

The Sacrament of Holy Communion (see insert)

Music During Communion: “Creator of the Stars”- Conditor Alme  
The text may be found at UMH# 692

\*Hymn: “Soon and Very Soon” UMH# 706

Benediction Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

Postlude: “O Come, Emmanuel” (Variations on an Advent Hymn) Daniel Pinkham (1923-2006)  
1. Joyous VII. Fervent

Daniel Pinkham was a teacher at The New England Conservatory, a composer of many works for various ensembles and a church musician at King's Chapel, Boston. At The New England Conservatory, Pinkham founded the Early Music department and taught many courses over his nearly 50 years of affiliation with this institution. In the 1980's, I had the pleasure of taking several courses with this excellent professor and scholar.

We thank those who participated in today’s service:

Accompanists: Vera Baker and Steve Hays

Acolytes: Sam Crawford, Anthony and Nicholas Skridulas

Adult Handbell Choir

Altar Flowers: In memory of Ruth T H for her birthday, from her family

Altar Ministry: Deb Garth and Kathy Hathaway

Carillonneur: Thomas St. Marie

Fellowship Hour: Volunteers

Liturgist: Nate Olin

Ushers: Head Usher, Lisa Bakowski; Asst. Head Usher, Sheila Womble, Jacki Barden, Ginger Elliott, Deb Garth

Video Team: Brian Crawford, Samuel Crawford, Eric Mazzarella, Nic Odell, Anthony & Nicholas Skridulas

Please Pray for:

James A, Bridget B, James B, Meri B, Natalie B, Mary C, Dominick E, David F, Mark F, Sophia G, Courtney H, Pete L, Brenda L, Cristopher L, Katherine L, Amy L, Diane M, Carlos M, Herb M, Holly Joy P, Les P, Catherine Ann R, Jen R, Sue S and family, Carl S, Lynn T, Rev. T, Allie W, our service members and their loved ones, those affected by gun violence and natural disasters.

Trinity United Methodist Church

361 Sumner Avenue, Springfield, MA 01108

[www.trinityspringfield.org](http://www.trinityspringfield.org) ▪ 413-737-5311

Bishop, Thomas J. Bickerton

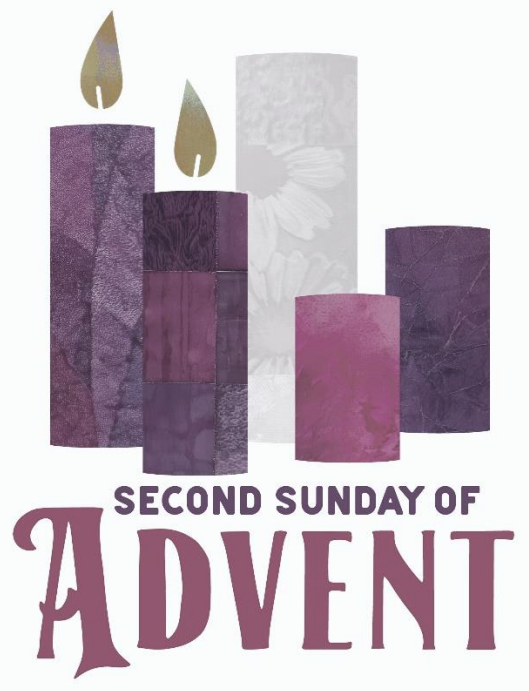
District Superintendent, Rev. Megan Stowe

Minister, Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

Director of Music Ministries, Dr. Bruce Glenney

Director of Family Ministries & Connections, Rob Powell, M.Div

Spiritual Director, Cathy MacGovern



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

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

10:30 a.m.

WELCOME

We worship using this liturgy and two songbooks: *The United Methodist Hymnal (UMH)* and *The Faith We Sing (TFWS)*. Please silence your electronic devices. Nursery care is downstairs for children birth - 4 years.  
\*Please stand in body or in spirit. Items in bold are read in unison.

WE GATHER AS GOD’S PEOPLE FOR A TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

“A voice cries: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”  
As we worship today, let us prepare to welcome God’s dramatic work into our midst, in our hearts,  
in our community, and in all of creation. Let us worship God.

-based on Isaiah 40:3 (ESV)adapted from The Worship Sourcebook, ©2004, Faith Alive Christian Resources

Welcome and Announcements Rob Powell, M.Div

Prelude: Adult Handbell Choir “Come, O Come, Emmanuel” arr. by Llyod Larson  
based on hymn tunes Veni Emmanuel, Personent Hodie, Hyfrydol

Introit: Chancel Choir “O Come to Us, Emmanuel”  
O come to us, Emmanuel, deliver us we pray. O come to us Emmanuel, restore our joy today.  
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmauel, shall come to thee and ransom Israel. O come, O come, Emmanuel.

\*Call to Worship: Liturgist – Discipleship Ministries

Leader: Welcome to worship this day!

People: We have come seeking God’s blessings and love.

Leader: They shall be given to you.

People: We have come seeking forgiveness and healing.

Leader: These will be offered to you. Open your hearts to receive God’s Good News.

People: We open our hearts to all of God’s words and ways for us. Amen.

\*Hymn: “Heralds of Christ” UMH# 567

\*Unison Prayer of Confession: Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun – The Worship Closet

We are incredibly stubborn, O Lord. We have entered the season in which Your Light has been given to the world, your blessings have been poured out on the world, and yet all we can think about is our own problems, our own needs, our own desires. Help us to desire you, Lord. Help us to yearn for your presence. Pour your baptismal waters over us again, cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance. Nourish and heal us so that we may joyfully serve you. Wash away our jealousy, greed, and all negative thoughts and behaviors that stand in the way of our truly being the people you have called us to be. Again let us receive the blessings offered in creation, in the birth and baptism of Jesus, and in the ministry of the saints of light. We ask this in Jesus’ Name. Amen.

\*Words of Assurance: Rev. Dr. C – The Worship Closet

The love of God is always offered to us, freely, joyfully, for all eternity. Rejoice, dear friends, this is the Good News of our Lord. Amen.

\*Response: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” UMH# 196

Anthem: Adult Handbell Choir “Twas in the Moon of Wintertime” arr. by Susan T. Nelson

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle: The Robles family  
“The King of Glory Comes” (v. 2) TFWS# 2091

Passing the Peace of Christ Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

Children’s Moment Rob Powell, M.Div

Pastoral Prayer, Joys and Concerns Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

The Lord’s Prayer: Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun  
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.

Choral Response: “Hear Our Prayer, O Lord”  
Hear our prayer O Lord; Incline Thine ear to us, and grant us Thy peace.

\*Hymn: “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” UMH# 216  
(5-13 yr. olds are invited to Grace Chapel for Chapel Kids. Parents please escort your children & pick them up.)

Scripture Readings: Liturgist Isaiah 11: 1-10 (NRSV) O.T. pp. 602-603  
Matthew 3: 1-12 (NRSV) N.T. pp. 2-3

Response to the Word: Liturgist  
One: The Word of God for the People of God.

Many: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: “John the Baptist” Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

RESPONDING TO THE SPIRIT’S PROMPTINGS

Invitation to Offering: Liturgist – Discipleship Resources  
Holy God, as we offer our gifts today, we do so with hearts that long for your renewal. Just as John the Baptist called us to prepare the way of the Lord, we repent of the ways where we have failed to live faithfully. May these offerings be an outward sign of our desire to turn our hearts toward you, to bear good fruit, and to serve you with integrity. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Offertory Anthem: “People, Look East” arr. by Craig Courtney, text by Michael Barrett  
The text may be found at UMH# 202