



**TRINITY**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth.

## Words for Reflection

Christmas and the incarnation mean that God went to infinite lengths to make himself one that we can know personally.

- Tim Keller

The one who dwells in heaven came to dwell on earth, so that the inhabitants of earth might become inhabitants of heaven.

- St. Augustine

Christmas is an argument against personal hopelessness—it's the celebration of when the power and grace of God appeared on earth in Jesus.

- Paul Tripp

Christmas does not take away all my pain, but it does give me hope, it does give me confident assurance, that there is joy beyond the sorrow, gain beyond the loss, light beyond the darkness. The light that cut through the darkness on that Christmas night is the light that cuts through my darkness on this Christmas night.

- Tim Challies

# Order of Worship

The First Sunday after Christmas

— December 28, 2025 —

## The LORD Calls Us

*God invites and calls us into His presence to worship Him. He enters into our busy lives to speak to us.*

### The Call to Worship

The people who walked in darkness

**have seen a great light;**

those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,

**on them has light shone.**

For to us a child is born,

**to us a son is given;**

and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

**and his name shall be called**

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,**

**Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

—Isaiah 9:2, 6 ESV

# Hymn of Praise | O Come, All Ye Faithful

*We sing praises to God and proclaim through song the good news of what He has done in Jesus' death and resurrection. Some songs might be initially unfamiliar, but we believe the rich, true, beautiful words of these hymns will make their way into your heart.*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him, born the king of angels:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, in the highest:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

Words: John F. Wade; Music: Adeste Fideles

## Opening Prayer & Lord's Prayer

*We ask for God to be present among us and conclude with the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray.*

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Doxology

*Doxology means "glory words." We lift our voices and our hands to give God glory for who He is and all that He has done.*

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. Amen.

# The LORD Cleanses Us

*God cleanses and restores us through Jesus' death and resurrection. We fight the temptation to hide our sin and instead acknowledge it openly to God, but we do so in light of the grace that is ours in Jesus.*

## Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father,

We confess our indifference and distraction towards the Incarnation of Your Son that arises so easily in our hearts. Forgive us for our sins, which are many. Thank You for sending Jesus into the world to rescue us from our sin. Create awe in our hearts for the wonder of Your condescending love. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

## Silent Confession

### Assurance of Forgiveness

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

—Galatians 4:4-5 ESV

# Hymn of Response | Grace Alone

*We respond in thanks and praise for God's redemptive work in Christ.*

I was an orphan, lost at the fall;  
Running away when I'd hear you call,  
But Father, you worked your will.

I had no righteousness of my own  
I had no right to draw near your throne,  
But Father, you loved me still.

And in love, before you laid the world's foundation,  
You predestined to adopt me as your own.  
You have raised me up so high above my station;  
I'm a child of God by grace, and grace alone

You left your home to seek out the lost;  
You knew the great and terrible cost  
But Jesus, your face was set.  
I worked my fingers down to the bone;  
But nothing I did could ever atone,  
But Jesus, you paid my debt.

By your blood I have redemption and salvation.  
Lord you died that I might reap what you have sown,  
And you rose that I might be a new creation.  
I am born again by grace, and grace alone.

I was in darkness all of my life,  
I never knew the day from the night,  
But Spirit, you made me see.  
I swore I knew the way on my own;  
Head full of rocks, a heart made of stone  
But Spirit, you moved in me.

And at your touch my sleeping spirit was awakened;  
On my darkened heart the light of Christ has shone.  
Called into a kingdom that cannot be shaken;  
Heaven's citizen by grace, and grace alone.

So I'll stand in faith by grace, and grace alone  
I will run the race by grace, and grace alone  
I will slay my sin by grace, and grace alone  
I will reach the end by grace, and grace alone

Words and Music by Dustin Kensrue

# Confession of Faith | The Nicene Creed

*We join the church in history by confessing this basic statement of what Christians believe.*

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,  
and was made man;  
and was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of  
the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and  
the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified;  
who spoke by the prophets;  
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;  
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;  
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# The LORD Converses with Us

*God speaks to us by His Word, and we respond with prayer, gratitude, and offerings.*

## The Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 40:34-38

*God speaks to us by His Word.*

**40:34** Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. **35** And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. **36** Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. **37** But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. **38** For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## The Offering

*In gratitude, we offer our gifts to God.*

*Children are now dismissed for TrinityKids (4 years old - 2nd Grade). After the sermon, their teachers will return them to worship where they will come to you or you may meet them in the Galveston foyer.*

## The Prayers of the People

*We lift up our requests to God knowing that He hears us when we pray.*

**Vocational Prayer Focus:** Finance, Administration, Business

**Church Prayer Focus:** Pillar Church

**Mission Prayer Focus:** Graciabelle Holm & Will Hamill – TCU RUF Interns

# The Reading of the Word

*God speaks to us by His Word.*

John 1:1-18

Pew Bible p. 902

**1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. **4** In him was life, and the life was the light of men. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. **6** There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. **7** He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. **8** He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. **9** The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. **10** He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. **11** He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. **12** But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, **13** who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. **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. **15** (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") **16** For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. **17** For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. **18** No one has ever seen God; God the only Son, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

# The Preaching of the Word

Mitchell Traver

*Christmas in a Broken World*



# The LORD Communes with Us

*God invites us to feast with Him at His Table.*

## The Celebration of Holy Communion

*Communion (also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist) is the family meal of baptized Christians. It's not a meal for good people. It's a meal for desperate people who trust in Jesus alone for salvation, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength and grace to live more faithfully with Jesus. You will be invited to come forward. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal today, we encourage you to use the prayers printed below and spend this time in reflection or prayer.*

*Children who have not received their first communion are welcome to come forward with their families. We invite children who are ready to make a public profession of faith in Christ to arrange a meeting with the elders, and thus become "communicants" at the Lord's Table.*

*\*Note about communion wine: We serve wine during communion. If you'd prefer non-alcoholic grape juice, please indicate by pointing at the tray.*

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts!

**People:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

**Pastor:** Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:

**People:** **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.  
Hallelujah!**

**Pastor:** Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.  
Hallelujah!

**People:** **Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

**Pastor:** The gifts of God for the people of God.

## Prayers During Communion

### *A prayer for those searching for 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 to me the reality of who you are. Give me the ability to follow you no matter what it might cost me. Give me an understanding for you that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

### *A prayer of belief:*

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead and are now representing me at the Father's right hand in heaven, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen.

### *A prayer for those struggling against sin:*

Lord Jesus, give me the ability to see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and desires, and help me to turn from every false source of satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me, and run with perseverance the race that you have set before me, looking only to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

### *A prayer for covenant children who have not yet made a profession of faith:*

Lord Jesus, thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow up in a Christian family where I am surrounded by the good news of the gospel. Help me to grow in my understanding of who you are and what you have done for me on the cross. Help me learn what it means for me to turn from my sins and trust in you alone for my salvation. Teach me what it means to follow you as one of your disciples. Amen.

# Hymns for Communion

## Anchor of Hope

Marvelous, wonderful, infinite God  
Author of all that is good  
Faithful provider and giver of life  
Source of all power and love.

*Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise  
Refuge of strength to the end  
Righteous Redeemer and mighty to save  
He's the anchor of hope for the souls of men.*

Gracious, compassionate, merciful God  
Radiant, holy delight  
Beautiful Father, victorious Son  
Source of unchangeable light.  
(Chorus)

Powerful, constant, unwavering God  
Shepherd who comes for the lost  
Rock of salvation, remarkable love  
Savior who died on the cross.  
(Chorus)

Words & Music: Ellie Holcomb & Brown Bannister

## Draw Nigh

Draw nigh and take the body of the Lord.  
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured.  
Offered was He for greatest and for least,  
Himself the Victim and Himself the Priest.

He that, His saints in this world rules and shields  
To all believers life eternal yields,  
With heavenly bread makes them that hunger whole,  
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Approach ye, then, with faithful hearts sincere  
And take the pledges of salvation here.  
O Judge of all, our only Savior Thou,  
In this Thy feast of love be with us now.

Words: Latin Hymn, c. 680; Music: The Welcome Wagon

# The LORD Commissions Us

*God blesses us and sends us out to be a part of His mission to Fort Worth & the world.*

## Departing Hymn | Joy to the World

*We respond in faith and song.*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: George F. Handel

## The Benediction

*God sends us out with his blessing. A benediction is not a prayer. We don't bow our heads. We lift them up and even lift up our hands to receive his blessing as we are sent out as participants in His mission to Fort Worth.*

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

—Numbers 6:24-26 ESV

## The Sending

*The people of God are sent into the world to love God, love people, and love Fort Worth.*

Pastor: Let us go forth to serve Fort Worth and the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## Announcements

### Mitchell Traver

Mitchell Traver has been on staff with Fellowship of Christian Athletes for nearly four years, ministering on the campus of Texas Christian University, his alma mater. He serves as the sports chaplain for the TCU Baseball team and directs the Discipleship program for TCU FCA. Mitchell is married to Olivia, who also graduated from TCU and played Beach Volleyball there. They have been married for seven years and have three kids - J.R. (4), Caleb (3), and Riley (8 mo.). The Traver Family has been members of Trinity for over three years and cherish being a part of this church family. Lastly, Mitchell is currently a Master of Divinity student at Reformed Theological Seminary (Dallas campus) and a pastoral intern under the care of the North Texas Presbytery. Some of the Traver Fam's favorite things include TCU Athletics, the Green Bay Packers, and brewing the perfect cup of coffee—not to mention reading good books!

### VBS Save the Date

3...2...1 BLAST OFF! Save the date for Trinity's Space Mission VBS the first week of June! Details to come.

### Membership Seminar

If you are interested in becoming a member at Trinity or just want to learn more about who we are as a church, please join us for our membership seminar during the **Christian Formation hour (10 - 10:45am) on January 11, 18, 25, and February 1**. We will meet in the Chapel.

## Budget Update

Our fiscal year runs June – May. [Here's where we are through Nov:](#)

Giving Budget	\$1,070,186
Monies Received*	\$893,483
Shortfall	(\$176,703)

As a reminder, your faithful giving sustains not only our church but also supports other churches and ministries such as Reformed University Fellowship. If you'd like a YTD statement, please contact John Allison ([operations@trinitypresfw.org](mailto:operations@trinitypresfw.org)). \*Income does not include capital fund giving. Give easily by scanning the QR code below.



## To the Parents of Young Children

Welcome! We are so glad you are here. We believe the church is for all people, even children, and we want Trinity to be a church where children are both seen and heard. So don't worry if your children wiggle in the pews or make a little noise! We invite you to keep your children in our service and help them understand what is going on, sing the songs with you, and participate in worship. Children learn how to worship by imitating you. We say parts of our worship service every week in order to help our non-reading children to participate, and we have children's bulletins available in the back. There are also ages, stages, and times when it might not be best for your children to be in worship. We have a nursery program that is set up to handle children from birth to 4 years old, and a TrinityKids program during the sermon for children 4 years old through 2nd grade. We also have a nursing mothers' room available off of the Fellowship Hall (basement level) if you need to nurse or change a diaper! All nursery staff and volunteers have been through both background checks and Ministry Safe training. Parents often check their children out of the nursery and/or TrinityKids prior to Communion so that they can help lead us in our departing hymn.

## The Liturgy

Our order of worship may be new to you. Every worship service in every church has a structure. We want to be intentional about ours as it is a real back-and-forth conversation between us and God. He calls us to worship, and then we respond and move through the different elements of the service. We have both spontaneous, personal prayers as well as ancient, printed prayers. Please look over the service beforehand to see what we will hear and say along the way.

## Welcome Notepads

At some point during service, a welcome pad will be passed down your row. We would love for you to fill it out and pass it to the person on your right, so that we will have record of your visit. We promise we won't spam you.

## Lost and Found

If you have misplaced something, please check our Lost & Found. It is located in a cabinet behind the Information Desk in the Fellowship Hall.

## Online Giving

If you'd prefer to give online as either a one-time gift or as a recurring gift, you may do so through our website:

[www.trinitypresfw.org/give](http://www.trinitypresfw.org/give). Giving is seen only by the Deacon & the team in charge of counting the offering for that particular day, our Director of Operations, and our Church Administrator.

## Church Office Hours

Our office is closed on Mondays and open Tuesday through Friday 9am – 4pm.

## Christian Formation Classes/Rooms:

- 4s – Room 116
- 5s/Kindergarten – Room 214
- 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grades – Room 215
- 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Grades – Room 217
- 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grades – Room 219
- Middle School – Room 220
- High School – Room 221
- Adult – FH

# Church Contact Information

## Pastoral Staff

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## Deacon of the Day

Matt Hatcher

# Trinity Presbyterian Church

## Our Mission

Trinity exists to embrace, embody, and extend the redemptive message of Jesus to the people and places of Fort Worth and beyond.

## Our Core Commitments

Trinity is a gospel-centered church committed to following Jesus by...

- Worshipping God together through historic liturgy that is rich, accessible, and emotionally honest
- Striving to know and be known in our life together
- Engaging in formative spiritual practices
- Extending the welcome of the gospel in word and deed
- Serving our city

Meeting Address: 207 West Broadway, Fort Worth, TX 76104

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100754, Fort Worth, TX 76185

Web: [www.trinitypresfw.org](http://www.trinitypresfw.org)

682.703.2120

*We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).*