

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024  
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE



## Preparation for Worship

It is here, in the thing that happened at the first Christmas, that the most profound unfathomable depths of the Christian revelation lie. God became man;... the Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, unable to do more than lie and stare and wriggle and make noises, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child... The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as this truth of the incarnation.

— J. I. Packer

## God Calls us to Worship | FROM ISAIAH 9:2, 6

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

***Let us go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.***

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder:

***And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.***

## ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

Text: Traditional French carol, Music: GLORIA; traditional French melody, arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937

Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply  
echo back their joyous strains.  
Glo - - - - ria in excelsis Deo,  
glo - - - - ria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be,  
which inspire your heav'nly song?  
Glo - - - - ria in excelsis Deo,  
glo - - - - ria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
Glo - - - - ria in excelsis Deo,  
glo - - - - ria in excelsis Deo.

### Prayer of Adoration | CONCLUDING WITH:

*O God, take me in spirit to the watchful shepherds,  
and enlarge my mind;  
let me hear good tidings of great joy,  
and hearing, believe, rejoice, praise, adore,  
my conscience bathed in an ocean of repose,  
my eyes uplifted to a reconciled Father;  
place me with ox, camel and goat,  
to look with them upon my Redeemer's face,  
and in Him account myself delivered from sin;  
let me with Simeon clasp the newborn Child to my heart,  
embrace Him with undying faith,  
exulting that He is mine and I am His.  
In Him, You have given me so much  
that heaven can give no more. Amen!*

## GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN

Text: English carol, 18th cent., Music: GOD REST YOU MERRY; English melody, 18th cent.

God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
let nothing you dismay,  
remember Christ our Savior  
was born on Christmas day,  
to save us all from Satan's pow'r  
when we were gone astray;  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heav'nly Father,  
a blessed angel came;  
and unto certain shepherds  
brought tidings of the same:  
how that in Bethlehem was born  
the Son of God by name,  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

"Fear not, then," said the angel,  
"let nothing you affright;  
this day is born a Savior  
of a pure virgin bright,  
to free all those who trust in him  
from Satan's pow'r and might."  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

## Old Testament Readings | ISAIAH 7:15 & MICAH 5:2

*Isaiah 7:14*

[14] Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. (ESV)

*Micah 5:2-5a*

[2] But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to be ruler in Israel,  
whose coming forth is from of old,  
from ancient days.

[3] Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has given birth;  
then the rest of his brothers shall return  
to the people of Israel.

[4] And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth.

[5] And he shall be their peace. (ESV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God!***

## O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1868, Music: ST. LOUIS; Lewis H. Redner, 1868

O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie;  
above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by:  
yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting Light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary,  
and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth!  
And praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him still,  
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in;  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel!

## New Testament Readings | LUKE 1:26-33

[26] In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, [27] to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. [28] And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" [29] But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. [30] And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. [31] And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name 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 father David, [33] and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." (ESV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God!***

## Prayer of Intercession / Offertory Prayer

Tonight's offering will be given to the PCA's Widow's Relief Fund.

Music: A Bleak Midwinter Night, arr. Patti Drennan

## The Christmas Greeting of Peace

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill to all people! The peace of Christ be with you all.

***And also with you.***

## Scripture Reading | JOHN 1:14

[14] And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (ESV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God!***

## "THE WORD BECAME FLESH" | REV. DR. BLAKE ALTMAN

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## Lighting of the Christmas Candle

Emmanuel, God with us, a promise kept, a child. By definition, a baby is dependent on adults for everything—food, shelter, protection, and love. A baby is unable yet to use logic and reason like you and I do. A baby needs constant attention. But the baby Jesus—this child created the world. This child existed before anything or anyone.

### ***This child was God.***

Imagine: He's the creator of the world and suddenly He feels cold and hungry.

Imagine: becoming human for Jesus was not a twist of fate, or a punishment from a higher being; it was a choice. God the Son chose to give up everything—to become nothing.

### ***This child was a King.***

A King in a dirty stable, wrapped in rags—but a King with a plan.

### ***This child would bring hope.***

Not just a wish, but the confidence that God would defeat Satan, that good would win over evil.

### ***This child would bring peace,***

Even in the midst of great suffering and trials—a peace that assures His followers that He is in control even when it feels like nobody is.

### ***This child would bring love—***

A love that would never be taken away, a love that is beyond our understanding.

### ***And this child would bring joy,***

For He has delivered us.

*The final white candle is lit on Christmas Eve. This candle is called the "Christ Candle" and represents the life of Christ. The color white is for purity—because Christ is our sinless, pure Savior*

## SILENT NIGHT! HOLY NIGHT!

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1818; Tr. ca. 1850, Music: STILLE NACHT; Franz Gruber, 1818

Silent night! Holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
'round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night! Holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light,  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night! Holy night!  
wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing  
alleluias to our King;  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!

## Christmas Prayer

# HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739, 1753,

Music: MENDELSSOHN; Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, 1840; arr. William H. Cummings, 1856

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with th'angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold him come,  
offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail th'incarnate Deity,  
pleased as man with men to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild, he lays his glory by,  
born that man no more may die,  
born to raise the sons of earth,  
born to give them second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

## Benediction

Glory be to Thee, O Father Almighty, who hast given us Thine only-begotten Son, that we might live through Him. Glory be to Thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, who became man that we might become sons of God. Glory be to Thee, O Holy Spirit, who directs and rules our hearts.

*With a great voice*

***Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!***

***Amen!***

# How to Respond to Today's Service?

## 1. BE STILL. PRAY AND REFLECT TODAY.

You may want to pray something like this:

### *Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth:*

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads me to the life you promise. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Amen.

*Prayer of Belief:* Lord Jesus Christ, I confess that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dare imagine, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dare dream. Thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness and making me righteous before my Heavenly Father. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Prayer of Commitment:* Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship through membership in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

## 2. READ SCRIPTURE.

Read the sermon passage again and reflect on what the Holy Spirit called to mind. How might you apply it with God's help?

## 3. JOIN US AT A COMMUNITY GROUP or REGISTER FOR AN UPCOMING EVENT.

We want you to be a part of us.

## 4. FILL OUT A CONNECT CARD.

Let us know how to pray for you and get you the information you seek.



# TRINITY

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

[TRINITYOWASSO.COM](http://TRINITYOWASSO.COM) |   

### WE ARE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

Connect with us: [tpcok.cc/connect](http://tpcok.cc/connect)  
Learn more about how we connect kids during worship time: [tpkok.cc/kidsandworship](http://tpkok.cc/kidsandworship)

### TRINITY KIDS | Babies - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Sundays 9AM & Special Events  
Contact - Text Mishelle: 918-991-9860  
*\*Resumes in January*

### TRINITY YOUTH | 6<sup>th</sup> Grade - Sr. High

Sundays | 9AM & 10AM  
Wed | Youth Group 6-8pm @The Grove  
Contact - Text Nathan: 314-662-6488  
See **GroupMe** for special events throughout the week.

### TRINITY WOMEN | Bible Studies, Events, & Meetups throughout the year.

For more information, text Jill Popp, 808-225-4424 or Courtney Nadig, 719-330-4472



**TRINITY MEN** | Bible Studies & Events  
Tues | 6:15AM @The Grove - Trinity Office  
Tues | Lunch study @SITG Ministry Office  
Wed | 6:45PM @10517 N. Sheridan, Sperry OK  
Contact - Rev. Mark Kuiper, 314-960-1598

### ADULT DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES


Class for Winter/Spring: 1st Kings:  
A story of God's redeeming grace.  
With Paul Deslauriers.  
*\*Resumes in January*

### WHERE WE MEET EACH WEEK

*Note Trinity's new address:*  
7660 N Memorial Drive, Owasso, OK 74055  
9AM Discipleship, 10AM Worship

The Grove - Trinity Offices: 7301 N Owasso Expw, Building M, Suite 120 Owasso OK 74055

- Houses our Staff Offices & Meeting Space
- Various Ministries Throughout the Week



**TRINITY**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Celebration Week*

SAVE  
THE  
DATE

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**JAN 29  
TO  
FEB 2**



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**Trinity Presbyterian Church** \*New Address  
7660 N Memorial Drive, Owasso, OK 74055

### The Grove/Trinity Offices:

7301 N Owasso Expressway; Building M; Suite 120  
Owasso, OK 74055  
Monday - Thursday, 9am-5pm • 918-516-1221