

A SERVICE OF EMOTIONAL, SPIRITUAL, AND RELATIONAL HEALING.

*Winter
Grace*

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA
NOVEMBER 28, 2021

Winter Grace Communion Service

THE SILENT MEDITATION UPON ENTERING THE SANCTUARY

*Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.*

– MATTHEW 11:28-30



The Prelude

Silent Night

arr. Paul Cardall

In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:4-5

*Please maintain social distancing. Masks are requested in the sanctuary;
masks are mandatory in the Westminster Room and in the Spires Room.*

The Striking of the Hour

Opening Scripture

Philippians 4:6-7; John 14:26; Romans 8:26

Mr. McRoberts

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My Name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

† The Call to Worship

Psalm 121

Minister: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?
People: My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.

Minister: He will not let your foot be moved; He Who keeps you will not slumber.
People: Behold, He Who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Minister: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand.
People: The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

Minister: The Lord will keep you from all evil; He will keep your life.
People: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

Minister: Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.



† The Hymn No. 221

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN' ROS'

† 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.

The Interlude

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 Assurance of God's Pardon – Isaiah 61:1-3 (minister only)

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to bring good news to the poor; He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion – to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified

The Affirmation of Our Faith – Romans 8:38-39 (in unison)

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Hymn No. 230 *Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor*

QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE

The Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:1-2, 6-7, 17
Page 1025 in the Pew Bible

The Meditation

“In the Beginning...”

Mr. Howell

The Individual's Silent Prayer for Healing

The Corporate Prayer for Healing (in unison)

Father, mend us and make us better than we could be without You. Take those things that are broken in our lives and visit us with Your healing. And help us to use the strength we receive in Your service, to Your glory!

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.

The Lord's Supper

The Invitation to and Fencing of the Table

Participation requires your reverence and attention, discernment of the Lord's Body, a clear understanding of the meaning of the Lord's Supper, meditation on Christ's suffering and death, self-judgment, sorrow for sin, desire for Christ, feeding on Him in faith, trusting in Him, rejoicing in His love, giving thanks for His grace, renewal of your covenant with God and commitment to Christ, and your special love to all Christians.

The Hymn of Preparation *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

OLIVET

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine:
Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away, O let me from this day be wholly Thine.

May Thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire;
As Thou hast died for me, O may my love to Thee pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire.

The Prayer of Humble Access

The Words of Institution

The Serving of the Meal

The Solo

O Thou, in Whose Presence
Mark Nabholz

Freeman Lewis; arr. Ortega

O Thou, in Whose presence my soul takes delight, on Whom in affliction I call,
My comfort by day, and my song in the night, my hope, my salvation, my all.

Where does Thou, dear Shepherd, resort with Thy sheep to feed them in pastures of love?
Say, why in the valley of death should I weep, or alone in this wilderness rove.

Oh, why should I wander, an alien from Thee, or cry in the desert for bread?
Thy foes will rejoice when my sorrows they see, and smile at the tears I have shed.

He looks, and ten thousands of angels rejoice, and myriads wait for His word;
He speaks, and eternity, filled with His voice, re-echoes the praise of the Lord.

Dear Shepherd, I hear, and will follow Thy call; I know the sweet sound of Thy voice.
Restore and defend me, for Thou art my all, and in Thee I will ever rejoice.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

The Closing Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Lord, we pray for all who have been in attendance this night, that they all may have the inward anointing of the Holy Spirit. And for all those who have prayed - those who have shown mercy — those who have lifted their hands to You in thanksgiving and in supplication — for all present here, O God, we give thanks and ask that You continue with them day by day. Indeed, O Lord, keep us all from all evil, preserve us in all goodness. Bless us so that we may indeed bless others in Your most Holy Name — we ask it in the Name of Christ Jesus — Who taught us to pray together as one family, saying: **Our Father, Which art in Heaven, hallowed by 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 forever. Amen.**

† Closing Meditation

He Will Hold Me Fast

(see page 9)

† 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.

The Postlude

In Dulci Jubilo

J. S. Bach

*In dulci jubilo [In quiet joy]
Let us our homage show
Our heart's joy reclineth
In praesepio [in a manger]
And like a bright star shineth
Matris in gremio [in the mother's lap]
Alpha es et O. [Thou art Alpha & Omega]*

He Will Hold Me Fast



1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
 2. Those He saves are His de - light, Christ will hold me fast;
 3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;



When the tempt - er would pre - vail, He will hold me fast.
 Pre - cious in His ho - ly sight, He will hold me fast.
 Just - ice has been sat - is - fied; He will hold me fast.



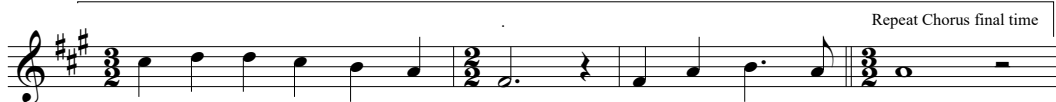
I could nev - er keep my hold through life's fear - ful path;
 He'll not let my soul be lost; His Prom - is - es shall last;
 Raised with Him to end - less life, He will hold me fast



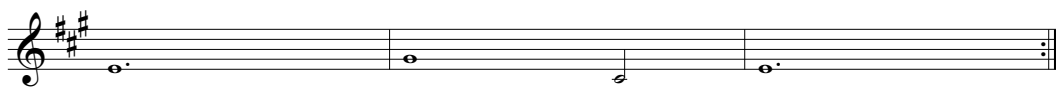
For my love is oft - en cold; He must hold me
 Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me
 Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at



fast.
 fast.
 last!
 He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;



For my Sav - ior loves me so, He will hold me fast.





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.

MIKE COSPER



Christmas at Trinity
ADVENT SERVICES

DECEMBER 5 at 6:00 PM CHILDREN'S CHOIRS CHRISTMAS SERVICE AND PAGEANT

The Cherub, Seraphim, and Covenant Choirs will lead a service of joyful Christmas music, telling the timeless story of Christ's nativity, including a narration and reenactment of the Christmas story by the Cherub Choir. Children's sermon by Claude E. McRoberts, III.

DECEMBER 12 at 4:00 and 6:00 PM 26th ANNUAL SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

A beloved Trinity Christmas tradition featuring the Chancel Choir with harp, string orchestra, and organ, in a program of Christmas music old and new. A twenty-minute harp and orchestra prelude will precede each service. Homily by Claude E. McRoberts, III.

DECEMBER 19 at 6:00 PM THE SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS

The Montgomery Christian Youth Choir will present a service of music, scripture, and poetry, followed by caroling around the city for all who wish to participate. Homily by Kurt Cooper.

DECEMBER 24 at 4:00 and 6:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION

A service of quiet wonder, with Holy Communion and special music, will prepare our hearts to receive the newborn King. Homily by Claude E. McRoberts, III.

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to all who will come,
this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome
in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

trinitypca.org