



Winter Grace

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

NOVEMBER 25, 2018

† The Invocation

God of mercy, hear our prayer for ourselves, and for our families and friends who live with the struggles of illness, setbacks, confusion, suffering, and the pain of loss. We ask for strength for today, courage for tomorrow, and peace for the past. We ask these things in the name of Christ, who shares our life in joy and sorrow, death and new birth, despair and promise. Amen.

Interlude

Children are dismissed to attend their classes.

Prayers of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

The Prayer of Confession (minister only)

Our Heavenly Father, we come to You this day to confess our weaknesses regarding our relationship with You; places where our faith is under sharp attack: You know that we come to You with heavy hearts that we find hard to unburden. It is particularly in this time of year when the darkness of long nights collides with the brilliance of Christmas lights, that we find it hard to express our losses, our fears, our doubts, and our struggles. We may be confused, sad, lonely, and feeling our losses without remembering that You are always there to support us. Father, forgive any bitterness or blame-shifting. Sometimes we feel cut off from You because we allow our many hurts to engulf us. We lack trust in You. Open us to the understanding that You are the source of all love, and we need not feel so alone in our grief. Grant us wisdom to know that You—most of all—can be trusted, and that You are with us, especially when we are at our absolute worst.

The Corporate Prayer of Confession

Minister: Lord Jesus, You heal the sick; have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: Lord Jesus, You forgive sinners; have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: Lord Jesus, You give Yourself to heal us and bring us strength;

People: Lord, have mercy.

The Litany of Healing

- Minister: God the Father, Your will for Your people is life and salvation;
Response: We praise You and thank You, O Lord.
- Minister: God the Son, You came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;
Response: We praise You and thank You, O Lord.
- Minister: God the Holy Spirit, You make our bodies the temple of Your presence;
Response: We praise You and thank You, O Lord.
- Minister: Holy Trinity, one God, in You we live and move and have our being;
Response: We praise You and thank You, O Lord.
- Minister: Lord, grant Your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole;
Response: Hear us, O Lord of life.
- Minister: Grant to all who seek Your guidance, and to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent, knowledge of Your will and an awareness of Your presence;
Response: Hear us, O Lord of life.
- Minister: Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;
Response: Hear us, O Lord of life.
- Minister: Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering, granting them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience;
Response: Hear us, O Lord of life.
- Minister: Grant to the dying, peace and a holy death, and uphold by the grace and consolation of Your Holy Spirit those who are bereaved;
Response: Hear us, O Lord of life.
- Minister: Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by human sin, in our lives, in our nation, and in the world;
Response: Hear us, O Lord of life.
- Minister: You are the Lord who does wonders; with You all things are possible:
Response: You have declared Your power among the peoples.
- Minister: With You, O Lord, is the well of life:
Response: And in Your light we see light.
- Minister: Hear us, O Lord of life:
Response: Heal us, and make us whole.

† Closing Meditation *In the Bleak Midwinter*
Text: Christina Rossetti Music: Holst/Dvorak; arr. Keith and Kristyn Getty
(The congregation is invited to join in on Gloria Refrain)

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

*Refrain: Gloria, Gloria! Now my eyes have seen;
Soli Deo Gloria! He salvation brings.
As the Lord has promised, we may go in peace.*

Heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
for the Lord God Incarnate, Jesus Christ. *Refrain*

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wiseman I would do my part.
Yet what I can, I give Him: give my heart. *Refrain*

† The Benediction of God's Grace and the Congregation's AMEN

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip
you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is
pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory forever and ever.
AMEN.

I Will Wait for You

(Psalm 130)

INTRO:

LORD, from the depths I call to you;
 Lord, hear me from on high
 And give attention to my voice
 when I for mercy cry.

ENDING:

I wait, my soul waits for the Lord.
 My hope is in His word.
 More than the watchman waits for dawn,
 my soul waits for the Lord.



1. Out of the depths I cry to You, in
 2. Were You to count my sin - ful ways, how
 3. So, put your hope in God a - lone. Take
 4. Now He has come to make a way, and



dark - est plac - es I will call. In - cline Your ear to me a -
 could I come be - fore Your throne? Yet full for - give - ness meets my
 cour - age in His power to save, com - plet - ly and for - ev - er
 God Him - self has paid the price, that all who trust in Him to -



(Alt. mel. v. 3 & 4)
 new, and hear my cry for mer - cy, Lord. (to v. 2)
 gaze, I stand re - deemed by grace a - lone.
 won by Christ's e - merg - ing from the grave.
 day, find heal - ing in His sac - ri - fice.

CHORUS



(2, 3, 4) I will wait for You, I will wait for You, on Your
 (5th) I will wait for You, I will wait for You, through the



word I will re - ly. I will wait for You, sure - ly
 storm and through the night. I will wait for You, sure - ly



wait for You, till my soul is sat - is - fied.
 wait for You, for Your love is my de - light. (to ending)

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Refrain



We will feast in the house of Zi - on. We will sing with our



hearts re - stored. He has done great things we will say to - ge - ther.

Verse



We will feast and weep no more.

1. We will not be

2. In the dark of

3. Ev - ery vow we've



burned by the fire.	He is the Lord our God.	We are not con -
night be - fore the dawn.	My soul be not a - fraid;	for the pro - mised
bro - ken and be - trayed.	You are the faith - ful One.	and_ from the



sumed by the flood.	Up - held, pro - tect - ed,	ga - thered up.
morn - ing, O how long.	O God of Ja - cob	be_ my strength.
gar - den to the grave.	Bind us to - ge - ther	bring sha - lom.

The Ministry of Prayer Immediately Following the Worship Service

An Invitation

It would be the distinct honor and privilege of our ministers and session to pray over you individually in a more private venue. If you so desire, you may come to one of the rooms listed below, and you will be greeted by one of our ordained staff as well as a few of our elder-shepherds. Special prayer and intercession will be made on your behalf.

James 5:13-16

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

Locations

(1) The John M. Ward Session Room; (2) The Parlor; and (3) The John Knox Room. Any of these rooms may be easily found and accessed as you exit the sanctuary through the door by the lectern. Other staff will be available to direct you as well.

Advent Prayer of Lament

Lord, we look with hope for the day
when there is no more grief,
no more sorrow, no more sin, no more death.
When you return, there will be no sickness,
no more weakness, no more anxiety,
no more failing strength,
but we will be made complete.
We will see You, and our souls will overflow
with joy, worship, and blessings.

Here, we see things darkly,
our hopes are obscured by the suffering that surrounds us
and by the sinful longings of our own hearts.
We prefer comfort to holiness
and our hopes are set on temporary material things,
rather than eternal promises.

Give us a hunger for heaven
by opening our eyes to how far we are from home.
Show us how unsatisfying this world is,
so we can find satisfaction in the Gospel
and cling to Christ alone. Amen.



THE ADVENT SEASON AT TRINITY

December 2 at 8:30 and 11:00 AM ~ Tim Zimmerman and The King's Brass

Tim Zimmerman and the King's Brass will lead the music in morning worship. The King's Brass is an ensemble of nine Christian professional musicians from around the country. They perform over one hundred concerts each season and can be heard on fifteen recordings. Sermon by Claude E. McRoberts, III.

December 2 at 6:00 PM ~ Children's Choirs Christmas Service

The Cherub, Seraphim, Trinity Girls, and Trinity Boys Choirs will lead a candlelight service of Christmas music, including a narration and enactment of the Christmas story by the Cherub Choir (new this year!). Homily by Claude E. McRoberts, III.

December 9 at 6:00 PM ~An Italian Christmas II with the Trinity Youth Choir

The Trinity Youth Choir will present Pergolesi's Magnificat accompanied by chamber orchestra. Homily by Kurt Cooper.

December 16 at 4:00 and 6:00 PM ~ 23rd Annual Service of Lessons and Carols

A beloved Christmas tradition at Trinity featuring the Chancel Choir with orchestra and organ. A festive prelude will begin at 3:45 and 5:45 p.m.

December 24 at 4:00 and 6:00 PM ~ Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion

Holy Communion services with music from the Chancel Choir and guest instrumentalists. Homily by Claude E. McRoberts, III.



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

trinitypca.org