

ADVENT

*Good News To
The Humble*

Luke 2:8-14



TRINITY
Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP | December 22, 2024

Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired.

Please speak with a greeter or visit the sound booth upstairs for a listening device.

CELEBRATING THE SEASON - 2024

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.

Angels We Have Heard On High

EXPLANATION OF ADVENT THEME | Kingdom

CALL TO WORSHIP | Revelation 19:11-16 (ESV)

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 | Isaiah 43:1-4, 10-13 (ESV)

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

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. ... Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life. ... "You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me. I, I am the LORD, and besides me there is no savior. I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "and I am God. Also henceforth I am he; there is none who can deliver from my hand; I work, and who can turn it back?"

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.

Holy Holy Holy

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.

A Baby Will Come

Living Hope

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 Westminster Shorter Catechism:

Q. 94. What is baptism?

A. Baptism is a sacrament, where the washing with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost signifies and seals our ingrafting into Christ, and partaking of the benefits of the covenant of grace, and our engagement to be the Lord's.

Q. 95. To whom is Baptism to be administered?

A. Baptism is not to be administered to any that are out of the visible church, till they profess their faith in Christ, and obedience to him; but the infants of such as are members of the visible church are to be baptized.

KIDS' WORSHIP & 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.

Only A Holy God

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: Luke 2:8-14 (ESV)

Title: Good News To The Humble

Teacher: Tim Rice

8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

INTRO: Of all people, the LORD let *shepherds* in on His plans ...

THE HUMBLE RECEIVE A MESSAGE

Why is it significant that *shepherds* are told good news?

THIS IS OUTLANDISH

What stands out about what the shepherds are promised?

HEAVEN COME TO EARTH

Rather than just being an oddity or a curiosity, why is this *good news*?

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Worship the LORD for His graciousness to the humble and lowly. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for being true to His Word, being high and lifted up, to also dwell with whoever is contrite and lowly.
2. How have you lived resisting (and resenting) ever being in need? Confess your pride to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you for denying reality and to help you to humbly trust Him to be what He says He is – Savior, Christ, the LORD.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for being the Ultimate Treasure in a jar of clay. Thank Him for humbling Himself to become human (without ceasing to be God), ultimately to die for our sins and conquer death as only He could.
4. Who do you know that struggles with humbling themselves? Pray for them, asking the Lord to help them see the humiliation of their sin and guilt and the glory of how HE humbled Himself to save people like us.
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you His fruit of joy at all God has done to save sinners like us. Pray that, like the shepherds, you would hear what God has promised, pursue what He has done, and eagerly tell others as His Grace changes your life.

Welcome to Trinity!

We would love to connect with you. Please scan on the QR code to get connected and let us know of any prayer requests you may have.

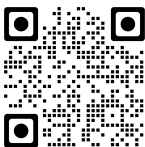


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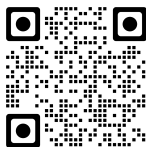


The Compass And Map

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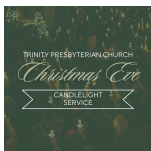
Apple



Spotify

Communication

Visit trinitylakeland.org/events to register.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

December 24, 4p & 5:30p
Contact the Church Office for details.



Middle School Winter Retreat

January 10-12
Contact [Brown Peterson](#) for details.



The Weekender - New Members' Class

January 31 & February 1
Contact [Ashley Coleman](#) for details.

Community Bible Reading

communitybiblereading.org

December 23-28, 2024

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

Monday	Matthew 24 Ecclesiastes 7	1 Samuel 20 Malachi 2
Tuesday	Matthew 25 Ecclesiastes 8	1 Samuel 21 Malachi 3
Wednesday	Matthew 26 Ecclesiastes 9	1 Samuel 22 Malachi 4
Thursday	Matthew 27 Ecclesiastes 10	1 Samuel 23 Psalm 146
Friday	Matthew 28 Ecclesiastes 11	1 Samuel 24 Psalm 147
Saturday	Psalm 104	Psalm 52 Psalm 148

Scripture Memory for the Week:

Luke 2:11, 13-14 (ESV)

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ...
13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

Office Hours:

Mon - Fri | 8:30a - 5:00p
Sunday Worship | 8:45a & 10:30a
301 N Florida Ave, Lakeland, FL 33801
863-603-7777 | trinitylakeland.org

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.