
Thank you to those listed in the bulletin who participated in today's service. We also thank:

Advent Display: Ken Guerin

Bulletin Cover: Graphic art by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

Coordinators for Online Worship: Clara Lee and Jim Sharrard

Videographer: Nic Odell

Reminders:

Tonight at 6:00 p.m. – Intergenerational Virtual Worship Service

See the Friday email blast for more information, including the Zoom invitation.

Family Christmas Eve Service – Outdoors at 4:30 p.m.

We will have different stations set up so that families can walk through the Christmas story. The service will be interactive and multisensory, and it was designed with kids and families in mind. Be sure to check Trinity's website and Facebook page the day of for the latest information.

Christmas Eve Services Livestream Only at 6:30 & 8:30 p.m. No In-Person Worship.

Visit <https://www.trinityspringfield.org/worship/on-line-worship/> for more information.

Christmas is Not Your Birthday (CNYB)

For more information about CNYB visit

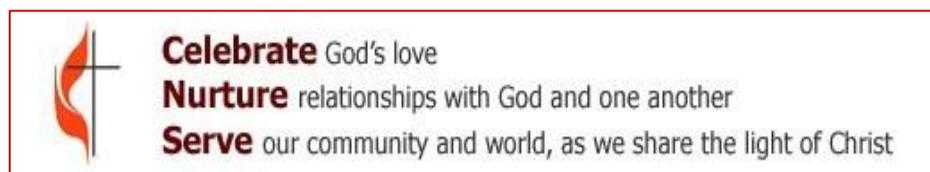
<https://www.trinityspringfield.org/ministries/mission-justice/>. To donate online, click [here](#)

Got prayer requests?

If you have a joy, concern, or prayer request you would like to add to our virtual prayer tree, email prayers@trinityspringfield.org. Those prayer requests will be added to the hidden prayer tree page on Trinity's website. For access, see the Thursday Thoughts email newsletter. Let us keep one another in prayer at this time.

Trinity's Holiday Hours

Trinity Church will be closed December 25 through January 2.



Trinity United Methodist Church

361 Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA 01108

www.trinityspringfield.org

Director of Music Ministry, Becky Rosendahl Isaacson

Associate Pastor, Rev. Erin Newcomb-Moore

Senior Pastor, Rev. René Perez



Believing that all persons are created in God's image and are of sacred worth, that Jesus' message was one of inclusion of those rejected by mainstream society, and that each member makes inherent and valuable contributions to the Body of Christ, we of Trinity Church welcome into this congregation people of every age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic condition, family structure, and physical or mental ability.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday of Advent ~ December 20, 2020

* Stand if you are able ** See words to the right

Prelude: “Sing We Now of Christmas” J. Krug
Trinity Handbell Choir

Welcome & Announcements

Introit: “Love Came Down at Christmas” J. Rutter
Sonja Funk, soprano

Liturgy for Lighting the Advent Candles:** Words & Music by G. Elderkin/J. Raney

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 trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38 (NRSV)

Special Music: “The Silent Stars” J.J. Niles

Sermon: “Do Not Be Afraid”

Closing Response: “Benedictus, Blessed is the Lord” D. Forrest

Benediction

Postlude: “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing” D. Cherwien

WORDS TO FOLLOW ALONG

- **Bold Items Are the Congregation’s Part**

Liturgy for Lighting the Advent Candles:
(A Gospel Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony, Hope Publishing)

Musical Introduction
“Jesus, the Light of the World”

Advent Litany
Advent is a time to praise.

Praise the Lord, and rejoice in God’s goodness.

Advent is a time to remember God’s faithfulness.

Praise the Lord, and rejoice in God’s goodness.

Advent is a time to remember God’s blessings.

Praise the Lord, and rejoice in God’s goodness.

Advent is a time to remember God’s promises.

Praise the Lord, and rejoice in God’s goodness.

Advent is a time to celebrate the end of darkness.

Praise to Jesus, the Light of the World.

Candle Lighting

This morning we light four candles. The fourth candle reminds us that Advent is a time to give praise for what God has done, for what God is doing, and for what God will bring to completion. As the light of Advent grows brighter, it reminds us that we move closer to receiving the gift of a Savior—Jesus, the Light of the World.

Musical Response

Unison Prayer (Anton K. Jacobs)

O God, at this time each year, we remind ourselves that you have come and continue coming into our lives. You shatter reasoned expectations, give wonder and awe, and fulfill promises little understood. Watching and waiting, we pray, hasten the day! Amen.

Assurance (Maren C. Tirabassi)

Christ has come so that we know there is forgiveness, and, in that, we find our true hope, our only peace, our source of joy, our capacity for love. Thanks be to God. Amen.