

*December 9, 2018*

# The Proclamation of Christmas

He's here!



**TRINITY**  
Presbyterian Church

# Order of Worship — Sunday, December 9, 2018

*Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired.*

*Please speak with a greeter or visit the sound booth upstairs for a listening device.*

## Celebrating the Season of Advent - 2018

*The earth holds its breath, waiting. Advent is a season of longing, a yearly representation in our church calendar of the eons spanning from the moment Eve took the first bite of the fruit until that starry night when Heaven touched earth and Christ incarnated, becoming God-man. Fully human. Fully God. Advent culminates in the arrival of Jesus-Messiah in the flesh, born as a human child to the last people on earth who anyone would have chosen to parent a king!*

### Song of Gathering and Preparation

*The people of God always sang as they ascended the hill in Jerusalem up to the temple to worship (see Psalms 120-134). We, as well, prepare our hearts, minds and bodies for worship by singing about the God we serve.*

### Prepare Him Room

*By Rebecca Elliott and Dave Fournier | ©2014 Sovereign Grace Praise (BMI). Sovereign Grace Music, a division of Sovereign Grace Ministries.  
CCLI Song # 7031880, CCLI# 1693489*

O behold the mystery now unfolds  
See the star shine on the virgin foretold  
Angels sing and light up the sky  
Hope rings out in a newborn's cry  
Swing wide you ancient gates for Christ is born today

*Prepare Him room*

*Prepare Him room*

*Let the King of Glory enter in*

God with us the promise has come to be  
This the one the prophets were longing to see  
In the darkness a blazing light  
to the hungry the words of life  
His kingdom now is near for those with ears to hear

*Prepare Him room ... (repeat)*

Oh our hearts as busy as Bethlehem  
Hear Him knock don't say there's no room in the inn  
Through the cradle cross and grave  
See the love of God displayed  
Now He's risen and He reigns  
Praise the Name above all names

*Prepare Him room ... (repeat)*

## **Explanation of Advent Theme: Promise — John Tucker**

*For yours is the kingdom of God. Poverty is everywhere; hunger, loss, fear and childlessness are not just the stuff of a few unfortunate people. The story of Christmas, really the story of the whole Bible, invites us to embrace our own hopeless poverty, like Abraham and Sarah – too old for a promised son – and to believe that the Kingdom belongs to those who know they don't belong. On this second Sunday of Advent, we light a candle to remember the promise of God to make a people for Himself through a special Son. Barren old women, murderers, thieves, and outcasts, the lost and the lonely, the gluttons and the greedy, these are invited to bow before the baby King and rejoice.*

## **Call to Worship/Lighting of Advent Candle**

*We read God's Word, the Bible, together. It reveals to us who God is and what He expects of us.*

*The Harris Family – John 1:1-5, 9-14 (ESV)*

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 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. ... The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

## **Prayer of Adoration and Confession – John Tucker**

*We pray together praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).*

## **Assurance of Pardon**

*We read God's Word together and are reminded that mercy and grace are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.*

*James 4:6 & Isaiah 57:15 (ESV)*

*But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." ... For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.*

## **Worship Through Giving**

*We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of this church and the kingdom of God.*

## **What Child Is This**

*Music by Traditional English Melody "Greensleeves" and Chris Tomlin*

*Words by William Chatterton Dix and Chris Tomlin*

*CCLI Song # 7050422, CCLI# 1693489*

What Child is this who laid to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping

*This this is Christ the King  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing  
Haste haste to bring Him laud  
The Babe the Son of Mary*

So bring Him incense gold and myrrh  
Come peasant king to own Him  
The King of kings salvation brings  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him

*Raise raise a song on high  
The virgin sings her lullaby  
Joy joy for Christ is born  
The Babe the Son of Mary*

*This this is Christ the King ...*

*Nails spears shall pierce Him through  
The cross He bore for me and you  
Hail hail the Word made flesh  
The Babe the Son of Mary*

## **Praise and Celebration**

*Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done for us.*

## **A Baby Will Come**

*By Bill Wolf*

©2010 Broadman Press, CCLI Song # 6010852, CCLI # 1693489

The kings of this world  
Have torn it apart  
But we can take heart  
A baby will come

To the hungry and meek  
To those who grieve  
To the broken in need  
A baby will come

We have known pain  
We've felt death's sting  
God help us believe  
This baby will come

The angel appeared  
Said do not fear  
For peace is here  
A baby has come  
The advent of life  
Let hope arise  
We've our Savior and Christ  
The baby has come  
We've waited so long  
God for Your mighty arm  
May our doubts ever calm  
For the baby has come  
The proud will be low  
The humble will know  
They're valued and loved  
For the baby has come  
Cause the kings of this world  
Won't have the last word  
That God is Yours  
For the baby has come

## **O Come All Ye Faithful**

*By C. Frederick Oakeley and John Francis Wade, arrangement by Rend Collective  
© Public Domain, CCLI Song #7032716, CCLI License # 1693489*

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  
O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord  
Sing choirs of angels  
Sing in exultation  
Sing all ye citizens of Heaven above  
Glory to God  
All glory in the highest

O come let us adore Him ...  
Yea Lord we greet Thee  
Born this happy morning  
Jesus to Thee be all glory given  
Word of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing  
O come let us adore Him ...  
(repeat)

## Confession of Faith

*As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with His people, we declare the substance of what we believe.*

*From the New City Catechism:*

**Q. 49. Where is Christ now?**

**A.** Christ rose bodily from the grave on the third day after his death and is seated at the right hand of the Father, ruling his kingdom and interceding for us, until he returns to judge and renew the whole world.

## Kids' Worship & Community Kids Dismissal

*Infants - Fifth Grade are dismissed. Please see your child's check-in name tag for class assignment.*

## Greeting

*Just as the Apostle Paul urged fellow believers to be hospitable, in the Gospel, Jesus has welcomed us - the worst of sinners - into His home and family. In the same spirit we greet each other to show the hospitality of Jesus.*

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession — John Tucker

*We express in prayer our gratitude to God for what He has done and ask Him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and world.*

## Proclamation of God's Word — Tim Rice, Lead Pastor and Director of Church Planting

*A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our lives and circumstances.*

## Song of Response

*We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.*

## Overcome

*By Chris Brown, Mack Brock, and Steven Furtick*

© 2017 Elevation Worship Publishing, CCLI Song #7067561, CCLI License # 1693489

Now the darkness fades into new beginnings  
As we lift our eyes to a hope beyond  
All creation waits with an expectation  
To declare the reign of the Lord our God

*We will not be moved when the earth gives way  
For the Risen One has overcome  
And for every fear there's an empty grave  
For the Risen One has overcome*

Now the silence breaks in the name of Jesus  
As the heavens cry let the earth respond  
All creation shouts with a voice of triumph  
To declare the reign of the Lord our God

*We will not be moved when the earth gives way ...*

He shall reign forever strongholds now surrender  
For the Lord our God has overcome  
Who can be against us? Jesus our defender  
He is Lord and He has overcome  
(repeat)

*We will not be moved when the earth gives way ...  
(repeat)*

## **Benediction**

*Because the hand of God's wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God's blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.*

*May the LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace,  
both now and forevermore. Amen.*

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## **Seasons of the Cross**

Midnight blue for Advent: Blue has historically been associated with this season, a picture of the darkness before the dawn. In Romans, Paul writes, "For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God ... in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God." Freedom begins with the birth of the Christ. (ref. Rom 8:19, 20b, 21)

## Scripture Passage and Sermon Outline

### Proclamation of God's Word

**Text:** Luke 1:26-38 & 2:8-20 (ESV)

**Title:** The Proclamation of Christmas: He's Here

**Teacher:** Tim Rice

*1:26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup> But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup> And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup> And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup> And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her. ... <sup>2:8</sup> And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. <sup>10</sup> And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" <sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup> And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.*

**Intro:** Why do you think we are so allergic to humility?



## **GOD WITH US = HUMILITY**

Jesus our Immanuel – God with us – comes to the humble.

## **ME AS GOD = ARROGANCE & PRIDE**

In sin, how do we seek to retain *some* measure of control?

## **SHAME, LOSS & DEATH = NEW LIFE**

What has Jesus done to save us, that He calls us to follow?

## **YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...**

1. Read Isaiah 57:15 and worship the LORD for His graciousness to the humble. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for being not only holy and above *all* creatures, but also being especially present with the humble and contrite.
2. How have you lived insisting on being in control? Confess your pride and folly to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and to help you humbly trust Him to be what He says He is – Savior, Christ, the LORD.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for being willing to go to the lowest points in order to rescue us – buried under a mountain of guilt and ruin. *Thank Him for humbling Himself to die for our sins and conquer death as only He could.*
4. Who do you know that struggles with humbling themselves? Pray for them, asking the Lord to help them see the dangers (and deception) of pride *and* the glory of how He humbled Himself to save people like us.
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you the fruit of joy at all God has done to save sinners like us. Pray that, like the shepherds, you would *hear* what God has promised, *pursue* what He has done, and *eagerly tell others* as His Grace changes your life.

## Communication

**Budget Meeting** – TODAY, December 9, in the Sanctuary, directly after the service, we will have our annual congregational meeting to approve our 2019 church budget.

**Church-wide Christmas Breakfast** – Sunday, December 16, 8:45a, in the Fellowship Hall. The breakfast will be a potluck, so pull out all of your award-winning recipes! Sign up to bring food by visiting [perfectpotluck.com](http://perfectpotluck.com) (Last Name: Trinity, Password: Christmas) or call the church office at 863-603-7777.

**Christmas Eve Service** – Monday, December 24, we will gather at 5p for our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior! Nursery available for babies 0-23 months with RSVP to Callie Sandman at [callie@trinitylakeland.org](mailto:callie@trinitylakeland.org) by December 20.

**Year End Giving** – All gifts must be received in the church office, made online or postmarked by Monday, December 31 (the church office will be open regular hours on this day) to be included on your 2018 Giving Statement. Please contact Frank McCaulley, 863-286-5007, to donate stock or arrange for gift pick up or drop off.

**New Member Class** – Friday, January 25, 6-9p and Saturday, January 26, 8:30-11:30a. This class is for anyone interested in becoming a member or learning more about Trinity. Dinner and breakfast will be provided. Please RSVP so materials may be prepared. Contact Molly Murphy at [molly@trinitylakeland.org](mailto:molly@trinitylakeland.org) for questions or to reserve your spot!



### PROGRESS REPORT

GOAL:	\$957,000
COMMITTED:	\$1,012,700.56
GIVEN:	\$967,065.56

### PROJECTS

**COMPLETED:** Roof & Continued Church Planting Support

**IN DESIGN:** Accessible Restroom, Railing & Sanctuary Renovation

### Ushers

Matt Tucker, HEAD  
Mike Wells, HEAD

Debbie Blankenship  
Ken Breathitt

Gary Blankenship  
JR Pierce

Bill Bracken  
Greg Valentine

# CALENDAR

For more information and additional calendar items,  
visit our website at [trinitylakeland.org](http://trinitylakeland.org).

\* Childcare provided

## SUNDAY (December 9)

8:00 am Prayer

\*8:45 am CG Leader Cohort

\*10:15 am Worship Service

12:00 pm Budget Congregational Meeting

6:00 pm College-ish (offsite)

## WEDNESDAY (December 12)

6:00 pm Middle & High School Worship

## SUNDAY (December 16)

8:00 am Prayer

8:45 am Churchwide Christmas  
Breakfast

\*10:15 am Worship Service

6:00 pm College-ish (offsite)

# WELCOME TO TRINITY!

We're so glad you are here.

Name (Please Print)

Gender:  Male  Female

Spouse

Children (Include DOB for Children's Ministry)

Address: Street

City/State

Country/Zip

Phone

E-mail Address

First-Time Visitor

Regular Attendee

Member

College Student @ \_\_\_\_\_

Update my contact information

I would like to receive:

Worship Folder & Announcement Emails

I would like information about:

Joining a Community Group

Upcoming New Member Class

Women's Bible Study

Student Ministry

Children's Ministry

Volunteering with children

\_\_\_\_\_

