

Offertory: "I Choose Love" M. Miller

***Holy Communion:** UMH# p. 13

Music During Communion: "Taste and See" TFWS# 2267

***Hymn:** "The Voice of God Is Calling" UMH# 436

Benediction

Postlude: "Gently Mary Laid Her Child" arr. J. A. Behnke

We thank those who participated in today's service:

Acolytes: Ella Butcher, Raizel Bhajjan, Arianna Bhajjan

Altar Flowers: In memory of Ruth Temple Harwood for her birthday, from her family.

Altar Guild: Kathy Hathaway and Deb Garth

Carillonneur: Thomas St. Marie

Fellowship Hour: Katherine Lovell and volunteers

Liturgist: Christine Thibodeau

Ushers: Head Usher, Sheila Womble; Asst. Head Usher, Don Cushing; Ushers, Ann Guyotte, Kathy Hathaway, Brenda Lopez, Margo Sweetland

Video Team: Nicole Baker, Brian Crawford, Nic Odell, Jack Rust, Anthony and Nicholas Skridulas

Please Pray for:

Borys B, James B (Bridget's brother), Vonda B (Chad Thompson's sister), Marilyn, Margaret (Peg) C, Mary C (Matt's mother), Leslie D (friend of Mary Beth G), Dominick E, Rev. Don H, Blair J (Brenda L's grandson), John K, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, (Katherine's sister-in-law), Velma M, Dorothy M, Daryl P, Claire (L) P, Catherine Ann R, Nancy S, Jody F (Shannon F's mother), Lynn T, Mary (T) Grocott (Nate T's sister & Camille's sister-in-law), Alison W, Andrew W (Phyllis T's nephew), Courtney H (Sheila W's daughter), our service men, women and their loved ones, the people of Ukraine and those affected by gun violence and natural disasters.

Trinity United Methodist Church

361 Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA 01108

www.trinityspringfield.org

Minister, Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun
Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Michael Carney
Director of Family Ministries & Connections, Rob Powell
Spiritual Director, Cathy MacGovern
District Superintendent, Rev. Megan Stowe
Bishop, Sudarshana Devadhar



SECOND SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

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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.



Celebrate God's love
Nurture relationships with God and one another
Serve our community and world, as we share the light of Christ

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2022

10:30 a.m.

Meditation:

“These special holidays give rise to various liturgical calendars that suggest we should mark our days not only with the cycles of the moon and seasons, but also with occasions to tell our children the stories of our faith community’s past so that this past will have a future, and so that our ancient way and its practices will be rediscovered and renewed every year.” ~

(Brian D. McLaren. Finding Our Way Again: The Return of Ancient Practices)

GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT TO WORSHIP

** Those who are able are invited to stand. * Items in bold are read in unison.*

We are invited to observe silence during the prelude. Please turn off cell phones.

If you have a prayer request, please write it on a “Prayer Card” found in the card rack, and place it in the offering plate.

All prayer requests will be lifted up during the Wednesday morning prayer meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Prelude: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” arr. J. A. Behnke
Trinity Youth Handbell Choir

Welcome and Announcements

(New visitors only please fill out the blue paper in the red folder. Others, please sign the white attendance sheets.)

Introit: “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

***Call to Worship:** (Design Studio Marcia McPhee)

One: A chill in the air:

Many: Damp penetrates to the bone.

One: Wind rattles bare tree branches.

Many: An eerie silence.

One: Then, from the farthest corners of the earth comes a song.

Many: From the deepest part of our soul comes a hope.

One: So, we gather in this holy season to open our hearts to the One who fills the silence with song.

All: And makes the darkness bright.

***Hymn:** “There’s a Song in the Air” UMH# 249

*Prayer of Confession:

Lord of Advent Love, we have done wrong. We have tarnished the gift you gave freely. We have buried you so deeply in our hearts, the world doesn't see you. We have not followed Christ, we have ignored your teachings, we have lived lives of apathy against your love, we have built fences and fortresses to push people away, and we have silenced the screams of those in need. Forgive us, we pray. Free us from our sin. Free us from our captivity. Free us to a life lived in Joy through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Words of Assurance and Pardon:

In Christ, we are made new and rich in every grace needed to restore us, and make us whole. In Christ, we are forgiven and made blameless before God. Praise God for this glorious gift!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Special Music: “Advent Joy” H. Hopson

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle: Barbara Coffin and the Kimani family

*Passing the Peace of Christ

(To help us be a warm and caring spiritual home, please take a few moments to greet on another in Christian love. A historical Christian greeting would be: “The Peace of Christ be with you. “And also, with you.”)

LISTENING FOR THE SPIRIT’S WORD TO US

Children’s Moment

Pastoral Prayer, Joys and Concerns

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.

Prayer Response

***Hymn:** “Star-Child” TFWS# 2095

(There is No Chapel Kids or Bible Story Time on Communion Sunday.)

Scripture Reading: Matthew 3: 1-12 (NRSV) N.T. pp. 2-3

For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us,
thanks be to God.

Sermon: “The Gift of the Past” Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT’S PROMPTINGS

Invitation to Offering:

On this Second Sunday of Advent, inspire us to give back to you so that together we can be in ministry to all of the world. With joyful hearts let us give back to the Lord.