

# Songs of the Season

Third Sunday in Advent December 15, 2024



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# WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO IS WORTHY OF ADORATION

(Children of all ages are welcome in our worship service, but if your family needs a break from the sanctuary or wants to move around, our family overflow room with toys is available in room 111.)

**Nursery Volunteers (worship service):** Lori Nichols, Laurel Elzinga, Jackie Petty, Shirah Goldstein

Liturgist: Matt Pannkuk Scripture Reader: Amy Mitchell

Pastoral Prayer: Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

## Prelude

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### **Quotes and Reflection**

"In public worship all should join. The little strings go to make up a concert, as well as the great." — Thomas Goodwin

"To gather with God's people in united adoration of the Father is as necessary to the Christian life as prayer." — Martin Luther

"This is a prayer of prayers. What Mary says in this song of prayer is that from the depths of her being she wants God to be exalted. She is a model of adoration." —R . C. Sproul

"Joy was the dominant mood of the Christian life, and though the formal worship and praise which it inspired is not explicitly described or prescribed, this was because it was so much taken for granted. As those who experienced and witnessed the healing and cleansing power of Jesus broke out spontaneously into praise (Lk. 18:43; Mk. 2:12), so also in the apostolic church there are frequent examples of such spontaneous outbursts, as men began to see and understand the power and goodness of God in Christ (Acts 2:46; 3:8; 11:18; 16:25; Eph. 1:1-14)."

#### **Devotional Preparation**

"O Come, All Ye Unfaithful" tgc.org

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah... out of you will come for me whose origins are from of old... He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord... And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be our peace." Micah 5:2, 4–5

Lord Jesus, how we love Micah's prophecies of your life and love for us. Having laid down your life as the Lamb of God, you've risen from the dead, and are now our standing shepherd—relentlessly caring, vigilantly protecting, and faithfully providing for us. But who is included in "us"? Who are the sheep you stand and shepherd with much tenderness and compassion? This question has fresh and profound meaning to me this December morning as I am hearing these gracesaturated words sung over me as I pray and write...

"O come, all you unfaithful; Come, weak and unstable; Come, know you are not alone. O come, barren and waiting ones, weary of praying, come. See what your God has done. Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you." ("O Come, All Ye Unfaithful" by Bob Kauflin and Lisa Clow)

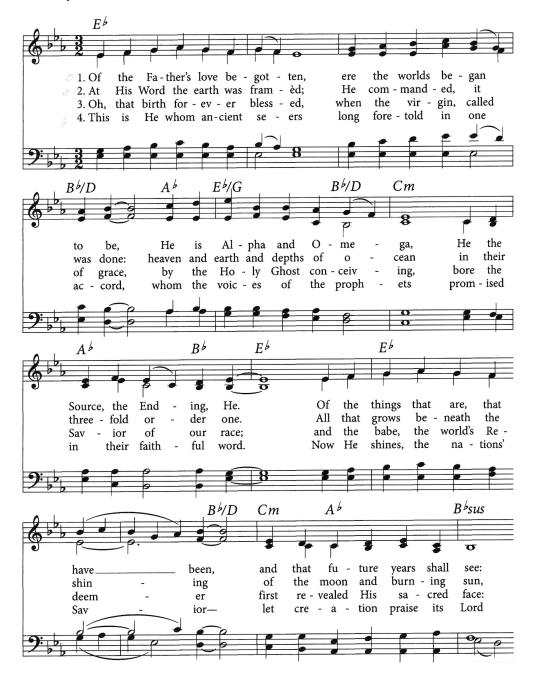
This makes us (me) want to weep and dance at the same time, Jesus. Because if only the faithful can come to you, then what about the rest of us? Many, maybe most of us, don't think of ourselves as very faithful or full of faith. Many of us are struggling to love and weary of pretending—we aren't just in a mess, but are a mess. It is to us the Holy Spirit is singing right now...

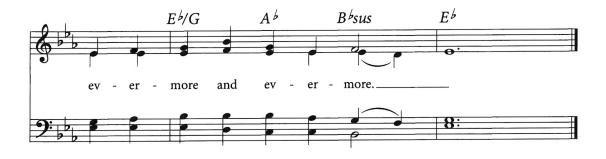
"O come, bitter and broken; Come with fears unspoken; Come, taste of His perfect love. O come, guilty and hiding ones. There is no need to run. See what your God has done. Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you."

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Jesus you are our peace because you are our "righteousness, holiness, and redemption" (1Cor.1:30). So Very Amen.

#### **Song of Preparation**

(Please join the ensemble in vs. 2) Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, John Mason Neale, Henry Baker





#### Call to Worship—Isaiah 12:2-6

- Leader: "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid;
- People: For the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation."
- Leader: With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day:
- People: "Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted.
- Leader: "Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.
- All: Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."
- Leader: O Lord, meet us here as we draw water from the wells of salvation and sing praises to the Holy One of Israel.

# WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

#### \*Songs of Adoration

Joy Has Dawned

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend



Angels We Have Heard on High Trinity Hymnal #214

#### \*Prayer of Adoration

## WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

#### Old Testament Reading—Zephaniah 3:14-20

Israel's Joy and Restoration

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion: let not your hands grow weak. The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the Lord.

Reader: The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever!

#### People: Thanks be to God!

# WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

#### Call to Confession—Philippians 4:4-6a

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything...

#### Silent Confession and Lament

#### Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Phil. 4:6b-7

...but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- Leader: Children of God, give thanks to God for the peace that surpasses all understanding in Christ Jesus.
- People: Thanks be to God!
- Leader: Now may the peace of Christ be with you all!
- People: And also with you!

Words and Music by Andrew Peterson and Ben Shive

(Ensemble): Do you feel the world is broken? (Congregation): We do (Ensemble): Do you feel the shadows deepen? (Congregation): We do (Ensemble): But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? (Congregation): We do (Ensemble): Do you wish that you could see it all made new? (Congregation): We do

(Ensemble): Is all creation groaning? (Congregation): It is (Ensemble): Is a new creation coming? (Congregation): It is (Ensemble): Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? (Congregation): It is

(Ensemble): Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? (Congregation): It is

(Chorus: All)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll? The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave Is He worthy, is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory? Is He worthy of this? He is.

(Ensemble): Does the Father truly love us? (Congregation): He does (Ensemble): Does the Spirit move among us? (Congregation): He does (Ensemble): And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those He loves? (Congregation): He does (Ensemble): Does our God intend to dwell again with us? (Congregation): He does

(Chorus: All)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll? The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave From every people and tribe, every nation and tongue He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign with His Son Is He worthy, is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory? Is He worthy of this? He is. Is He worthy? Is He worthy? He is. He is

#### "Love" Mitchell Dixon

## WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

Pastoral Prayer



## **Tithes and Offerings**

Children ages 3 (by July 31) through 1st grade are dismissed for Children's Church to Room 106B

If you would like to give your tithe online, scan your camera phone here:



**Offertory Song** (Ensemble)

Heaven Has Come to Us

Music and Words by Marc Wilerton, Jon Althogg, and Lacy Hudson

#### Sermon

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" Sermon Series, Songs of the Season Luke 2:12-20 Rev. Pablo Rosales

How can you come and worship this Christmas?

Hear the Invitation

Come to the True Jesus

Make Known the Great Story

\*Song of Response

O Come, All Ye Faithful Trinity Hymnal #208

\*Benediction

If you would like a time of prayer with one of our elders, please come to the front of the sanctuary after the service.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**No Sunday school classes today.** We will resume in January.

**Visitors:** If you are visiting with us today we would love to give you a small gift. Please stop by the Welcome Table so we can say "hello."

Volunteers today: Ushers: Roberts, Wong, Maglione, Alexander. Nursery: L. Nichols, Poe, Petty, Goldstein. CC: Oehlerking, Manwaring, Goldstein. Next Sunday: Ushers: Schaffer, Schlitt, Thomason, Kocher. Nursery: Goldstein, Harlow, Marcus, Williamson. CC: Doiron, Hawley, Williamson.

**NO Men's Bible study** this week. Men's and women's Bible studies will resume in the new year. More info to come.

Men's Night this Wed. at 7:30pm at Chris Freeman's.

**Trinity Young Adults** meets at 7 pm on the 1st and 3rd Mon. of the month. See Mitchell Dixon for more info.

Thank you to everyone who provided Christmas gifts to the Mission Gate Ministry families!

One of the roles of our deacons is to care for those who are in need of help. Sometimes that means financial assistance or help with food or gas. The **Advent Giving Tree** in the narthex has tags for those who want to come along side the deacons by making a donation.

Our candlelight **Christmas Eve service will be at 5pm.** There is no nursery for this service, but we would love your little ones to join us. Our overfolow room will be available.

**Year End Giving**: Thank you for your tithes and offerings this past year. If you have a desire to provide stock to be used for 2024 contributions or any other method, please be sure that this is sent to the church office prior to Dec. 31. If you have any questions see Duncan Highmark.

Hope for Tomorrow Campaign- Our campaign to eliminate our debt and move to position the church to advance our outreach ministries has begun. We are 72% towards our goal. Please complete the pledge card in the chair in front of you and leave in the offering plate. Thank you for your participation.

**Sunday snacks** are always appreciated and needed. See your weekly email to sign up or the QR code on the snack table.

If you do not receive our **weekly email updates** on Tuesday mornings, please send your email address to amy.mitchell@trinitychurchkirkwood.org

There are **several easy ways to serve at Trinity**. Feel free to reach out to these ministry coordinators to get involved: **Ushers**: Paul Schaffer: Paul.Schaffer@trinitychurchkirkwood.org, **Greeters**: James Broughton (James.

Broughton@trinitychurchkirkwood.org), Children's Ministry: Melissa Kocher (Melissa.Kocher@trinitychurchkirkwood.org)

Did you know you can use the **Church Center app** for online giving, church directory, to sign up for events, connect with your small groups, bible studies, etc? Contact the church office for assistance.

You can **sign up for all upcoming events** by scanning your phone camera over the QR code and then <u>following the link</u>:



#### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Join us for "Songs of the Season," a festive Christmas concert that will fill your heart with joy! Experience a delightful array of music spanning various genres, from classic carols to contemporary favorites. Enjoy captivating stories behind some beloved songs that will warm your spirit and bring the true meaning of the season to life. Bring your family and friends for an unforgettable night of joy, laughter, and community. **TONIGHT at 6:30pm. Doors open at 6pm.** 

## MISSION UPDATE

ALL the links mentioned below can be found using this QR code:



**Prayers:** Scan the QR link for the last Newsletter and Prayer Calendar of 2024:

#### Goers:

- Mission Gate Fort Good Shepherd After flooding, Mission Gate asked for volunteers to help with building projects at Fort Good Shepherd in Cuba, MO. Chuck Barker will be coordinating a Saturday Serve Day in January. Stay tuned for more information.
- Robinson Food Pantry December is full, but you can still participate. Please pray for our December volunteers as the meet with people in our community; that they would be the hands of Jesus to our neighbors. Next available: January 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:20pm-7:20pm. Scan QR code for more information.

#### Senders:

The work of Mission at Trinity Church cannot happen without your prayerful giving. This year you have helped support several missionaries and ministries through St. Louis and the World. Please come by Pastor Pablo's office to see a white tapestry that was sent by one of our missionaries in the middle east. It's hanging on the wall.

#### Welcomers:

<u>Mission Gate Christmas Angels</u> — Thank you to all who participated in this year's gift giving to provide Christmas gifts to children with an incarcerated parent and children of local needy families. Gifts will be distributed to children ages infant to 16 years during a party at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church on Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. Please continue to pray for the children and families supported by Mission Gate.

#### Mobilizers:

Please thank your **Mission Committee** members (Ellie Perry, Kenna Marcus, Tom Schmidt, Tim Jackson), **Local National Missions Subcommittee** members (Tim Jackson (Chair), Karla Kuntze, Allen Mathieu, Chuck Barker, and Jackson Roberts), and **Global Missions Subcommittee** members (Tom Schmidt (Chair), Mimi Steele, Becky Givens, Susie Shah, Andrew Kwong, Andy Williamson and Mary Berardi).

With a heart for the mission of God, they have volunteered several hours this year to help Trinity share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and Ends of the Earth. If you would like to join this team, please contact Pastor Pablo.



Trinity's ministries are organized around the core values in our purpose statement which reads: Trinity Church exists to **exalt** God's name, **establish** God's people, **equip** God's church and **engage** God's world, in the power of the Holy Spirit and for the sake of the Risen King, Jesus Christ.

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