



The Third Sunday of Advent

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DECEMBER 13, 2020

MORNING WORSHIP

THE SILENT MEDITATION UPON ENTERING THE SANCTUARY

*O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our LORD Emmanuel.*
— PHILLIPS BROOKS, 1868, O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM



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

We Enter Into God's Presence

The Prelude

Variations on "Noel Nouvelet"
(Now the Green Blade Rises)

French Carol
arr. Kolander-Patterson

Please sit only in open pews and maintain social distancing. Masks are required for attendees over six years old at all times. Those who are not present physically will be invited to stand when able, and to be seated when necessary. Worship is participative and not passive. God has designed us to be physical creatures and sometimes our hearts and minds will follow our posture. Overflow will be in Trinity Hall at 8:30 a.m. and the Spires Room (across from the bookstore) at 11:00.

The Striking of the Hour

Minister: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined. For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

People: **And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.**

† A Beloved Advent Hymn of the Trinity Family

No. 214

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song? [*Refrain*]

Come to Bethlehem and see Him Whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. [*Refrain*]

† The Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

† The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father Which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

The Children's Sermon

THE CHRISMONS OF THE TRINITY

Mr. McRoberts

*Children in third grade and younger are invited to the front steps of the Chancel
for the children's sermon.*

The Prayer for Our Covenant Children

*At the second stanza of "Away in a Manger," Children in first grade and up are dismissed back to
their pew. Children age four through kindergarten may leave to attend Children's Church.
Following the 8:30 worship service, your children will be taken to their Sunday school classes.
Following the 11:00 service, please pick up your children from the Felder Avenue door
of the Covenant Building.*

† A Beloved Advent Hymn of the Trinity Family

No. 204

Away in a Manger

MUELLER

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying He makes;
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky, and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

The Christian Greeting and Announcements

We Receive God's Word

The Prayer of Illumination

† The Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 17:7; Isaiah 7:14

7 And I will establish my covenant between Me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

14 Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

† The New Testament Lesson

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.

The Sermon

GOD WITH US

Mr. McRoberts

Matthew 1:18-25

And in Addition: Various Passages

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Sermon outline on pages 9-10.

The Prayer of Application

We Commune with God at His Table

The Invitation to and Fencing of the Table

Family of God, as we draw near to the Lord's Supper to celebrate Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of Christ, let us be grateful and remember that our Lord instituted this sacrament as a perpetual reminder of His dying for our sakes and as a pledge of His undying love for us.

Therefore, Jesus bids us to come to Him in this sacrament in knowledge, faith, repentance, love, and with hearts hungering and thirsting for Him. If we are willingly and stubbornly living in sin, lacking peace in our relationships with others, secretly relying on our own good works for favor with God, then we are warned by God's Word not to receive this sacrament.

But all who are truly sorry for their sins and long to be delivered from the burden of them; all who are weary from brokenness and long to be filled with the life of Christ; all who are doubting and need the assuring embrace of God; all who humbly put their trust in Christ and desire His grace that they may lead a holy life; and, all who are baptized members in an evangelical church, are invited and encouraged in His name to join us in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Let us therefore come that we be refreshed and find rest for our souls.

If you are not in a saving relationship with God through Christ today, do not take the bread and cup, but take Christ and receive Him in your heart as those around you receive the meal. Then, immediately following the service, come and tell a minister or one of our leaders what you have done so we can prepare you to receive communion next time as a child of God.

† A Beloved Advent Hymn of the Trinity Family

No. 194

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

VENNI EMMANUEL

(stanzas 1, 3, and 5)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell Thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. [*Refrain*]

O come, Thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. [*Refrain*]

† The Confession of Our Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost;
born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and
buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

† The Prayer of Humble Access

The Words of Institution

The Serving of the Meal

“He Shall Feed His Flock Like a Shepherd”
(from Messiah)

G. F. Handel

We Go in Thanksgiving to Serve

✠ A Beloved Advent Hymn of the Trinity Family

No. 207

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
earth and heav'n before Him bow, and He is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

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

✠ The Dismissal by Pew

*Please allow worshippers in the back of the Sanctuary to exit first to allow for social distancing.
Please do not gather or socialize inside the building. Please take all personal items, including
your worship bulletin, with you as you leave.*

✠ The Postlude

Chorale: From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

Johann Pachelbel

GOD WITH US
Matthew 1:18-25
And in Addition: Various Passages

INTRODUCTION

I. WITH ~ A VITAL, UNASSUMING WORD

A. WITH Brings Clarity

1. Herod

Matthew 2:2-3

2. The Magi

Matthew 2:10-11

B. WITH Evokes Conviction

*Exodus 3:6; I Samuel 6:20; II Sam. 6:9; Psalm 51:5; 58:3; Isaiah 6:5;
Ezekiel 1:28; Romans 7:20-21*

C. WITH Provides Confidence

Matthew 1:21; II Corinthians 5:21

D. WITH Conveys Comfort

Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23; Hebrews 4:14-15

II. WITH ~ AN ESSENTIAL, ASSURING WORD

A. God is a Covenant God

Genesis 17:7; 28:15a; Exodus 6:7a

B. The Tabernacle

Exodus 25:8-9; 40:35-38; Numbers 9:15-23

C. The Temple

Psalms 9:11a; 76:2; 132:13

D. Jesus Christ

Matthew 4:23, 24, 5:1-12, 6:25-3, 7:1-5, 8:1-4, 14-17, 12:13, 14:13-21, 15:32-39, 18:11; John 1:14

E. His People

Matthew 29:20; John 14:16-18, 20; Romans 8:10; II Corinthians 6:16; Ephesians 2:22; Colossians 1:27; Hebrews 13:5-6

F. Paradise

Revelation 21:3

CONCLUSION

DEACONS

John Albritton III
Wesley Black
Josh Blades
John Bricken III
Bob Brown
Bo Burks III
Clint Carroll
David Coyne
Nick Freeman
Scott Gilreath
Spears Griffin
Ross Gunnells
Josh Hall III
Ty Howard III
Franklin Johnson
Jake Johnson
Cody Jones
Gerry Lash, Jr.
Braden Lee
Wes Loard, Jr.
Doug Robertson
Davis Smith
Stephen Spooner
David Stanley
Clay Teague
Kyle Trammell
Steve Wales

ELDERS

John Albritton, Jr.
Mark Anderson III
Tommy Bopp
Jason Button
Eddie Carlson, Jr.
Bob Champion
Tom Danielson
L D Fitzpatrick
David Funderburk
Dick Garrett
Rob Godwin
Bart Harmon
Fred Johnson
Chet Moeller II
Ed Patterson
Guice Slawson, Jr.
Scott Speagle
Frank Young III

CHURCH MINISTRY STAFF

Senior Minister

Claude E. McRoberts III

Executive Minister

Patrick W. Curles

Minister of Pastoral Care

S. Michael Howell

Minister of Discipleship

W. Robert Pendley

Minister to Youth

P. Kurt Cooper

Youth Assistant

Shea Henry

Interim Director of Music/Organist

Ed Patterson

Outreach/Director of Women's Ministries

Becky Canerday

Business Administrator

Mike Hogg

Director of Children's Ministry

Stacy Hamilton

Thank you for joining us for worship.

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR ATTENDANCE TODAY. Use this form to indicate your presence with us for worship. Fill out the appropriate sections, tear off, and place the form in the offering plate.

GUESTS

Date _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone (_____) _____

Names and ages of children at home:

☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Widowed

AGE GROUP ☐ 12 and under ☐ 13-17 ☐ 18-25 ☐ 26-35
☐ 36-50 ☐ Over 50

☐ First Time Visitor ☐ Repeat Visitor
☐ Visiting with family/friends ☐ Regular Attender
☐ New Resident

☐ Desire a visit
☐ Interested in knowing more about Trinity
☐ Interested in New Members Class

MEMBERS AND REGULAR ATTENDERS

Please let us know of:

☐ New Address

☐ New Phone (_____) _____

☐ New Email _____

Name _____

To my Elders...

I have the following prayer and/or praise to God:

To my Deacons...

I know of the following situation where assistance is needed:

NAME _____

TODAY'S DATE _____

TELEPHONE _____

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through You, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank You for paying my debt, bearing my punishment and offering forgiveness. I turn from my sins and receive You as Savior. *Amen.*

*(If you are saying this prayer for the first time today,
please let one of the ministers know)*



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