanks be to God!**

\* Hymn #146 "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"

\* Invitation to Discipleship and Offering of our Gifts

For generations and generations, it has been a Christian tradition to give gifts on Christmas. Children give homemade cards, parents and friends give presents wrapped in brightly-colored paper and bows. But we also do this because we love one another, and when you love someone, it feels good to give. So just as we give gifts to one another on Christmas morning, let us also turn that same love toward God. Let us be generous with our time, talents, and treasures, because when we love someone, it feels good to give.

\* Benediction<sup>+</sup>

**From generation to generation, God keeps drawing near. From generation to generation, a light has shone in the darkness.**

**From generation to generation, God's love has moved through the world like our connection moved through this room. So may we celebrate that. May we rest in the joy of this day, and may we allow it to change us. Merry Christmas! Go in peace.**

**God is with you every step of the way.**

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

\* Postlude "I Danced in the Morning" arr. Che

*\* Denotes please stand if able.*

*+Prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*



*We at Trinity Presbyterian Church wish you a blessed and joyous Christmas!  
The old life is gone, and the new life is begun. That has been, that is, and that will be forever the Good news of the Gospel. Merry Christmas.*

**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.

### **2023 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES**

The contribution envelopes for 2023 are delayed due to equipment and staffing issues at the manufacturer. They are working long hours to get caught up and will ship as soon as ready but can't tell us if it will be before or after the holidays. Thank you for your patience.

### **NEW YEAR'S DAY WORSHIP SERVICE**

Join us on January 1<sup>st</sup> as we welcome the New Year with scripture and song. Special Guest Worship Leader Dr. Barry Davies, Retired Professor of Sacred Music at Columbia Theological Seminary.

### **TRINITY EPIPHANY CELEBRATION**

The Magi followed a star, which ultimately led them to Jesus. Therefore, we too use all the resources we have available to us to move closer to Jesus. We invite you to be a part of our third Epiphany Celebration on **Sunday, January 6, 2023 from 4:30pm-5:30pm.** A New Year's opportunity for you to be blessed and to be a blessing to others.

### **OBSERVANCE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

The Lord's Supper will next be observed at Trinity on Sunday, January 8, 2023.

### **STRETCH & BALANCE WITH BROOKE**

Join Brooke every Wednesday in December and January 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!

*This Week our Church Office Hours: Tues.-Thurs.: 9:00am-1:00pm*

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



*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.*