

An Unimaginable Future

ADVENT



TRINITY
Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP | December 21, 2025

CELEBRATING THE SEASON - 2025

The earth holds its breath, waiting. Advent is a season of longing. It is a yearly representation in our church calendar of the eons spanning from the moment Eve took the first bite of the fruit until that starry night when Heaven touched earth and Christ incarnated, becoming God-man. Fully human. Fully God. Advent culminates in the arrival of Jesus—Messiah, born in the flesh to the last people on earth who anyone would have chosen to parent a king!

SONG OF GATHERING & PREPARATION

The people of God always sang as they ascended the hill in Jerusalem up to the temple to worship (see Psalms 120-134). We, as well, prepare our hearts, minds, and bodies for worship by singing about the God we serve.

Joy To The World

EXPLANATION OF ADVENT THEME | Kingdom

CALL TO WORSHIP | Revelation 19:11-16

We read God's Word, the Bible, together. It reveals to us who God is and what He expects of us.

Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

We pray together praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).

ASSURANCE OF PARDON | Colossians 1:13-14

We read God's Word together and are reminded that mercy and grace are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of His church and the kingdom of God.

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

PRAISE & CELEBRATION

Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done for us.

O Holy Night

It Is Done

CONFESSION OF FAITH

As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with his people, we declare the substance of what we believe.

From the Heidelberg Catechism:

Q.122. What does the first petition mean?

A. Hallowed be your name” means: Help us to truly know you, to honor, glorify, and praise you for all your works and for all that shines forth from them: your almighty power, wisdom, kindness, justice, mercy, and truth. And it means, Help us to direct all our living— what we think, say, and do— so that your name will never be blasphemed because of us but always honored and praised.

Q. 123. What does the second petition mean?

A. What does the second petition mean? A. “Your kingdom come” means: Rule us by your Word and Spirit in such a way that more and more we submit to you. Preserve your church and make it grow. Destroy the devil’s work; destroy every force which revolts against you and every conspiracy against your holy Word. Do this until your kingdom fully comes, when you will be all in all.

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

We are called to publicly confess our faith in the grace of God, to participate in the rituals of entrance into the people of God and to acknowledge our membership with His people.

Michael & Brynlee Neal

Riley Patterson

Aslyn Strawbridge

Annie Patterson

Sydney Steele

Maryn Strawbridge

Embry Patterson

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The ritual of baptism is a sign and seal of the grace we have in Jesus. It symbolizes the cleansing all people need before they are acceptable to God (sign), and it makes how real God’s promise is for who will trust in Him (seal).

Sydney Leigh Steele

COMMUNITY KIDS’ DISMISSAL (Infants - Kindergarten)

Please see your child’s check-in name tag for class assignment.

GREETING

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

We express in prayer our gratitude to God for what He has done and ask Him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and world.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD | Tim Rice, *Founding & Teaching Pastor*

A small portion of God’s Word is explained to us and applied to our lives and circumstances.

SONG OF RESPONSE

We respond to the good news of God’s mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.

Death Was Arrested

BENEDICTION

Because the hand of God’s wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God’s blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.

May the LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace,
both now and forevermore. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE & SERMON OUTLINE

Proclamation of God's Word

Text: Titus 2:11–15; Revelation 21:1–5 (ESV)

Title: An Unimaginable Future

Teacher: Tim Rice

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, 12 training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, 13 waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. 15 Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you. ... Revelation 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." 5 And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

INTRO: How would you compare or contrast Moses & Freud?

WHAT WAS BEFORE?

Why did we need Jesus to come to our rescue?

THE TURNING POINT

Why do we believe that Jesus' saving work brings the ultimate turning point?

THE UNIMAGINABLE FUTURE

Because of what we cannot do that HE can, what promises does Jesus lay out ahead of us?

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Worship the LORD, for He is loving, to guarantee that He will be with His people. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit for His Presence and His grace to prepare a place with Him for all who trust in His saving grace.
2. How have you lived as if here and now is all that matters, that worldly passions are all there is? Confess your pride and unbelief to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and to make you whole.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for His work to atone for your sin by His death in your place, and for conveying His righteousness to you by faith. Thank Him for making it possible that you could be indwelt by His Spirit, and eternally welcomed into His Presence.
4. Who do you know that you would love to see reconciled to God? Ask the Lord to help them to see their need for Jesus, and to help you share His Grace in a clear and helpful way.
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you the fruit of patience while you wait for Jesus to return. Pray that the Spirit would help you to live securely — by His Presence in you — until you get to see Jesus face-to-face.

Upcoming *events*



Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

December 24, 4:00p & 5:30p

Livestream at 5:30p

Contact the church office for details.



Retirees Prayer Luncheon

January 8, 12p

Contact John Tucker at

jtuckerdc@gmail.com for details.



Middle School Winter Retreat

January 9-11

Contact Bud Daniel for details.

Scan the code to register.



The Weekender

February 6 & 7

Contact Ashley Coleman for details.

Scan the code to register.



High School Winter Retreat

February 20-22

Contact Bud Daniel for details.

Scan the code to register.



Upcoming *events*

We're officially back to ONE SERVICE!

December 21 & 28 at 10:30a.

*We will return to two services on **January 4 at 9:00 & 10:45a.***

Contact the church office for details.

RESOURCE LIBRARY



Come explore our freshly revamped Resource Library, nestled in the cozy lounge between the children's wing and the church offices! 📖✨

We've stocked the shelves with free booklets and books on all the things: marriage, parenting, spiritual growth, evangelism, real-life practical topics, counseling, and so much more.

The best part? Everything is FREE.

Take one for yourself, grab one for a friend, or snag a few for your next coffee-and-conversation moment.

Got an idea for something we should add? We're all ears! And be sure to check back each month. We'll be rotating in new goodies all the time.

Pastor Tony Myers & The Shepherdding Team

Interested in Serving?

Scan the code below to be added to our database, weekly announcement emails and for information on areas where you can serve at Trinity.

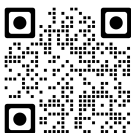


Follow Us! @TrinityLakeland

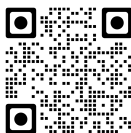


The Compass And Map Podcast

Now streaming on *Apple Podcasts* and *Spotify*.



Apple



Spotify

Community Bible Reading

communitybiblereading.org

December 22-27, 2025

(3-year plan: read [blue](#) passages | 1-year plan: read [all](#))

Monday	Matthew 22 Ecclesiastes 5	1 Samuel 18 Zechariah 14
Tuesday	Matthew 23 Ecclesiastes 6	1 Samuel 19 Malachi 1
Wednesday	Matthew 24 Ecclesiastes 7	1 Samuel 20 Malachi 2
Thursday	Matthew 25 Ecclesiastes 8	1 Samuel 21 Malachi 3
Friday	Matthew 26 Ecclesiastes 9	1 Samuel 22 Malachi 4
Saturday	Psalms 104	Psalms 52 Psalms 148

Scripture Memory for the Week:

Revelation 21:3

3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God."

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday | 8:30a - 5:00p & **Friday** | 8:30a-12:00p

Sunday Worship | 10:30a

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Lakeland, FL 33801

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Mission

A city transformed: Loved by God the Father, saved by Jesus His Son, empowered by His Spirit, called by God to reach our city with His love.