

ETERNAL HOPE IN THE MIDST OF WAR

# THE CONFRONTATION OF CHRISTMAS

MATTHEW 1:18-25



TRINITY  
Presbyterian Church

# ORDER OF WORSHIP | Sunday, December 6, 2020

*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 - 2020

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 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 & 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.

Angels We Have Heard on High

## EXPLANATION OF ADVENT THEME

### CALL TO WORSHIP/ADVENT CANDLE | John 1:1-5; 9-14 (ESV)

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

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 & 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 | Philipians 2:5-11 (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.

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## 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.

It Is Done

## **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.

Living Hope

God With Us

## **KIDS' WORSHIP DISMISSAL**

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

## **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 | David Springer, Director of Campus Outreach**

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

## **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.*

*The Apostles' Creed:* I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

*The ritual meal of Communion is a sign and seal of the grace we have in Jesus. That is, it symbolizes the work Christ did for our salvation (sign) and communicates the grace and mercy we have been given (seal) as a result of His death and resurrection.*

## **SONG OF RESPONSE**

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

Prince Of Heaven

## **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:** Matthew 1:18-25 (ESV)

**Title:** Eternal Hope In The Midst of War: The Confrontation of Christmas

**Teacher:** David Springer

<sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: <sup>23</sup> "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup> but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

## JOSEPH'S CONTEMPLATION

## JOSEPH'S CONFRONTATION

## JOSEPH'S CONFIRMATION

### YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Worship Jesus Christ, the one whose name is above every other name! He is Immanuel, God with us. And He is the Savior of the world!
2. Who sits on the throne of your life? Is your life marked by an allegiance to His rule and reign?
3. Consider the places where you have acted independently from God. Contemplate the distress this has caused you and others. Confess your pride and independence before the Lord.
4. Give thanks to the Lord for His loving confrontation in your life. Thank Jesus for his mercy in taking you off the throne and giving you His Spirit to dwell with you.
5. Who in your life could benefit from spiritual intervention? Pray for them, asking the Lord to move toward them. In what tangible way(s) can you invite them to consider Jesus?

## WELCOME TO TRINITY!

We're so glad you are here.

Please place completed tear-off in offering plate.

Name (Please Print)    Gender  Male  Female

Spouse

Children (Include DOB for Children's Ministry)

Address

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:

- Children's Ministry     Student Ministry  
 College Ministry     Volunteering  
 Community Group     Women's Ministry  
 Men's Ministry     Worship  
 New Member Class  
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### Prayer

How can our staff pray for you?

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## Community Bible Reading

[communitybiblereading.org](http://communitybiblereading.org)

December 7 - 12, 2020

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

Monday	Matthew 13 Proverbs 26	1 Samuel 8 Zechariah 4
Tuesday	Matthew 14 Proverbs 27	1 Samuel 9 Zechariah 5
Wednesday	Matthew 15 Proverbs 28	1 Samuel 10 Zechariah 6
Thursday	Matthew 16 Proverbs 29	1 Samuel 11 Zechariah 7
Friday	Matthew 17 Proverbs 30	1 Samuel 12 Zechariah 8
Saturday	Psalms 102	Psalms 50 Psalms 148

### Scripture Memory for the Week:

#### Matthew 1:20 & 24-25 (ESV)

<sup>20</sup> 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." ... <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup> but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

### Communication

Register for events at [trinitylakeland.org/events](http://trinitylakeland.org/events)



#### Budget Meeting

December 6 directly after the service.  
We will meet in the Fellowship Hall.



#### Parker Street Ministries Christmas Store

Pricing Night - December 8, 6p  
Bike Assembly Night - December 9, 6:15p



#### Christmas Eve Services

December 24, [5:00p](#) & [6:30p](#)  
Live Stream, 6:30p

### Office Hours:

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

301 N Florida Ave, Lakeland, FL 33801

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