



Trinity Presbyterian Church

Celebrating the Diversity of All

December 27, 2009
First Sunday of Christmas

6800 Washington Avenue
University City, Missouri 63130

314.725.3840
www.trinityucity.org

PRELUDE The Shepherds at the Manger (from the Piano Suite “The Christmas Tree”)
Composer: Franz Liszt (1811-1886) arranged by E. Power Biggs (1906-1977)

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 148

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

People: Praise God, all God’s angels; praise God, all God’s host!

Leader: Praise God, sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars!

People: Praise God, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

HYMN 8 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

CHRISTMAS PRAYER (*this prayer was written by Stacy Shupe and printed on the gift tags that were attached to each bag of cookies that Trinity gave away at its Cookie Social on December 20.*)

Dearest God, may the light of Christ shine brightly from each of us this Christmas season so that we may be beacons of your perfect justice, your abounding love, and your infinite peace. Help us to feel your welcoming embrace today and always, and may we share that embrace with all whom we encounter. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

RESPONSE

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:	He rules the world with truth and grace,
Let earth receive her King;	And makes the nations prove
Let every heart prepare Him room,	The glories of His righteousness,
And heaven and nature sing,	And wonders of His love,
And heaven and nature sing,	And wonders of His love,
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.	And wonders, wonders of His love.

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 Psalm 148 (Old Testament, page #)

HYMN 57 The Snow Lay on the Ground

SCRIPTURE READING Colossians 3:12-17 (New Testament, page #)

SERMON Clothe Yourselves with Love

Those who are able are invited to stand.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD – HYMN 38 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

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

Rise Up, Shepherd and Follow

Words & Music: Traditional African American Spiritual

*There’s a star in the East on Christmas morn,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow;
It will lead to the place where the Savior’s born,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Leave your sheep and leave your lambs,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow;
Leave your ewes and leave your rams,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Follow, follow, Rise up, shepherd, and follow,
Follow the star of Bethlehem,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.*

*If you take good heed to the angel’s words,
Rise, up shepherd, and follow;
You’ll forget your flocks, you’ll forget your herds;
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Leave your sheep and leave your lambs,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow;
Leave your ewes and leave your rams,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Follow, follow, Rise up, shepherd, and follow,
Follow the star of Bethlehem,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.*

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 28 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

WORDS OF SENDING & BLESSING

INVITATION TO ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

As environmental stewards of this earth, we have to opportunity to do our part by recycling our worship papers. After worship, please dispose of your bulletin in the blue or green recycling containers in the Narthex or outside the sanctuary doors by the pulpit.

POSTLUDE

Praise Ye, the Lord of Hosts from “Christmas Oratorio”

Composer: Camille Saint-Saens

Christmas is the season when we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. The color of Christmas is white, the traditional color of purity and joy.

AIDS Memorial Quilt – The two AIDS Memorial Quilt panels hanging on the North wall belong to The Quilt which began with a single panel created in San Francisco in 1987. Today, The Quilt is composed of more than 47,000 individual 3 x 6 foot panels, each one commemorating the life of someone who has died of AIDS. In its entirety, The Quilt is measures 1,293,300 square feet and weighs 54 tons, but only represents about 17.5% of the people in the United States who have died of AIDS. These panels come from every state in the nation, every corner of the globe and they have been sewn by hundreds of thousands of friends, lovers and family members into this epic memorial, the largest piece of ongoing community art in the world. (<http://www.aidsquilt.org>)

The Crèche – The crèche in the display case in the northeast corner of the Sanctuary is made up figurines given in loving memory of Todd Weems, a son of Trinity who was tragically killed in 1982.

Liturgist – Luise Hoffman, The Rev. Julie March

Preacher – Paul Devine. Paul is a Commissioned Lay Pastor at Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Organist – Dr. Bill Wade, CAGO

Choir Director – Vicki Carmichael

Soloist – Vicki Carmichael

News and Notes for December 27, 2009

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 speak with the pastors about our membership class. Our schedule can be found in the welcome brochure in the pews. We welcome children in worship, with childcare provided downstairs for children pre-school age and younger, if wanted. *Spiritual growth classes for children and adults are held at 9:30 am.*

ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH

THE NEXT SERIES: Join us between January 10th and 31st as gifted school teacher and member Rick Hasler leads a discussion based on the *Harry Potter* book series: Jan. 10 - **Who is Harry?** (Kids and Adults) This class will look at the character traits of many of the main Harry Potter characters - the good, the bad, and the ugly... Jan. 17 - **What is Magic?** (Kids and Adults) What is the difference between magic and faith? Jan. 24 - **Good vs. Evil** (Kids and Adults) Is Harry Potter a story about "Good vs. Evil"? Is the bible a story of "Good vs. Evil"? What do these books have in common and how are they different? Jan. 31 - **Should I really be letting my child read these books?** (Adults only) At what age will my child be ready to read these stories? At what age will I be ready to let my child read these stories? This class will outline the major plot structures of the books and we will have a discussion of how the series changes in intensity and depth over time. We will also address the differences between the movies and the books.

OUR WEEKLY PARENT GROUP offers a relaxed place to talk about the joys and challenges of parenting. Join us when you can! Room 206 (by the Choir Room) at 9:30am. The group will not meet in January due to the Harry Potter class.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING TO BE TAKEN FOR WINGER FOOD PANTRY: The Christmas Eve offerings will benefit our mission of feeding the hungry.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY WITH SHED IN THE NEW YEAR: Trinity is a founding member of SHED (Safe Homes for the Elderly and Disabled), a cooperative venture of several churches in the central area of Greater St. Louis. Look for opportunities to help for a few hours with minor building repairs, house cleaning, and yard work in the area

EPIPHANY: Mark your calendar for our Epiphany celebration. On Sunday, Jan. 3, we will move from the sanctuary to the chapel to have a glorious communion celebration together.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Plan to stay after the service on January 24th for a congregational meeting.

B&B SMALL GROUPS will form again in January. Stay tuned for more details!

THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE COOKIE FELLOWSHIP and outreach on the 20th—you provided over 2,000 cookies!

DECORATION CLEAN-UP: If you can stay after the service on January 3rd for a short time to help take down the trees and other decorations that would be greatly appreciated.

RAPID RE-HOUSING CLIENTS HAVE NEEDS: Thanks to all who have donated so far! We've partnered with this organization to help provide furnishings and necessities for people moving from homelessness into homes. Check the Narthex and magnetic board by the elevator for items needed. Donations can be stored in the room next to the food pantry. Arrangements can be made for larger donations to be picked up.

LATEST STEWARDSHIP UPDATE – DECEMBER: Thank you, thank you, thank you! This congregation heard the Call to Stewardship and answered "Here We Are Lord"! At last count, 92 pledges have been turned in, totaling more than \$260,000 committed for 2010. Pledges are still being accepted to assist with our deficit and our plans for 2010.

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Prayers of Joy and Thanksgiving:

- ❖ For the health and safety of Jayne Howard after she survived virtually unscathed a serious car accident out of state that totaled her car on Dec. 20.

Concerns

Prayers for Comfort:

- ❖ For the family of Bob Reynolds, significant other of Janet Guenther, and for Janet at his death on Dec. 18.
- ❖ For the family of Mark, Christy Schindler's cousin who died on Dec. 13.

Prayers for Safety:

- ❖ For Shanthi Phillips who is serving with the Peace Corps in Lesotho.
- ❖ For Jon Gibbons, son of Pat & Jane Gibbons, husband of Emily Shapiro & father of Harriet & Frances, who is serving in a military hospital in Afghanistan until May 2010.

Prayers for New Beginnings:

- ❖ Prayers for Those Preparing for Ministry
- ❖ For Leo and Lois Eason spending the winter in Florida and for Ray and Ginny Scholin spending the winter in Arizona.
- ❖ For all Trinity members struggling with economic and employment concerns.

Prayers for Healing:

- ❖ For Cricket's friend, Donna Torkelson, in great pain with an inoperable tumor on her spine and one on her lung.
- ❖ For Jerry Royce, recovering from a dislocated hip.
- ❖ For Do Kirk, who is recovering well at home in Whidbey Island, WA after a neurological event (not a stroke).
- ❖ For Ray Stone, Ginny Richmond's nephew, in ICU with an unknown problem.
- ❖ For Pat Warren, Ginny Richmond's niece, receiving radiation and chemotherapy for multiple cancers.
- ❖ For Sandy Macy, friend of Cheryl & Reed Evans, just diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor.
- ❖ For Dee Wharton, friend of Lois Sechrist, recovering from breast cancer surgery.
- ❖ For Rev. Don Weems, receiving treatment for prostate cancer.
- ❖ For Vicki Carmichael's brother Warren, his wife, Lori, and his family as they go through difficult times.
- ❖ For Rev. Louis Platt, Art Platt's brother, being treated for lung cancer.
- ❖ For Lorraine McGhee, Roberta McBride's neighbor, who is dealing with multiple health problems.
- ❖ For Suzanne Trahan, friend of Traci O'Bryan, who is being treated for breast cancer; and for Suzanne's father John Foushee who is undergoing treatment for esophageal cancer.
- ❖ For Fred Gould, Stacy Shupe's uncle, diagnosed with an aggressive rectal cancer that has spread to his liver.
- ❖ For Jon Billings, Vicki Carmichael's sister-in-law's brother, who is recovering from surgery for pancreatic cancer.
- ❖ For Lisa Becker, Karon Bilbrey's niece, who is dealing with thyroid cancer.
- ❖ For Ann Weems, being treated for kidney disease.

Prayers for Ongoing Support:

- ❖ For Jean Dausch, Cricket Gordon's friend, who has been diagnosed with ALS.
- ❖ For the Pontious family as they work to help Adam have an abundant life in the midst of disabilities.
- ❖ For Harold Glad and Jan Schulte-Glad as they deal with Harold's Early Stage Alzheimer's.
- ❖ For Bill Hedrick, former pastor of Second Presbyterian Church in St. Louis who has been diagnosed with myelofibrosis.
- ❖ For Anna Gordon, as Cricket & Brian continue to work on her care issues.
- ❖ For Dianne Anderson, mother-in-law of Dan Anderson-Little, who is dealing with liver disease.
- ❖ For Kim Merritt, dealing with multiple health issues.

Prayers for Homebound Members:

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| ❖ Helen Bauer | Myrtle Beckmeyer | Eleanor Griffin | Mabel Howell |
| ❖ Evelyn Patterson | Maxine Story | Jim Pettus | |