



Trinity Presbyterian Church

Celebrating the Diversity of All

November 30, 2008
First Sunday of Advent

6800 Washington Avenue
University City, Missouri 63130

314.725.3840
www.trinityucity.org

PRELUDE

Wachet auf (Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying)
Composer: Wayne L. Wold (b. 1954)

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE & REFLECTION ON TODAY'S ADVENT THEME: HOPE

During the season of Advent, we will light the Advent wreath using the light from the Peace Candle. For many years, Trinity has had a peace candle in the Sanctuary to remind us of our calling as peacemakers. In Advent, we become aware again of our need and the world's need for peace, and how in the person of Jesus, God's peace is made manifest.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.
There is a longing in our hearts for hope we only find in you, our God.
(from *There Is a Longing* by Anne Quigley)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Advent is a season of expectation. God calls us in this season to watch and be alert. This morning's Call to Worship uses the words of members of the Trinity congregation who, on Pledge Sunday, wrote down times when they saw the Lord. Their words help us to see the Lord who is already coming in this Advent season. As much as possible, the original words of the members were preserved even when they make for slightly awkward constructions.

Leader: In the season of Advent, we are invited to watch and wait.

People: We watch and wait for the coming of the Lord.

Leader: But even now we catch glimpses of Immanuel, God-with-us. When have we seen the Lord?

People: We see the Lord... in the faces of children; in the beauty of the fall colors.

Leader: When have we seen the Lord?

People: We see the Lord... always—whether I'm in the midst of others or just walking the dog in the evening and gazing at the moon and stars.

Leader: When have we seen the Lord?

People: We see the Lord... as friends gather; my family.

Leader: Even now we see the Lord. Let us worship God.

HYMN (SEE INSERT)

There Is a Longing

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness: to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others and the life of the world.

All: May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the spirit enable you to grow in love.

Leader: Amen.

All: Before God, with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness: to the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

Leader: May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

All: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

SONG OF PRAISE UNISON

He came down that we may have hope; He came down that we may have hope; He
came down that we might have hope, Hal-le - lu - jah for ev - er - more.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Please greet one another with the words, "The Peace of Christ be with you." Those who have been standing may sit.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 64: 1-9 (Old Testament, page 694)

ANTHEM

See the silent ones who wait

Music: Cary Ratcliff; Words: Herbert F. Brokering

Lord of feasting and of hunger, give us eyes to see your bread

In the miracle of wonder, till all tables will be fed.

See the silent ones who wait when the blessing seems too late.

Lord of seed and Lord of harvest, turn the desert into bloom;

Purify the sky and forest, give your wisdom; send it soon.

See the silent ones who wait when the blessing seems too late.

Lord of storm and heat and danger, deep inside and high above,

Break into all fear and anger, till you reign the earth in love.

See the silent ones who wait when the blessing seems too late.

Lord of taking and of giving, give us back our dignity;

In our universal living break down all inequity.

See the silent ones who wait when the blessing seems too late.

SCRIPTURE READING I Corinthians 1:3-9 (New Testament, page 166)

SERMON

Strength to the End

*Those who are able are invited to stand.***RESPONSE TO THE WORD – HYMN 3**

Comfort, Comfort You My People

*Those who have been standing may sit.***SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS****PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & SILENT PRAYER****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.

CALL TO OFFERING**OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS**

During the offering, please sign the Fellowship Pad and pass it to the person sitting next to you. When the pad reaches the end, please pass it back and take note of who is worshipping with you this morning.

OFFERTORY

Prepare the Way of the Lord

Music: Michael Bedford; Words: Isaiah 40:3

*Prepare the way of the Lord! Hosanna, hosanna! Blessed is he who comes!
Make straight a path for the Lord! Hosanna, hosanna! Blessed is he who comes!
O come, o come, Emmanuel, and save your people Israel;
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.*

*Those who are able are invited to stand.***SONG OF PRAISE UNISON**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise Him[†] all creatures here below!
Praise Him[†] above ye heavenly host!
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost![‡]

[†]*You may substitute the word "God"*

[‡]*You may substitute the words "Creator, Word, and Holy Ghost!"*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**HYMN 12**

People, Look East

WORDS OF SENDING & BLESSING**POSTLUDE**

Wachet auf III. Finale ("Now let all the heav'ns adore you...")
Composer: Wayne L. Wold (b. 1954)

Advent is the season that precedes Christmas. It is a time of waiting and expectation for the Savior of the world.
The color of Advent is purple, the traditional color of mourning and royalty.

Liturgist – Rob Peglar, Julia Hotaling, the Rev. Julie March, the Rev. Nancy Wagner

Advent Reflection – Rick, Cathy, Evan and Daniel Hasler

Preacher – The Rev. Julie March

Organist – Dr. Bill Wade, CAGO

Choir Director – Vicki Carmichael

Choir – Trinity Choir

November 30, 2008

Spiritual Growth – 9:30 a.m.

Gather for Worship – 10:20 a.m.

Worship -- 10:30 a.m.

Fellowship – 11:30 a.m.



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Trinity Presbyterian Church

News and Notes

We open our doors to all persons to join in worship, fellowship, educational programs, and service.

We welcome into membership all who profess faith in Jesus Christ without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, worldly conditions, sexual orientation, disability, or any other human condition.

We elect and ordain persons who are called by God and committed to serving the Lord Jesus Christ in the Church.

WELCOME TO TRINITY!

If you are seeking a church home, we encourage you to consider becoming a member. New member classes occur quarterly. Please speak with Nancy Wagner if you are interested.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Trinity Church welcomes children in its worship services. Nursery and childcare are provided downstairs for children pre-school and younger. And, Trinity kids, remember to pick up your own worship bags in the back of the Church! Spiritual growth classes for kids are held at 9:30 am Sunday mornings. *We will not have education on Dec. 21, 28 and January 4.*

TODAY AT TRINITY

WE LOVE OUR COLLEGE KIDS! Today, part of Spiritual Growth for the children at 9:30 will be assembling small care packages for Trinity members off at college. Do you have a special connection to one or more of the collegians? Want to wish them well during midterms and finals? Plan to stop by the Narthex after worship to sign cards. Questions?: Brian Muegge (brian.muegge@gmail.com).

THE RECORDER GROUP will practice in the Narthex Room at 8:45 am this morning.

THE WILD WITH WORDS writing group will meet in the Chapel from 6:30-8:30 pm tonight.

ADULT EDUCATION

We will not have education on Dec. 21, 28 and January 4.

OUR ADULT EDUCATION SERIES, "SAVING JESUS," continues this morning at 9:30 am in the Chapel. This 12-session DVD and discussion of Jesus through the ages will explore our traditional beliefs about Jesus and move on to challenge or affirm us with some new ideas. The program contains contributions from the great religious thinkers of our time and will be moderated by Rick Hasler and Larry Pontious. If you cannot attend all 12 sessions, please come when you can, as each session is self-contained. Upcoming topics:

- *Today: The Resurrection of Christ*
- *Dec. 7: Why Jesus is Worth Saving*

You can also check the DVD series out of the office.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRINITY'S PASTOR DAN ANDERSON-LITTLE is on a temporary leave of absence from his pastoral duties between November 24 and January 11. He will be back in the office on January 12. The Rev. Nancy Wagner is providing pastoral leadership in his absence. If you need pastoral assistance you can reach Nancy at church; if you have a pastoral emergency, you can reach her on her cell phone.

A BIG THANK YOU to all who helped provide turkeys for the Food Pantry this Thanksgiving. We gave out 88 turkeys!

JOIN THE LADIES CHRISTMAS SALAD DINNER: Ladies of all ages are invited for a time of fun and fellowship at 6:00 pm, Tuesday, December 2 in the Dining Room. Please bring a salad and a white elephant gift to exchange.

POINSETTIAS: Orders are due by TODAY. See the order form in your pew pad for the TWO options you have this year. Beautify the sanctuary and help a charity.

FAIR TRADE HOLIDAY SHOPPING: Plan to do some special holiday shopping at our first Trinity Holiday Fair Trade Market next Sunday, December 7 from 9 am to 12:30 pm in the Dining Room. See your bulletin flier for details. Sales directly benefit Fair Trade organizations such as Plowsharing Crafts, Heifer Project, and others that work to ensure that all may have enough.

HANGING OF THE GREENS will be Sunday, December 7, right after worship. Stick around for some treats and bring your strongest hands or best Martha Stewart decorating eye and help prepare the sanctuary and exterior of the church for Advent. All ages and abilities welcome!

ADVENT SCHEDULE INSERT: See your bulletin insert for the many Advent activities we have planned: caroling, decorating, beautiful music, meaningful services, cookies, and fellowship as we anticipate Jesus' birth.

EDUCATION INFORMATION: Please note there will not be Spiritual Growth classes for children or adults on Dec. 21, 28 and January 4. Education will resume January 11 - 25 with a 3-part discussion "Thinking theologically about controversial social issues – capital punishment." It will be led by Mike Holley and Diana Oleskevich, from the St. Louis Chapter of Missourians to Abolish Death Penalty, Dan Anderson Little and Damayanthi Niles. Details on the spring spiritual growth plans are in your December *Trinity News*. The adult education branch of Spiritual Growth is looking for people interested in joining the adult education team in 2009 and is looking for suggestions on topics/speakers for future classes. Please contact George Philips.

JOIN THE ELEVATOR FUND RAISING TEAM: Trinity is assembling a team to organize the capital campaign for our elevator renovation set for this late spring/early summer. Do you have a passion for the justice, safety and accessibility issues that this elevator symbolizes? Do you want to see Trinity live up to its welcoming statement? Contact Liz Nelson about joining the team.

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE: We have close to 300 halogen and incandescent lamps to replace in the building as we work to be more "green." A 14 watt CFL (which will replace a 60 watt incandescent) costs \$4.00. We will be starting a **FUNdraiser**, asking Trinity members to donate the replacement CFL lamps for our building. These could make great "stocking stuffers" for folks on your Christmas list! We will be asking the children in the congregation to help track our progress! Stay tuned for more information or speak with Lois Sechrist.

PERIODIC TREATS: Want to do a simple thing for our church with huge reward? Why not think about taking a week now and then to provide the fellowship treats that we and our families all enjoy after worship? It's so simple. Something that kids enjoy helping with too as well as significant others. Quinn has a lot of fun helping me pick things out at the store then helping arrange them on trays in the church kitchen. Reimbursement is quick and simple, too. Just give Liz your receipts for items bought if you want to be reimbursed. The weeks that we could use some help for this month are, Nov. 16th, and Nov. 30th. December is wide open. Have a fun idea for the Christmas season? Let us know. If you'd like to give this simple ministry a try please contact Cheryl Evans, Dave Nelson or Jim Person. Thanks!

USHERS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE: Pat and Jane Gibbons appreciate all who have volunteered to be ushers. They can still use ushers for the 11pm Christmas Eve service. Please contact them or sign up on the usher sheet by the drinking fountain near the office.

THE WILD WITH WORDS writing group will meet in the Chapel from 6:30-8:30 pm on November 30, December 14, December 28, January 11 and January 25. All are welcome!

WHO KNEW OF BIRTY'S SKILL? Did you know Birty makes hammocks? He wants to teach kids (and adults!) this simple skill and invites you to find him Sundays after worship in the Dining Room to help complete the one he has started. Come check it out!

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

If you would like an addition to the prayer list or know of a member in need of prayer, please contact the church office.

Joys

Prayers of Joy and Thanksgiving:

- For the wedding of Debbie Henry's son, Scott Kenkel, to Kelly Kubasta on November 1.
- For the addition at Trinity of Dawn Fleishman as our new Minister of Spiritual Growth. She began her position in October.
- For the healing of four-year-old Ambar Suero Petion from the Dominican Republic, whom the Trotter-Edmonds family fostered while she had open heart surgery on Oct. 13. Ambar returned home in mid-November.
- For the healing of Mimi Jeske, Tom Wilhite's significant other, who has completed chemotherapy.

Prayers for Those Preparing for Ministry:

- For Rhonda Dunbar as she begins studies at the Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, VA.
- For Diane O'Brien as she pursues theological studies at Eden Theological Seminary.

Concerns

Prayers for Comfort:

- For Diana Gray's family on the death of her brother's wife Betty on November 15.
- For the Higginbotham family as Jennifer's 101-year-old grandmother enters hospice.

Prayers for Healing:

- For Jerry Royce, recovering from eye surgery
- For Carol Rustemeyer, recovering from surgery on her hand to repair a ruptured tendon.
- For Lana Edwards, friend of Cathy Smith, experiencing heart trouble.
- For Jake Jones, 17 yr old nephew of Sue Young, recovering from reconstructive surgery on October 27.
- For Curt March, recovering from shingles.

- For Bill Hedrick, former pastor of Second Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, who has been diagnosed with myelofibrosis, a bone marrow disorder.
- For Barbara Isaac, daughter of Janet Guenther, and her family as Barbara moves into a nursing home to care for her Alzheimer's Disease.
- For Karon Bilbrey's niece, Lisa Becker who is dealing with thyroid cancer.
- For former members Bill and Joyce Brackman, as Bill begins treatment for brain cancer in California.
- For Lynn Reid's grandfather in Iowa who is in poor health.
- For Dan Little, Dan Anderson-Little's father, being treated for brain cancer in Madison, WI.
- For Christy Schindler's cousin Mark Mellinger, in Flower Mound, TX, receiving chemotherapy for lung cancer and experiencing many complications.
- Marilyn Kuhn, counselor for Care & Counseling and good friend of Trinity Presbyterian Church, undergoing treatment for lymphoma.
- Ann Weems, having blood pressure problems.
- Don Weems, having back and eye concerns.
- The Pontious family (Elaine, Larry, Adam & Tati) as they help Adam have an abundant life in the midst of disabilities.
- Kim Merritt, dealing with multiple health issues.
- Barbara Robinson, who is in a coma following a stroke in October 2006.

Prayers for Homebound Members:

Helen Bauer

Mabel Howell

Evelyn Patterson

Myrtle Beckmeyer

Juanita Bruns

Colleen Osborn Jim Pettus

Eleanor Griffin

Maxine Story

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Monday, December 1

7:00 pm

Equipping Dinner & Meeting, Dining Room

Tuesday, December 2

6:00 pm

Presbyterian Women's Christmas Salad Dinner, Dining Room

Wednesday, December 3

1:00 – 4:00 pm

Trinity Food Pantry

6:30 pm

Handbell Choir rehearsal

7:00 pm

Session Meeting, Chapel

Thursday, December 4

7:15 pm

Trinity Choir rehearsal, Choir Room

Friday, December 5

Office closed

Sunday, December 7

8:45 am

Recorder group rehearsal, Narthex Room

9:00 – 12:30 pm

Fair Trade Market, Dining Room

11:30 am

Hanging of the Greens, Sanctuary

TRINITY STAFF

Dr. Daniel R. Anderson-Little, Pastor

The Rev. Julie March, Associate Pastor for Equipping

Vicki Carmichael, Interim Minister of Music—Choir Director

Dr. Bill Wade, CAGO, Interim Minister of Music—Organist

Dawn Fleishman, Minister of Spiritual Growth

Elizabeth Nelson, Church Administrator

Linde Baechle, Financial Administrator

Birby Hodgson, Building & Grounds Caretaker

The Rev. Nancy Wagner, Parish Associate

Dr. Donald A. Weems, Pastor Emeritus

Trinity belongs to the Covenant Network and is a member congregation of the



PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH (USA)