

**Invitation to Offering:** *(UCC, modified)*

Even in difficult times we remember that God has done great things for us. We don't need to be afraid. We can choose to live our lives in hope, counting on the goodness of God in every age. As a sign of our trust in God, we share our gifts this morning, strengthening the ministry of this church as we seek together to extend hope and summon peace. Let us now give our offering with gratitude and joy.

**Prayer of Dedication:**

**God who welcomes us home, who creates space, who leaves a chair with our name on it— we have two coats and we are giving one away. That's what this offering is. It's our second coat. It's our hearts on our sleeves. It's our audacious hope that there can indeed be a better world than this one. So take these gifts and use them to move us closer to that promised day. Gratefully we pray, amen.**

\* Liturgy created by A Sanctified Art.

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**We thank those who participated in today's service:**

**Accompanist:** Steve Hays

**Acolytes:** Adrianna Bhajjan, Ella Butcher, Jack Rust

**Advent Wreath:** Ken Guerin's creation

**Altar Flowers:** In loving memory of Eileen and Jack Clark, from their family.

**Altar Guild:** Ginger Elliott and Lisa Foster

**Carillonneur:** Thomas St. Marie

**Coordinators for Online Worship:** Clara Lee and Jim Sharrard

**Liturgist:** Aisla Varnon

**Trinity Handbell Choir and Trinity Choristers**

**Ushers:** Head Usher, Sheila Womble; Asst. Head Usher, Don Cushing; Ushers, Jacki Barden, Ginger Elliott, Deb Garth, and Lisa Foster

**Video Team:** Nicole Baker, Brian Crawford, Nic Odell, Jack Rust, Eric Wing

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**Mary, Did You Know?**

Mary, did you know that your baby boy  
Would someday walk on water?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy  
Would save our sons, and daughters?

Did you know that your baby boy  
Has come to make you new?

This child that you delivered,  
Will soon deliver you.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy  
Will give sight to the blind man?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy  
Will calm a storm with his hand?

Did you know that your baby boy  
Has walked where angels trod?

When you kissed your little baby,  
Then you kissed the face of God.

The blind will see, the deaf will hear,  
The dead will live again;  
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak  
The praises of the Lamb.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy  
Is Lord of all creation?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy  
Will one day rule the nations?

Did you know that your baby boy  
Was heaven's perfect Lamb?

This sleeping child you're holding,  
Is the great "I Am!"



**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

361 Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA 01108

[www.trinityspringfield.org](http://www.trinityspringfield.org)

*Pastor, Rev. René Perez*

*Director of Music Ministry, Michael Carney*

*Director of Family Ministries & Connections, Rob Powell*

*Spiritual Director, Cathy MacGovern*



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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.*

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Third Sunday of Advent, December 12, 2021 – 10:30 a.m.

\* Stand if you are able ✨ See words to the right ✨ See words on the back

**Prelude:** “Advent Suite for Handbells” S. K. Tucker

## Welcome and Announcements

*(Visitors/members please sign & date the red folder & pass it on. Please remember late comers.)*

**Introit:** “Yonder, Come Day!”

## \*Call to Worship ✨

**\*Hymn:** “Savior of the Nations, Come” UMH #214

## Prayer of Illumination ✨

**Lighting of the Third Candle (Joy): ✨** The Kimani Family

**Special Music:** “Somebody’s Knockin’ At Your Door” Spiritual, K. Berg

## Children’s Moment

**Mission/CNYB Moment:** Morgan Bengel

## Pastoral Prayer, Joys and Concerns, The Lord’s Prayer ✨

**\*Hymn:** “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” UMH #140

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 1:26-33 (NRSV) N.T. p. 53

**The Message:** “Parenting Jesus” Erica Weida

## Invitation to Offering: ✨

**Offertory:** “Mary, Did You Know?” M. Lowry, B. Greene

**Doxology:** UMH #94

## Prayer of Dedication: ✨

**\*Hymn:** “He Came Down” TFWS #2085

## \*Benediction

**Postlude:** “Fugue in C Major *Jig Fugue*” D. Buxtehude

# WORDS TO FOLLOW ALONG

➤ **Bold Items Are the Congregation’s Part.**

## Call to Worship:

L: A voice calls out in the wilderness.

**P: It sings of a home for all. It speaks of justice and peace.**

L: We could choose to ignore it.

**P: We could drown out that song. We could choose not to listen.**

L: Instead, we come into this space.

**P: We let the world grow quiet. We listen.**

L: A voice calls out in the wilderness. Do you hear it?

**P: We hear it. In listening, we worship.**

L: Let us draw near to God.

## Prayer of Illumination:

**God, whose love is like the sun warming me from the inside, if you are my home, then your word is the street light guiding me there. So I want you to know— I am walking your way, we are walking your way, and we are looking for a light. And our feet are dirty— we’ve lost our way a time or two. And our bags are heavy— we’re carrying an array of grief and fear on our backs. But we’re on our way. We’re looking for your light. We’re listening for your word. When you see us coming, when you feel our hearts move, we hope you’ll run down the Driveway and catch us. Leave the light on. We are on our way home. Gratefully we pray, amen.**

## Candle Lighting Liturgy – Candle of Joy

A: Joy is seeing people you love after months apart.

B: Joy is hearing, “Come on over, it has been too long!”

A: Joy is the stretches and giggles of a newborn child.

B: Joy is making it home when the journey is long.

A: Joy is your dog sliding to meet you at the door.

B: Joy is the energy of a new season.

A: Joy is feeling found when you thought you were lost.

B: So today we light the candle of joy, because the welcome God has for us is nothing short of joyful.

A: Rest in that good news. Let it wash over you.

B: Family of faith, we are close to home. Amen.

## 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.**