



D THE
WELLING
of God



ADVENT

*Exodus 25:1-2, 8-9;
29:43-46; 40:33-38*



TRINITY
Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP | December 17, 2023

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 - 2023

The earth holds its breath, waiting. Advent is a season of longing. It is 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, born in the flesh to the last people on earth who anyone would have chosen to parent a king!

SONG OF GATHERING & 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.

A Baby Will Come

EXPLANATION OF ADVENT THEME | Law

CALL TO WORSHIP | Romans 8:18-23; 28 (ESV)

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

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, 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. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ... And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

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 | Romans 8:1-4, 9-11 (ESV)

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

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ... You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

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 His church and the kingdom of God.

Grace

PRAISE & 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.

Angels We Have Heard On High

It Is Done

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. 51. Of what advantage to us is Christ's ascension?

A. Christ physically ascended on our behalf, just as he came down to earth physically on our account, and he is now advocating for us in the presence of his Father, preparing a place for us, and also sends us his Spirit.

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

We are called to publicly confess our faith in the grace of God, to participate in the rituals of entrance into the people of God and to acknowledge our membership with His people.

Dave & Nanette Helm

Frank McCaulley

Jude Wilson

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The ritual of baptism is a sign and seal of the grace we have in Jesus. It symbolizes the cleansing all people need before they are acceptable to God (sign), and it makes how real God's promise is for who will trust in Him (seal).

Hallie Anne Fagan

KIDS' WORSHIP & COMMUNITY KIDS' DISMISSAL (Infants - 5th Graders)

Please see your child's check-in name tag for class assignment.

GREETING

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

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.

We Will Dwell

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.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE & SERMON OUTLINE

Proclamation of God's Word

Text: Exodus 25:1-2, 8-9; 29:43-46; 40:33-38 (ESV)

Title: The Dwelling of God

Teacher: Tim Rice

25:1 The LORD said to Moses, 2 "Speak to the people of Israel, that they take for me a contribution. From every man whose heart moves him you shall receive the contribution for me. ... 25:8 And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst. 9 Exactly as I show you concerning the pattern of the tabernacle, and of all its furniture, so you shall make it. ... 29:43 There I will meet with the people of Israel, and it shall be sanctified by my glory. 44 I will consecrate the tent of meeting and the altar. Aaron also and his sons I will consecrate to serve me as priests. 45 I will dwell among the people of Israel and will be their God. 46 And they shall know that I am the LORD their God, who brought them out of the land of Egypt that I might dwell among them. I am the LORD their God. ... 40:33 And he erected the court around the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the screen of the gate of the court. So Moses finished the work. 34 Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. 35 And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. 36 Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. 37 But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. 38 For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.

INTRO: *Where has your favorite dwelling place been?*

I WILL LIVE HERE

What does it say that the LORD desires to dwell among His people?

ACKNOWLEDGING ALIENATION

Why does anything have to be veiled?

THE MARKERS OF GRACE

How does the healing of alienation depend upon God's work rather than ours?

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Worship the LORD, God Almighty, who fills the heavens and the earth. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for His holy Presence and His mercy to make His Presence open to us in Christ.
2. How have you lived as if God's Presence is irrelevant? Confess your spiritual numbness to Jesus, asking Him to cleanse you of your sin (that separates you from Him) and to heal your hardness of heart.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for His work to cleanse us so that His Spirit *could* inhabit us. Thank Him for tearing open the curtain of separation so that we could enter in to be with God and that He can enter into us.
4. Who do you know that ignores the Presence of God while they passionately seek the presence of other people in their life? Pray for them, asking the Lord to help them realize their need for Jesus.
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to awaken you to the miracle of His indwelling Presence. Pray for His fruit of joy in your heart, *especially as you see the staggering privilege of having God's Presence sealed to you eternally in Christ.*

Welcome to Trinity!
We would love to connect with you.
Please scan on the QR code to get connected
and let us know of any prayer requests
you may have.



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Communication

Visit trinitylakeland.org/events to register.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

December 24, 4p & 5:30p.

Contact the church office for information.



The Weekender - New Member Class

January 19, 6-8:30p & January 20, 9a-12p.

Contact [Ashley Coleman](#) for information.



High School Winter Retreat

February 9-11

Contact [Brown Peterson](#) for information.

Community Bible Reading

communitybiblereading.org

December 18-23, 2023

(3-year plan: read [blue](#) passages | 1-year plan: read [all](#))

Monday	Matthew 19 Ecclesiastes 2	1 Samuel 15 Zechariah 10
Tuesday	Matthew 20 Ecclesiastes 3	1 Samuel 16 Zechariah 11
Wednesday	Matthew 21 Ecclesiastes 4	1 Samuel 17 Zechariah 12
Thursday	Matthew 22 Ecclesiastes 5	1 Samuel 18 Zechariah 13
Friday	Matthew 23 Ecclesiastes 6	1 Samuel 19 Zechariah 14
Saturday	Psalm 104	Psalm 52 Psalm 149

Scripture Memory for the Week:

Exodus 29:45-46 (ESV)

45 I will dwell among the people of Israel and will be their God. 46 And they shall know that I am the LORD their God, who brought them out of the land of Egypt that I might dwell among them. I am the LORD their God.

Office Hours:

Mon - Fri | 8:30a - 5:00p

Sunday Worship | 10:30a

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Mission

A city transformed: Loved by God the Father, saved by Jesus His Son,
empowered by His Spirit, called by God to reach our city with His love.