

# Second Sunday of Advent

## December 10, 2023



Trinity Presbyterian Church  
 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)

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey W. Beebe, Pastor  
 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

*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.*

*Sunday, December 10, 2023 ♦ Second Sunday of Advent*

Prelude "Joy to the World" arr. Fox  
 Xylophone, Barbara Davis with Organ

Welcome

Choir Introit "O Come, All Ye Faithful" arr. Whitmill  
 Choir with Jack Jeffe, Viola

Advent Candle Lighting ♦ *Wes, Molly, Mackenzie and Riley MacDonald*

Family of faith, one of the greatest joys of worship is that it is not a solo act. We gather together. We find joy, and God, in the act of connection. So as we begin our worship, I invite you to turn and face someone you are close to so that you can see one another. (Pause as people get in position.) Now repeat these phrases after me:

Welcome to worship.

We are glad you're here.

Surely God is in this space.

We see God in your face.

Let us worship together.

How does a weary world practice peace?

By listening before we speak and saying sorry when we need to.

By advocating for justice and caring for our neighbor.

By practicing Sabbath and forgiving seventy times seven.

By choosing grace over hate and opening the door for each other.

There are a million ways to practice peace.

So today we light the candle of peace as a reminder and a charge.

With God's help, may we bring peace into a weary world. Amen.

\* Hymn #93 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" Truro

Call to Confession ♦

Family of faith, one of the ways we find joy in a weary world is through connection. The prayer of confession is a place of connection with God. In the prayer of confession we get to come before God with our full, messy, honest selves. And in the midst of that mess, God tells us that we are loved, claimed, and forgiven. There is no greater joy than that. So join me in the prayer of confession, not because you have to, but because you can. Let us connect with our merciful God.

Prayer of Confession ♦

**God of laughter, God of open front doors and family reunions, we confess that we often doubt good news.**

**We move through this world waiting for the other shoe to drop, waiting for life to fall apart, waiting for our humanity to get the best of us. Instead of leaning into joy, we lean into scarcity.**

**We lean into fear. We lean into isolation.**

**Forgive us for forgetting that joy is amplified when shared.**

**Heal the wounds we have from past hurts, and teach us how to throw open our doors like Elizabeth. Show us how to find joy in connection. Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness ♦

Faith family, I imagine that when we come before God with the truth of our lives, God meets us like Elizabeth meets Mary in our scripture today. The door is thrown open. There is laughter. There is joy. There is embracing—and it is holy. So trust this; believe this: You are claimed. You are loved. You are forgiven. And you are sent to serve. Find joy in that. Amen!

\* Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

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

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

\* Affirmation of Faith ♦

We believe that joy is a sacred gift, existing on a plane deeper than happiness, stemming from the truth that we belong to God. We believe that joy is not meant for isolation. Joy is meant to be shared, weaving us together in laughter and in hope. And when joy feels impossibly out of reach, we believe that part of being sacred community is leaning on one another. So together we say: I will share my joy when yours runs out. You will share your joy when mine runs out. And in doing so, we will both see God. Amen.

Special Music "Mary, Did You Know?" arr. Wagner  
 Emma Zwirn, Youth Soprano

Road to Bethlehem

Special Music "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"  
 Madeline Arnold, Mackenzie Connors, Patrick McNeil, and Allacyn Beebe

Invitation to Discipleship

The invitation to follow Christ is filled with hope, peace, joy, and love. There is hope: a new journey with Christ brings transformation. There is peace: in Christ, the old has passed away and the new can now emerge. There is joy: nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. There is love: God so loved the world that God became human in Jesus, our savior. Now is the time to respond to God's love and accept the invitation to follow this Christ. Be filled with hope, peace, joy, and love!

Offering of our Gifts

Offertory "There's a Star in the East (Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow)"  
 Madelyn May, Youth Soprano

\* Congregational Response (Hymn #82)

**Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
 from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
 Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
 dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

Prayers of the People ♦ and The Lord's Prayer

God of today and God of tomorrow, We come to you this morning to thank you for the way that joy binds us together. Thank you for contagious laughter, for inside jokes, for stories around dinner tables that can make us laugh until we cry. Thank you for comedy shows, for the familiar sound of a loved one's chuckle, and for the universality of smile lines. What a gift you have given us. Our text today reminds us that joy is better when shared, so today we thank you in particular for the Elizabeths and the Marys in our lives. Thank you for the people who spark joy in us. Thank you for the people who pull us out of our shells, who teach us how to dance and show us how to laugh. Thank you for those who declare, "Blessed are you." In a moment of gratitude, we silently lift their names to you now. Holy God, although we know that joy is better when shared, there are days when that is easier said than done. Like Elizabeth, who stayed in isolation for months after receiving her good news, we too have a tendency to choose fear over joy. Without the help of someone at our door, we can often keep our joy to ourselves. So gracious God, when those days come, when the waters of fear rise, when isolation steals our joy, comfort us. Comfort us like a shepherd with their flock. Gather us into your arms and carry us to safer ground that we might experience joy in the ways you have in store for us. And until that promised day, like Mary and Elizabeth, we will do our best to keep finding one another.



Like Mary and Elizabeth, we will do our best to open the door to one another, to you, and to the joy that connection brings. Together we unite our voices in hope, praying the words your son taught us to pray, saying together: **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.**

Special Music "Away in a Manger" arr. Courtney  
Choir with Jack Jeffe, Viola

Prayer for Illumination ♦  
Holy God, We know that you are near. We know that you are standing at the door, you are running down the driveway, you are inviting us in— into your Word, into relationship, and deeper into joy. So as we approach your Word, O God, we pray: do not let us pass you by. Do not allow distraction or doubt to get the best of us. Do not let us walk down this road without you. Instead, give us the wisdom to turn and run your way. Give us the wisdom to hear your wisdom, to let it sink into our bones and change us. With hope and gratitude we pray, amen.

Anthem "Amen-Tell It on the Mountain" arr. McDonald  
Choir with Jack Jeffe, Viola

Gospel Lesson Luke 1:24-45  
24 After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, 25 "This is what the Lord has done for me in this time, when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people."  
26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, 27 to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." 29 But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. 30 The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. 33 He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." 34 Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" 35 The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. 36 And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God." 38 Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.  
39 In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, 40 where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit 42 and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. 43 And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? 44 For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. 45 And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Meditation "Nothing Is Impossible" Rev. Dr. Jeff Beebe

(Please remain seated for the remainder of the service.)

Hymn #88 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verses 1,2,3 & 4)

Benediction ♦  
Family of faith, as you leave this place, you go into a weary world— so speak tenderly. Do the good that is yours to do. Choose connection. Hold onto hope. And remember that Christ took on flesh for you. You are God's beloved. So go rejoicing. The world needs it. Amen.

Choral response "Deo Gloria" Boyd Bacon  
Choir with Jack Jeffe, Viola

Postlude "I Saw Three Ships" arr. D.Bish

\* Denotes please stand if able.

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

WORSHIP NOTES

**Greeters and Ushers:** Susan Kopyar, Roger Ailshie, Marti Benz, Ron & Penny Weidner, Bill & Sandy Boland  
**Lay Reader:** Shelley Wheeler **Audio Tech:** Ken Mettler  
**Children's Worship Table:** Children are invited to the Children's Worship Table after the Faith Formation to enjoy this week's Children's Worship booklet and/or any of the other quiet activities in the Children's area.

Join us in prayer for our members and loved ones

Gail Alvaro, **Ajit Banerjee**, Billings Family, Jason Bradley\*, Eliza Brown, **Al Burgess, Jim & Willa Burns**, Jasper Casey, John Chappa, **Hal Childs**, Rev. Dr. Jeff DeYoe, Dickiesons Family, **Joe Digby\***, William Downs, Patrick Floyd\*, Clarisa Gibson, Hadley Gray, Stanley Hannum\*, **Bob Johnson, Gene Johnson, Javan N. Jones\*, Kathy Jones-Mills, Jennifer Kaczmarek**, Lucas Kelly, Brady Klefman, Bruce Lee, **Florence Lyman**, Marissa Mallicote, **Ed Manen, Gloria Martin, Judy Mascenic**, Sue McCarthy, **Tom & Carol McGovern**, Declan Mitchell\*, Pam Mitchell-Hess, **Pat Olson**, Joseph C. Orr\*, William Patterson, **Ed Peart, Helene Read**, Bradford Robinson, Ian Samuel, Jennifer Sheringham\*, Sara Shoreland, **Diane Simmons, Bonnie Slager**, Michelle Smith, **Brian Thomas, Ryan Tugas\*, Tony & Doris Valenti**, Monique Warmington, Norma Warwell, **BJ Waugaman**, Todd Whipper, Ben Whitenack, **Matthew Winternheimer\*, Theodore Winternheimer\*, Kenny Wittmer**

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

Dave Martin	12/10		Dianne Bradley	12/13
Lisa Hammond	12/10		Cooper Collier	12/14
Heasuk Che	12/10		Sandy Glasner	12/15
Louisa Childs	12/11		Sabrina Rampersad	12/15
Margaret Best	12/12		Leslie Russo	12/15

**HANDS ON MISSION:** Helping Hands Needed Immediately! Join us in Mehaffey Hall following Service this morning and stuff food bags (finish in under 1 hour). Many children in Flagler County schools go hungry on the weekends. These Food bags are sent home with those that qualify.

**ADVENT FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON:** Join us today after worship for food and fellowship!

**TPC BOOK CLUB:** Please join the TPC Book Club on Thursday, December 14th at 11:00am in the church library to discuss The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood. Contact Kathy Burns for more information.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** There will be a Congregational meeting next Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.

**HANDBELL SUNDAY:** Join us for Worship on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> for Handbell Christmas Sunday.

**POINSETTIAS SALE:** Poinsettias will be available for purchase this Christmas season for \$17 each and is a wonderful opportunity to honor & remember loved ones. Order forms are available outside of the Church Office or in the Narthex. Please submit your orders by today, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

**ADVENT SPIRAL WALK AND PRAYER ROOM:** We are pleased to once again offer an Advent Spiral Walk throughout Advent. 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.

**DEACONS GIVING ENVELOPES:** The Giving Envelopes in the pews are for the Deacon Assistance Fund. The Deacon Assist Fund is available to help members and nonmembers in a time of need. With the holidays coming, we may see more of a need for assistance. We are making this plea to help everyone in their time of need. Thank you, Board of Deacons

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING:** Meet in the Church parking lot at the 3pm on December 17<sup>th</sup> with your festive attire and own transportation. More information to follow or email or call the Church office at 386-445-4757 or trinityoffice@cfl.rr.com

*Trinity's Christmas Eve Services*  
*Sunday, December 24, 2023*

4:00pm Candlelight Service with Communion  
in the Trinity Sanctuary  
*Service will be in-person and live-streamed*  
*at trinitypalmcoast.org*

6:30pm Trinity's Outdoor Candlelight  
Service at The Florida Ag Museum Barn,  
*7900 Old Kings Road*  
*Palm Coast, FL*

**This week in our Church (Office Hours are Monday-Thursday, 9am-12noon):**  
**Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**

- 10:00 AM Worship Service
- 11:00 AM Hands on Mission (Mehaffey Hall)
- 11:00 AM Advent Fellowship Luncheon (Mehaffey Hall)
- 11:00 AM Sunday Kids Choir (Music Room)

**Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30 AM Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 10:00 AM Service & Outreach Committee (Kepler)
- 3PM & 5PM Youth Choir (Music Room)
- 6:15 PM Cub Scouts-Pack 281 (Mehaffey, Calvin, Youth Rooms)

**Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

- 10:00 AM Facility Care Committee (Mehaffey)
- 2:00 PM Finance Committee (Kepler)
- 6:30 PM Scouts-Troops 281 & 4281 (Mehaffey, Calvin, Youth Rooms)

**Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Mehaffey)

**Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

- 11:00 PM Trinity Book Club (Library)
- 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
- 6:30 PM ALANON Meeting (Calvin)

**Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

- 6:30 PM NA Meeting (Mehaffey)

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

- 10:00 AM Worship Service
- 11:00 AM Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 AM Sunday Kids Choir (Music Room)
- 3:00 PM Christmas Caroling (Meet in Church Parking Lot)

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

