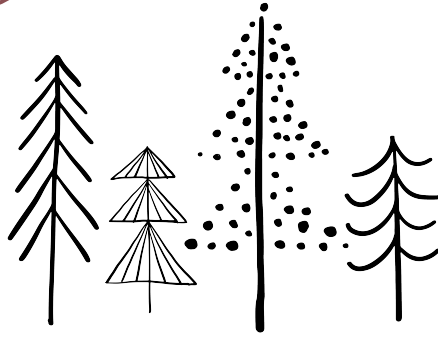


O come to us,  
abide in us  
our Lord,  
Emmanuel



*The Songs We Sing*

Second Sunday in Advent  
December 6, 2020



# WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO IS OUR PEACE

**Liturgist:** Rev. Nate Taylor

**Scripture Reader:** Glynn Schlitt and Ella Polski

**Pastoral Prayer:** Ruling Elder, Michael Jorgensen

## Quotes and Reflections

O Little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie,  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, the everlasting light,  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.  
— Rev. Phillips Brooks

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.  
And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.  
And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.  
— Isaiah 11:1-5

“It is the religion of Jesus alone that can bring peace to a man.”  
— Francis Fenelon

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

# WE READY OURSELVES TO WORSHIP

***Paul David Tripp- Warning: Christmas is Coming!***

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/warning-christmas-is-coming/>

It's coming. The signs are already appearing, and you should consider yourself warned. Your family is about to be attacked. No, it won't be the physical attack of terrorism, a hurricane, or a forest fire. No, this attack is much more subtle, seductive, and attractive, but infinitely more dangerous. Your family is about to be attacked by a holiday season.

Maybe you're thinking, "What in the world is Paul Tripp talking about?" Let me explain. The Advent season is upon us. It should be a gloriously peaceful time of remembering God's ultimate response to his lost and rebellious image-bearers. That response wasn't to condemn, but to give the ultimate gift of grace—the gift of himself—in the person of his Son. But instead of a peaceful season of worship and celebration, Advent has devolved into a spiritual war with your family at the center.

I have no problem with beautiful decorations, family feasting, or giving gifts. The Christmas season can be a time when families gather again, renew relationships, and express love for one another. But I'm concerned because there is a war for which story will define our children's beliefs about who they are, what they need, and what their lives are about.

Every human being lives out of the meaning of some defining story. The Advent season has become a battle between two stories—one seductive and attractive, but fundamentally untrue; and the other deeply humbling, but what every person everywhere needs.

## **False Christmas Story**

The 'Christmas story' the surrounding culture tells our children puts them at the center, the place for God and God alone. It looks to creation for fulfillment rather than worship of the Creator. It makes physical pleasure our primary need rather than the rescuing intervention of the Redeemer. It's dominated by the comforts of the moment rather than eternal priorities. The story your children will hear over and over again during this season is dangerously wrong when it comes to who they are and what they need. It calls them to find comfort where comfort can't be found, to place their hope in things that will never deliver, to think they can accomplish what only the Messiah can do.

## **True Advent Story**

But unlike this false 'Christmas story,' the true 'Advent Story' is humbling and unattractive. It's a sad story about a world terribly broken by sin, populated by self-centered rebels who are willing participants in their own destruction. It's about beings created to live for God but who in every way live for themselves. This story is about the dethroning of the Creator and the enthroning of his creation. It's about conditions so desperate that God did the unthinkable, sending his Son to be the sacrificial Lamb of redemption. And why did Jesus come?

Because we were so lost, so enslaved, so self-deceived that there simply was no other way. You see, until your children hear and understand the bad news, the good news won't be attractive to them. The news that Jesus came on a glorious mission of grace to live, die, and rise in our place is only worth celebrating when you understand it's your only hope.

## **Fight the Real War**

The battle of Advent isn't about whether we should sing silly seasonal tunes versus gospel carols, or have worship times versus big family feasts. No, this war is about what story of identity, need, meaning, and purpose your children will believe and give their hearts to pursue. Life really is a battle of stories, and the battle rages most fiercely when the true story is meant to be told most loudly.

So, enjoy the gifts, the decorations, and the delicacies, but start preparing your family early this year for the battle to come by telling them the true story. Before you begin to get distracted by all the traditions of holiday fun, take up the battle for the hearts of your children.

# Song of Preparation

# Magnificat

Music by Flo Paris Oakes

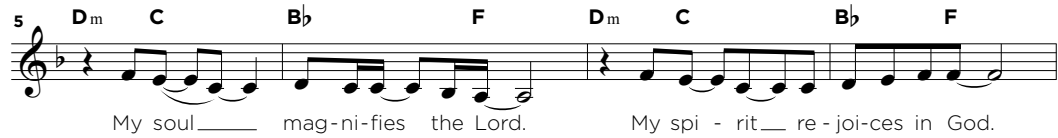
♩ = 78 **CHORUS**

D<sub>m</sub> C B<sub>♭</sub> F D<sub>m</sub> C B<sub>♭</sub> F



My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord. My spi - rit re - joi-ces in God.

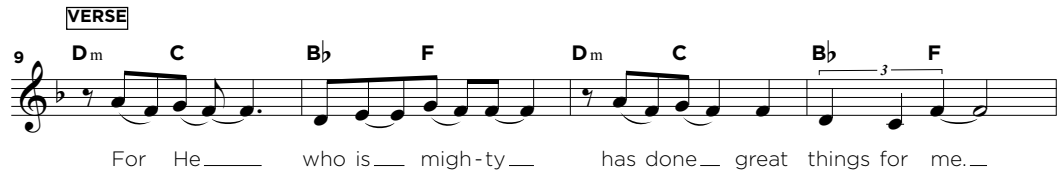
5 D<sub>m</sub> C B<sub>♭</sub> F D<sub>m</sub> C B<sub>♭</sub> F



My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord. My spi - rit re - joi-ces in God.

**VERSE**

9 D<sub>m</sub> C B<sub>♭</sub> F D<sub>m</sub> C B<sub>♭</sub> F



For He who is mighty has done great things for me.

13 D<sub>m</sub> C B<sub>♭</sub> F D<sub>m</sub> C B<sub>♭</sub> F



Ho-ly ho - ly Ho-ly ho - ly ho-ly ho - ly is His name.

## **\*Call to Worship—Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19**

Leader: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son! May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!

**People: Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!**

Leader: In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

**People: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.**

Leader: Blessed be his glorious name forever!

**People: May the whole earth be filled with his glory!**

**All: Amen and Amen!**

# WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

## \*Songs of Adoration

## *Come and Worship*

Music by Bebo Norman and Jason Ingram

### Lighting of the Advent Candle

An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er the earth;  
Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry now pro -  
claim Mes - si - ah's birth: Come and Wor - ship Come and  
wor - ship, Come and wor - ship; wor - ship Christ the new - born King.  
Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing watch - ing  
Saints be fore the al - tar ben - ding watch - ing  
o'er your flocks by night God with man is now re - sid - ing  
long in hope and fear Sud - den - ly - the Lord, de - scend - ing,  
Yon - der shines the In - fant light Come and Wor - ship  
In His tem - ple shall ap - pear  
Come and wor - ship; Come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ the new - born  
King



# I See the Lord

Words and Music by Chris Falson

♩ = 80

**D A/C# Em D/F# G**

I see the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ seat - ed on \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ throne \_\_\_\_\_ ex -

**4 Asus A D A/C# Em D/F#**

alt - ed, and the train of His robe \_\_\_\_\_ fills the tem - ple with

**7 G E7/G# D/A Em7/A**

glo - ry; And the whole earth \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ filled, \_\_\_\_\_ and the

**11 D/A Em7/A Bm7 Gmaj7**

whole earth \_\_\_\_\_ is filled, \_\_\_\_\_ and the whole earth \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ filled \_\_\_\_\_ with His

**15 Em/G D D Em/D D**

glo - ry. Ho - ly, \_\_\_\_\_ ho - ly, \_\_\_\_\_ ho - ly, \_\_\_\_\_

**20 Em7/D Bm7 D/F# G**

ho - ly, \_\_\_\_\_ ho - ly is the Lord. \_\_\_\_\_

**1 2**

**Asus A Asus A D**

Lord \_\_\_\_\_ of lords.

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

# WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

## Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 11:1-10

*The righteous branch shall come forth*

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

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

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## WE CONFESS OUR UTTER UNWORTHINESS BEFORE GOD **Call to Confession—Matthew 3:1-3, 7-10**

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight...'" But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

### **Silent Confession and Lament**

## WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD **Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—2 John 3**

Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love.

Leader: Church of Jesus Christ, rejoice and give thanks to God for his grace, mercy and peace!

**People: Thanks be to God!**

Leader: Now may the peace of Christ abide with you!

**People: And also with you!**

**\*Avent Hymn**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
Trinity Hymnal #201 (vs. 1-2)

*(Children may come forward on vs. 2)*

**Children's Sermon**

**Advent Hymn**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
Trinity Hymnal #201 (vs. 3-4)

WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Tithes and Offerings**

*Children may be dismissed for Children's Church (8:45 service only)*

**Offertory Song** (Ensemble)

*O Jerusalem*  
Isaac Wardell, Gregory Thompson, Liz Vice, Orlando Palmer

## **Sermon**

"Promised Peace"

Micah 5:1-6

Rev. Chris Polski

**\*Song of Response**

*Once in Royal David's City*  
Trinity Hymnal #225 (vs. 1, 2, 4)

**\*Benediction**

**These are just announcement highlights. If you'd like to know more about Trinity, connect with us in one of the following ways...**

- 314/821-7311 • [www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org](http://www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org) • Facebook: Trinity Church Kirkwood

Worship and General Church Information

**Please look for communication mid-week about ongoing activities at church. We will let you know if there is a change to any of the activities below.**

- **Volunteers next Sunday: Ushers:** Hendricks, Roberts, O'Neal, Lackey, Maglione. **Scripture Readers:** Debbie Highmark and Mickie Schmidt.
- **Small Groups** are a great way to get connected. For more information pick up a flyer at the Welcome Center.
- **Men's Bible Study this Friday at 6:30am.** Pastor Polski is leading the men through the Book of Judges. The study takes place on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Friday of each month.
- The **Wednesday Women's Bible study** meets weekly using a hybrid format in the morning (9am). We will also offer a Zoom only study at 7:30pm. The ladies will be studying 1 & 2 Samuel this fall and spring.
- Did you know you can use the **Church Center app** for online giving, to sign up for events, connect with your small groups, bible studies, etc? Contact the church office for assistance.
- If you do not receive our **weekly email updates** on Tuesday mornings, please send your email address to [amymitchell@trinitystlouis.org](mailto:amymitchell@trinitystlouis.org).
- RSVP NOW for a **special evening of Christmas music and poetry**-Sat., Dec. 12th at 5pm or 7pm. This year's concert is *Songs of Hope*. **Space is limited so register your family and friends today on Church Center** or contact Amy at the church office.
- This year we will offer two **Christmas Eve candlelight services:** 4pm and 5:30. Both will be the same. Due to Covid restrictions, **we ask that you go to Church Center to let us know which service you plan to attend.**
- There are **several easy ways to serve at Trinity**. Feel free to reach out to these ministry coordinators if you would like to get involved: **Ushers:** Josh Hendricks ([coachjph@msn.com](mailto:coachjph@msn.com)), **Children's Church:** Melissa Kocher ([medcalf.melissa@gmail.com](mailto:medcalf.melissa@gmail.com)), **Greeters:** Elisa Tharp ([elisa.f.tharp@gmail.com](mailto:elisa.f.tharp@gmail.com)), **Nursery:** Sarah Oehlerking, Deborah Moen, Alyssa Hall, and Ruth Harlow ([nursery@trinitystlouis.org](mailto:nursery@trinitystlouis.org)), **Sunday coffee:** Amy Mitchell ([amymitchell@trinitystlouis.org](mailto:amymitchell@trinitystlouis.org)).
- Trinity's annual **Giving Tree** is in the Narthex. If you would like to make a donation, pick up a tag on the tree and follow the instructions. Donations may be given via Church Center or dropped off in the basket by the tree in the month of December.
- The Session wishes to invite the congregation to our **annual meeting of the congregation/corporation on Sun., Dec. 20th at 5:30pm via Zoom or in-person**. At this meeting we will review the budget, elect officers, and review 2020.
- We are **collecting gently used (clean) toys and coats for the next Robinson Food Pantry Night** on Dec. 18th. You may drop off your donations in the bin in the narthex. We are also collecting new gift bags and tissue paper.

## **Year End Giving**

Thank you for your tithes and offerings for the General Fund and pledges to the Capstone project this year. We will report to you the financial results during the congregational meeting on December 20th. If you have a desire to provide stock to be used for 2020 contributions or any other method, please be sure that this is instructed or sent to the church office prior to December 31. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Duncan Highmark.

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.

