

THE ORDER FOR MORNING WORSHIP

December 28, 2014 ■ 8:30 and 11:00 A.M.

The Silent Meditation upon Entering the Sanctuary

How could He have given Himself if He had not worn flesh? He offered flesh and gave Himself for us, in order that undergoing death in it, “He might bring to nothing the one who held the power of death, that is, the devil.” For this reason we continually give thanks in the name of Jesus Christ. We do not bring to nothing the grace which came to us through Him. For the coming of the Savior in the flesh has been the ransom and salvation of all creation. ~ Athanasius, 3rd Century

◀ Pre-worship meditation to aid the worshipper in his/her preparation.

The Welcome and Announcements [8:25 and 10:55 A.M.]

The Prelude “Peur Natus Est” Everett Titcomb
Elizabeth V. Arnold, *organist*

◀ A sweet time of final preparation.

The Striking of the Hour

† **The Ascription of Praise** “O Come, All Ye Faithful”
O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem,
Come and behold Him born the King of angels;
*Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord*
Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv’n;
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing; *Refrain.*

◀ A call to those in the seen and unseen worlds to adore the Son of Man.

† **The Call to Worship** Psalm 148:1-6 Mr. Cooper
Minister: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise Him in the heights!
People: Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts!
Minister: Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you shining stars!
People: Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!
Minister: Let them praise the name of the LORD! For He commanded and they were created.
People: And He established them forever and ever; He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

◀ The inspired Word of God calls us to worship the living God.

† **The Hymn No. 218** [stanzas 1, 4, 5] “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

† The Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

† The Lord’s Prayer

◀ The prayer Jesus taught His disciples to pray; we follow their example and pray as the family of God to “our Father in Heaven.”

The Morning Prayers

Minister:

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

The Silent Personal Confession of Sin

Minister:

Lord God! Eternal and Almighty Father, we acknowledge and confess before Your Holy Majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt and in corruption, prone to do evil, unable of ourselves to do any good, who, by reason of our depravity, transgress without end Your holy commandments. Therefore, we have drawn upon ourselves, by Your just sentence, condemnation and death. But, Oh Lord! with heartfelt sorrow, we repent and deplore our offenses. We condemn ourselves and our evil ways, with true penitence, beseeching that Your grace may relieve our distress.

ALL:

Be pleased to have compassion on us, O most gracious God, Father of all mercies, for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. And in removing our guilt and our pollution, grant us the daily increase of the grace of Your Holy Spirit, that acknowledging from our inmost heart our own unrighteousness, we may be touched with sorrow that shall work true repentance, and that Your Spirit, mortifying all sin within us, may produce the fruits of holiness and righteousness well pleasing in Your sight. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Assurance of God's Pardon

Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

The Hymn No. 226

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

Stewardship: *Scriptural Warrant*

Abraham Commended It ~ Genesis 14:18-20; Hebrews 7:4

Jacob Continued It ~ Genesis 28:22

Moses Confirmed It ~ Leviticus 26:1-13; 27:30-34

Malachi Comanded It ~ Malachi 3:10

Jesus Comanded It ~ Luke 11:42

Paul Provided for It ~ I Corinthians 9:13-14; 16:2

◀ This Epiphany Carol reminds us of the visit of the Magi to the young Christ child. Each stanza challenges us to respond to Christ in a fashion similar to the ancient kings.

The Morning Offering

The Christian Greeting

The Anthem

“Still, Still, Still”

arr. Philip Ledger

Steve Lee, *conductor*

Still, still, still, let all the world be still, for Mary lays her Son to rest,
Sings to Him softly at her breast, still, still, still, let all the world be still.

Sleep, sleep, sleep, my dearest baby sleep, the angels all rejoice and sing,
Heav'n for your delight shall ring, sleep, sleep, sleep, my dearest baby sleep.

Joy, joy, joy, my heart is filled with joy, the God of love has left His throne,
Made this humble world His own, joy, joy, joy, my heart is filled with joy.

The Prayer of Illumination

Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning; Grant that we may in such a way hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience, and comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which You have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

† The Reading of God's Word

Acts 24:1-21

† The Response

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

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

The Hymn of Preparation

“Once in Royal David's City”

For He is our childhood's pattern; day by day like us He grew;
He was little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles like us He knew;
And He feeleth for our sadness, and He shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above,
And He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.

◀ All are welcome in the Name of the Head of the Church, Jesus Christ. (Please sign the Friendship Register; pass the register down the pew, then return it. Greet one another at the close of the service.)

◀ Text may be found in the Pew Bible on page 1187.

◀ Our response shows our true condition ~ our glory is like the fading flowers of the field. God's Word is forever!

◀ 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

THE PLOT AND THE PROVIDENCE

Acts 24

LXIII. Exposition of Acts

INTRODUCTION

- I. THE PROSECUTION ~ 24:1-9
 - A. Paul is a troublemaker ... *a political menace to society*
 - B. Paul is a cult-leader ... *a religious heretic*
 - C. Paul desecrated the temple ... *an irreverent man*

- II. THE DEFENSE ~ 24:10-21
 - A. I am not a troublemaker ~ vs. 11-13
 - B. I am indeed a follower of the Way ~ vs. 14-16
 - C. I did not desecrate the temple ~ vs. 17-19

CONCLUSION ~ *Closing Application*

- A. The Prosecution: Be ready! Be Prepared! Don't be surprised!
- B. The Defense: Hold up your head; stand firm; immovable; and tell the truth!

The Receiving of New Members [11:00]

The Introductions

Mr. Mark Hertenstein

Mr. William Stabler

† *The Confession of Our Faith*

The Apostles' Creed

† *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 Closing Prayer of Thanksgiving and Application

◀ The preaching of the Word is the proclamation of God's truth. It is not about the minister or the people; it is about the Spirit of God and His Word that never returns to Him void of accomplishing that for which it was sent.

◀ Words may be found in the *Trinity Hymnal* on the inside front cover.

† The Hymn

“And Can It Be That I Should Gain”

And can it be that I should gain an int’rest in the Savior’s blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

’Tis mystery all! Th’Immortal dies: who can explore His strange design?
In vain the first-born ser-aph tries to sound the depths of love divine.

’Tis mercy all! Let earth adore, let angel minds inquire no more.

’Tis mercy all! Let earth adore; let angel minds inquire no more.

He left His Father’s throne above (so free, so infinite His grace!),
Humbled Himself (so great His love!), and bled for all His chosen race:

’Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me.

’Tis mercy all, immense and free, for O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature’s night;
Thine eye diffused a quick’ning ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.
My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!

Alive in Him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,

Bold I approach th’eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

Bold I approach th’eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

† The Confession of Our Faith [8:30]

The Apostles’ Creed

† The Benediction

Minister: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship
of the Holy Spirit, descend and rest in your hearts until the day breaks
and all these shadows flee away.

People: Amen!

† The Quiet Reflection, Meditation and Personal Application

† The Postlude

“In Dulci Jubilo”

J.S. Bach

† Indicates standing as able

◀ One of the most compelling and moving hymns in our hymnal that expresses such awe, adoration, thanks, and a sense of unworthiness to be included in the number God loved eternally, for whom Jesus died, and the Spirit wooed into the family of God. What an assurance of salvation! What love!

◀ Words may be found in the *Trinity Hymnal* on the inside front cover.

◀ Many in the Trinity congregation have assumed the posture of open palms as a physical expression of humble submission and gracious obtaining of the blessing.

LORD'S DAY VESPERS

CONCLUDING THE LORD'S DAY IN WORSHIP ■ 6:00

Call to Worship

Psalm 131

Mr. McRoberts

O LORD, my heart is not lifted up; my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me. But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned child is my soul within me. O Israel, hope in the LORD from this time forth and forevermore.

Hymn No. 642 – “Be Thou My Vision”

Opening Prayer of Invocation and Praise

Testimonials of God's Past Grace and Future Providence

Hymn No. 670 – “If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee”

Reading of God's Word – Psalm 44

Homily

“Suffering unto Glory
Psalm 44”

Mr. Jere Scott Bradshaw

Hymn No. 211 – “God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”

Benediction

PREPARATION • REFLECTION

GREETING • PRAYER

At 5:45 the congregation is invited to gather in the Sanctuary for prelude music. While this time is meant for personal prayer and preparation for worship, it is also a time to greet one another in Christ. Also at 5:45 there is a brief time of prayer in the Westminster Room with the Minister to pray for the worship service. All are invited and welcome to attend.

◀ Children are dismissed to attend their classes.

◀ Jere Scott is the Assistant Pastor of Discipleship at Community Evangelical Free Church, Elverson, Pennsylvania. He is married to Dorothy Thetford Bradshaw and they have a son William (seven months old).

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK
OUR CHURCH THIS LORD'S DAY, December 28, 2014

The Lord's Day

8:30 A.M. Early Morning Worship
9:45 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship
6:00 P.M. Evening Worship

FOR PRAYER AND PARTICIPATION THIS WEEK

Monday, December 29

12 Noon Men's Bible Study in the Spires Room

Thursday, January 1

New Year's Day

Church Offices and Bookstore Closed

Trinity Church Prayer Focus:

A week of renewal, recommitment, resolve and anticipation; and, of course, safety.

Missionary Prayer Focus of the Week:

Our missionaries who are serving the persecuted church

WELCOME

Welcome to the family of Trinity Presbyterian Church! We believe that the Lord has a purpose in bringing you here today, and we extend to you a genuine greeting as you worship with us. *Everyone is encouraged to sign the Friendship Registers at the center aisle end of the pews.* The Spires Room is set up to provide overflow seating for each Lord's Day morning worship service. Please use this seating when the sanctuary is overcrowded or you have special worship needs. If you are new to Trinity, please speak to a minister at one of the doors at the close of the service and inform him. To find out more about the many opportunities to serve and learn at Trinity, please visit our website, www.trinitypca.org. Audio enhancement units are available from an usher in the Narthex. Our morning service is broadcast live over WNZZ AM 950 at 11:00 a.m. in the metropolitan area and on iHeart Radio on the internet. Archived sermons may be heard at any time on our website: www.trinitypca.org. Complimentary childcare is provided for all worship services.

Our Purpose: To exalt Christ in metropolitan Montgomery by dynamic and faithful worship, aggressive evangelism both at home and abroad, teaching the Word of God, and equipping members to minister to the spiritual needs of our church and community.

**PASTORAL AND
MINISTRY STAFF**

Claude E. McRoberts, III

Senior Minister

Patrick W. Curles

Executive Minister

S. Michael Howell

Minister of Pastoral Care

W. Robert Pendley

Minister of Discipleship

P. Kurt Cooper

Minister to Youth

Todd Alexander

Director of Music and Organist

Rebecca S. Canerday

*Director of Outreach
and Women's Ministries*

Thomas J. Danielson

Director of Missions

Michael Hogg

Director of Business Operations

Stacy S. Hamilton

Director of Children's Ministry

Mary Cam Shaw

Youth Ministry Assistant

Alice DeMoss

Director of Preschool

1728 South Hull Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

P.O. Box 6320
Montgomery, AL 36106

334-262-3892
Fax: 334-262-4469
www.trinitypca.org

CCLI #703090

