

**Trinity Presbyterian Church
First Sunday of Advent – December 1, 2024**

Advent Call to Worship

As we enter the season of Advent, we remember God's call to seek justice in the world God loves.

We come longing for a brighter future for all.

We light the first candle of Advent, a symbol of God's hope, which shines in the darkness.

(Light the candle of hope)

May the light of this candle ignite a fire within your people, who are often afraid or hesitant to work for change.

Holy One, strengthen us by your Spirit to commit ourselves to walking with those who are oppressed and marginalized. May our actions reflect your hope, which transforms your world. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Hymn 118 Hark the glad sound

**1. Hark the glad sound! The Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long;
let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song!**

**2. You come the prisoners to release
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass before you burst,
the iron fetters yield.**

**3. You come the broken heart to bind,
the wounded soul to cure,
to bring the treasures of God's grace,
good tidings for the poor.**

**4. Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with your most honoured name.**

Prayer of Praise and Confession *(minister)*

Assurance of Pardon *(minister)*

Hymn 146 Angels from the realms of glory

**1. Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth.**

Refrain:

**Come and worship, come and worship;
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**2. Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night:
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant Light.**

Refrain:

**Come and worship, come and worship;
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**3. Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star.**

Refrain:

**Come and worship, come and worship;
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**4. Saints, before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear.**

Refrain:

**Come and worship, come and worship;
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**5. Though an infant now we view him,
he shall fill his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him;
every knee shall then bow down.**

Refrain:

**Come and worship, come and worship;
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

Prayer for illumination

Responsive Reading Psalm 25:1-10

¹ O Lord, I give my life to you.

² I trust in you, my God!

**Do not let me be disgraced,
or let my enemies rejoice in my defeat.**

³ No one who trusts in you will ever be disgraced,
but disgrace comes to those who try to deceive others.

**⁴ Show me the right path, O Lord;
point out the road for me to follow.**

⁵ Lead me by your truth and teach me,
for you are the God who saves me.
All day long I put my hope in you.

**⁶ Remember, O Lord, your compassion and unfailing love,
which you have shown from long ages past.**

⁷ Do not remember the rebellious sins of my youth.
Remember me in the light of your unfailing love,
for you are merciful, O Lord.

**⁸ The Lord is good and does what is right;
he shows the proper path to those who go astray.**

⁹ He leads the humble in doing right,
teaching them his way.

**¹⁰ The Lord leads with unfailing love and faithfulness
all who keep his covenant and obey his demands.**

New Living Translation (NLT)

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Scripture Lessons

Jeremiah 33:14-16 NLT

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 NLT

Luke 21:25-36 NLT

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Hopeful?

Prayers of the People (*minister*)

Hymn 165 O little town of Bethlehem

**1. 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.**

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

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

**4. 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;
oh come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.**

The offering

***Doxology 830 Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

**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.**

Prayer of Dedication (*congregation*)

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, the power, and the glory. For ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn 166 Once in Royal David's city

- 1. Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.**
- 2. Christ came down to earth from heaven,
who is God and Lord of all,
sheltered by a humble stable,
cradled in a cattle stall:
with the poor, oppressed and lowly,
lived on earth our Saviour holy,**
- 3. and our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love,
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heaven above,
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.**
- 4. Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
there God's children gather round,
bright like stars, with glory crowned.**

Choral Blessing

**Go now in peace, never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see---.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

Benediction

Choral Amen

Amen, Amen, Amen.