

But as for me, it is good to be near God.

MORNING WORSHIP

The Lord's Day, December 15, 2013 ▪ 8:30 and 11:00 A.M.

The Silent Meditation upon Entering the Sanctuary

*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart,
not reluctantly or under compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver.*

~ 2 Corinthians 9:7

*Then the people rejoiced because they had given willingly,
for with a whole heart they had offered freely to the LORD.*

David the king also rejoiced greatly.

~ 1 Chronicles 29:9

* **THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** [8:25/10:55A.M.]

The Shepherds' Candle, the third candle, is lighted to remind us that the birth of the Messiah was announced to humble shepherds, and that we, straying sheep, must go to Him, believe in Him and tell to others the Good News of salvation. So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby lying in a manger. Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child.

~ Luke 2:15-17

* **THE PRELUDE** "Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying" J.S. Bach

* **THE STRIKING OF THE HOUR**

* **THE CHORAL INTROIT** "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

† **THE CALL TO WORSHIP** *Malachi 1:11; Revelation 4:11* Mr. Howell

Minister: For from the rising of the sun to its setting My name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to My name, and a pure offering. For My name will be great among the nations, says the LORD of hosts.

People: Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they existed and were created.

† **THE HYMN No. 195** "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come" [st. 1, 4] ANTIOCH

† **THE PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION**

† **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

THE ANTHEM “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending” arr. John Rutter

[Words may be found in the *Trinity Hymnal*, page 318]

THE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

† **THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** *Isaiah 53:3-6* Page 780 in the Pew Bible

† **THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON** *Acts 11:27-30* Page 1171 in the Pew Bible

† **THE RESPONSE**

Minister: All men are like grass and all their glory is like the flowers of the field.

People: The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the Word of our God shall stand forever. Amen.

THE HYMN No. 205 “Away in a Manger” CRADLE SONG

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay
Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me for ever and love me, I pray
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And take us to Heaven to live with Thee there.

Children aged four through kindergarten may leave to attend Children's Church.

Following the worship service, please pick up your children from the Children's Chapel in the Covenant Building (E-100).

THE SERMON Mr. McRoberts

MY CHEERFUL RESPONSE TO SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS

Acts 11:27-30; and Selected Christmas Texts

XXIX. Exposition of Acts

INTRODUCTION

I. GIVING IS A PERSONAL DECISION ~ 11:29

II. GIVING IS A JOYFUL DUTY

- A. There is an element in giving that is joyful.**
- B. It is joyful and rewarding to give to the body of believers.**
- C. It is joyful to meet a need.**
- D. It is joyful when we know the cause is worthy.**
- E. It is joyful when we know we are trusting God.**
- F. It is joyful when there is sacrifice included.**

CONCLUSION

THE MORNING OFFERING

The Hymn No. 201 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

ST. LOUIS

THE RECEIVING OF NEW MEMBERS

The Introductions [8:30] Mr. & Mrs. Todd Alexander (Andria)

[8:30] Mr. Johnny Calhoun; Mr. & Mrs. Lee Davis (Amelia)

[8:30] Mr. & Mrs. Kelly Ladner (Lauren); Mr. & Mrs. Chet Swartzentruber (Marian)

[11:00] Mr. & Mrs. Matt Teague (Erin)

† *The Confession of Our Faith*

The Apostles' Creed

Inside front cover of the *Trinity Hymnal*

† *The Vows for Membership*

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

The Sacrament of Baptism

Mr. Johnny Calhoun

Assisting: Ruling Elder Ken Williams

The Prayer of Commitment

† THE CLOSING HYMN “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin’s womb,
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

† THE BENEDICTION

† THE RESPONSE “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

Hail the Heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of
Righteousness

Light and life to all He brings, ris’n with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

† THE POSTLUDE “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” arr. Alfred Fedak

* Indicates seating times for those who are detained† Indicates the congregation standing, as able

2013 Christmas at Trinity Church
The Lord's Day, December 15, at 6:00 p.m.
Carol Sing Service
Special Music from Men's Quartet and Women's Ensemble

The Lord's Day, December 22, 6:00 p.m.
Eighteenth Annual Service of Lessons and Carols
Chancel Choir with Orchestra and Organ
Festive Prelude Begins at 5:45 p.m.

Tuesday, December 24, 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services
Chancel Choir and Guest Instrumentalists



Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a Son. And he called His name Jesus.

WELCOME TO TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

1728 South Hull Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

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P.O. Box 6320, 36106-0320

We cordially welcome in Christ's name all who worship with Trinity Church this morning and evening. If you are new to Trinity, please sign the Friendship Register in the pew and speak to a minister at one of the doors at the close of the service. Audio enhancement units are available from an usher. Please use the Westminster Room as an annex for the morning service when the sanctuary is overcrowded or if you need to worship in a smaller environment. A nursery is available during all worship services. Our morning service is broadcast live at 11 o'clock over WNZZ-AM 950. Services on CD may be ordered through the Bookstore at 334-262-3935. [CCLI #703090]

OUR CHURCH THIS LORD'S DAY, December 15, 2013

The Lord's Day 8:30 A.M. Early Morning Worship/New Member Introductions/Baptism
9:00 A.M. Children's Teachers' Breakfast, Covenant Building, Second Floor
9:45 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship/New Member Introductions
12:15 P.M. Berean Class Lunch in the Westminster
6:00 P.M. Christmas Carol Sing Service
7:15 P.M. Senior High Fellowship at the Home of the McRoberts

FOR PRAYER AND PARTICIPATION, December 16-21, 2013

Monday **11:30 A.M.** Finance Committee Meeting in the John Knox Room
11:30 A.M. 3-M Christmas Luncheon in Trinity Hall
12 Noon Men's Bible Study in the Spires Room

Tuesday **6:45 A.M.** Prayer Breakfast in Trinity Hall

Wednesday **6:30 A.M.** Men's *Search the Scriptures* Study in the John Knox Room
7:00 A.M. Men's Bible Study in the Westminster Room
10:00 A.M. Trinity-led Communion at Oak Grove
10:00 A.M. Preschool Christmas Pageant in Trinity Hall
4:00 P.M. Ministry of Shepherding
5:30 P.M. Executive Committee
5:45 P.M. Diaconate Meeting in the John Knox Room
6:00 P.M. Chancel Choir

Trinity Church Prayer Focus of the Week

For the heart of each Trinity member to engage fully in the reality of the birth of our Savior and to love Him all the more

Missionary Focus of the Week

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

OUR PASTORAL AND MINISTRY STAFF

Claude E. McRoberts, III, Senior Minister

Patrick W. Curles, Executive Minister S. Michael Howell, Minister of Pastoral Care

P. Kurt Cooper, Minister to Youth Todd Alexander, Director of Music and Organist

Rebecca S. Canerday, Director of CE/Women's Ministries Thomas J. Danielson, Director of Missions

Stacy S. Hamilton, Director of Children's Ministries Michael Hogg, Director of Business Operations

Mary Cam Carlson, Youth Ministry Assistant