

¹ *Service of Holy Communion for Advent was written by the Rev. Susan A. Blain, Minister for Worship and Gospel Arts. Response by Dr. Mark Miller "Still Speaking Sanctus" Copyright 2019.*

† This hymn is one of the 10 hymns in our hymnal harmonized by J.S. Bach with beautiful moving lines under the simple melody. It tells of Christ the infant who grows to become one who gives us "confidence and Joy", breaking the power of evil and bringing us "peace eternal".

It is special to Vera because she opened her first concert at Palmer High School in the mid-60s with it. This was an era when school choral music could focus on sharing beautiful music without the restrictions of performing religious music in schools.

With COVID cases on the rise in Massachusetts, now is the time to be vigilant. That means keeping your mask over your nose and mouth, maintaining at least a 6 ft. distance between you and those around you, and leaving the sanctuary promptly after the postlude as directed by the ushers. If you wish to stay and talk with others, you are welcome to do that outside. If you would like to speak with one of our pastors or staff members, please make an appointment. Thank you for doing your part. This is important as we endeavor to provide an in-person worship option that is as safe as possible during this time.

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

Advent Display: Ken Guerin

Altar Guild: Vera Baker and Kathy Hathaway

Attendance Taker: Nicole Baker-Cooley

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

Carillonneur: Thomas St. Marie

Coordinators for Online Worship: Clara Lee and Jim Sharrard

Overflow Room: Brian Crawford

Ushers: Head Usher, Margo Sweetland, **Asst.** Sheila Womble, **Ushers:** Bob & Carol Hager, Kathy Hathaway, Ray Miller, Nate Olin

Videographer: Nic Odell

Reminder:

Angel Tree Goes Virtual: Sponsor a child of a prisoner for \$22 and they will receive a Christmas package shipped by the Prison Fellowship on behalf of their incarcerated loved one. The package will include a \$20 gift card to Walmart, the prisoner parent's message, a Gospel presentation, and an opportunity to receive a free Adventure Bible. Visit <https://vat.angeltreetool.org/a6da9eee-cffa-4767-adba-839655ce15f0> to sponsor a child. Enter Trinity's access code: **R6VPA**, select a child online, pay securely. If you're unable to access online, contact Ginny Blake.



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

Trinity United Methodist Church

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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

Second Sunday of Advent ~ December 6, 2020

** See words to the right

(A Time of Gathering: 10:20 a.m.)

Organ Prelude: “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus” J. Raney

Introduction & Prayer Updates

(Livestream Begins: 10:30 a.m.)

Prelude: “The Holly and the Ivy/The First Noel” C. McMichael
Teri LaFleur & Rev. Erin Newcomb-Moore, violins

Welcome & Announcements

Introit: “Come, Messiah, Come” L. Bailey
Holly Joy Pearson, alto

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

The Lord’s Prayer

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:1-8 (NRSV)

Special Music: “I Wonder as I Wander” Niles/Bradford

Sermon: “Who am I?”

Special Music: “For Unto Us a Child is Born” J. Atteberry
Teri LaFleur, soprano and Holly Joy Pearson, alto

Communion:

Along the Way we join our voices with those of all created beings in Heaven, and on Earth singing:

The Congregation responds: Holy, holy, God Almighty You are wholly, Love and light Heaven and earth are flowing with your glory, Holy God of power and might. Sing Hosanna, in the highest Sing hosanna, we proclaim! Crying blessed be the faithful, who are coming in your name.¹

Closing Response: “Emmanuel, God with Us” L. Larson

Benediction

Postlude: “Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light” J.S. Bach
Vera Baker’s Favorite Hymn †

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 watch.

We watch, with hope, for the dawning light.

Advent is a time to watch for hope in our despair.

We watch, with hope, for the dawning light.

Advent is a time to watch for grace and forgiveness.

We watch, with hope, for the dawning light.

Advent is a time to watch for peace in the midst of conflict.

We watch, with hope, for the dawning light.

Advent is a time to watch for the end of darkness.

We watch for Jesus, the Light of the World.

Candle Lighting

This morning we light two candles. The first candle reminds us that Advent is a time of waiting. The second candle reminds us that Advent is also a time of watching. We watch with expectant eyes, trusting that God is active, present and constantly at work. As we light the second candle, we ask for faith to watch for God’s presence, and open eyes to see all that God is doing.

Musical Response

Unison Prayer (Ruth C. Duck)

In the advent seasons, when the past has fled, unasked, away and there is nothing left to do but wait, God, shelter us. Be our surrounding darkness; be fertile soil out of which hope springs in due time. In uncertain times, help us to greet the dawn and labor on, love on, in faith awaiting your purpose hid in you waiting to be born in due time. Amen.

Assurance (Maren C. Tirabassi)

God chooses us, forgives us; lights our paths with the serenity of starlight, and send us as messengers of hope and peace. Amen.