

Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023 - 8:30 & 11:00 AM

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?"—Isaiah 40:6

Prelude

I Waited for The Lord

Felix Mendelssohn

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Sandy and Bud Weeks, Diane and Jim Smelker

The Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory.

Alleluia!

***Hymn 106**

"Prepare the Way, O Zion"

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Dear God, our love for you is like a candle flame. When things are calm, our love shines brightly. But when we get worried, our love flickers. When things go wrong, it feels like we're walking in deep darkness. God, forgive us when our love for you dies away like a candle that's burned down. Fill us with your love, so that ours burns more brightly; in Jesus's name. Amen.

Silent Meditation and Assurance of Pardon

***Congregational Response 582**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Passing of the Peace

Gospel Lesson

Mark 1:1–8

Anthem

Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts

Camille Saint-Saëns

A Prayer for Children

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 40:1–11

Sermon

Winter's Lament, Winter's Hope Dwight Christenbury

***Hymn 123**

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

***Affirmation of Faith** (*responsive*)

The Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, p. 35)

Minute for Mission

Special Offerings: Christmas Joy

Betty Lockwood

Announcements and Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Invitation to Giving

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn

"The Time Has Come"

(Words by John L. Bell and Graham Maule; tune, SUSSEX CAROL)

1 **The time has come**
when, from the past,
prophetic words ring true at last;
though earth's hostilities increase,
God's promise is of lasting peace.
Hallelujah! Prepare the way.
Hear what God's chosen
prophets say.

2 **The time has come**
to make it known
that ev'ry tear and pain and groan
are registered in heaven above
to be redeemed by holy love.
Hallelujah! Prepare the way.
Only love lifts us
from dismay.

3 **The time has come**
to make amends:
earth and its people should be friends.
Erase the policies of death,
Spread hope with every vital breath.
Hallelujah! Prepare the way.
God gladly comes to
earth to stay.

4 **The time has come**
to share good news,
to sweep the floor and mend the shoes,
prepare to protest, praise and dance
for God is eager to advance.
Hallelujah! Expect a birth;
God's gracious feet will
touch the earth.

*Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Prelude & Fugue in E minor

J.S. Bach

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Worship Notes: *The Prayer of Confession is adapted from Wild Goose Big Book of Liturgies (Glasgow, Scotland: Iona Community, 2017), p. 15.*

LITURGIST(S): Jan Prichard, Nancy Williard

PROJECTIONS: Russ Russell, Bud Weeks

LIVESTREAM: Duane Johnson, Jim Kisner,
Conrad Shannon, Jim Smelker, Paul Soltesz

FLOWERS: Given by Kathy Steinbaugh in remem-
brance of her Mom's birthday

LAST SUNDAY ATTENDANCE: 148

WORSHIP TEAM

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Mark Stanley

Associate Pastor: Rev. Dwight Christenbury

Minister of Visitation: Sally Beghtol, C.P.

Music Director: Stephen Klein

Section Leaders: Katie Cilluffo, Eric McAnallen,
Beth Pensiero

Percussionist: Don Widmayer

TRINITY TEAM

Maintenance Facilitator: Jim Kisner

Treasurers: Tom Karvonen, Bev Luzadder

Financial Secretary: Diane Bowers

Bookkeeper: Lynne Meluch, Angela Kuykendoll

Tellers: Sue Robinson, Robin Hodgson,
Pat Harter, Betty Lockwood

Nursery Staff: Mary Haskins, Sierrah Haskins

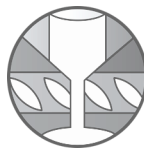
This congregation welcomes you without regard to race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, education, economic circumstance, your place of origin or any other issue that divides God's family. We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors wide open. If you are passing through, Godspeed. If you are looking for a worship home, stay with us. We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often.



PC(USA)
June 10, 1983



Presbytery of Western
North Carolina



More Light
Presbyterians



a Matthew 25
Church



Fuente de Vida
Guatemala



an Earth Care
Congregation

SUNDAY - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:45 Learning Hour:

- *Lectionary Class (Trinity Room)*
- *Issues & Concerns Class (Classroom 207)*
- *Hashing It Out (Lounge)*
- *Youth Learning Hour*

9:45 Officer Training

10:30 Choir Rehearsal

11:00 SUNDAY WORSHIP

5:00 ManKind Project Open Men's Circle

MONDAY

9:00 Finance Team

10:00 New Member Subcommittee

3:30 Tai chi - Beginners

4:00 Tai chi - Intermediate

5:30 Local Missions Ministry Mtg.

6:30 Session Meeting

TUESDAY - HABITAT FUNDRAISER & FOAM RECYCLING

9:00 Staff Meeting

10:00 Coffee Group

3:00 Origami Group

4:30 Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser

WEDNESDAY

10:00 Esther Circle

10:30 Friends in Christ

1:00 Spanish Class

4:00 Global Missions Ministry Mtg.

4:00 THE LONGEST NIGHT PRAYER SERVICE

7:30 Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

10:00 New Member Ministry Mtg.

11:00 Zoom: Between the Lines Book Group

12:30 Luopad Party

3:30 Tai chi - Beginners

4:00 Tai chi - Intermediate

6:30 Cub Scouts

FRIDAY

9:30 Feed The Kids

SATURDAY

9:30 Swing Band Rehearsal

SUNDAY - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS JOY

SPECIAL OFFERING

8:30 SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:45 Learning Hour:

- *Lectionary Class (Trinity Room)*
- *Issues & Concerns Class (Classroom 207)*
- *Hashing It Out (Lounge)*
- *Youth Learning Hour*

9:45 Officer Training

10:30 Choir Rehearsal

11:00 SUNDAY WORSHIP

12:15 Matthew 25 Ministry Mtg.

5:00 ManKind Project Open Men's Circle

Weekly Calendar: Dec 10 - 17

Contacts (office/pastoral business) during the week

Mark Stanley: 828-553-6425, jmstanley1@msn.com

Dwight Christenbury: 828-545-2590, dc.trinity@mac.com

Sally Beghtol: 828-280-2045, rsbeghtol@bellsouth.net

Katie Cilluffo: 828-692-6114, trinitypresbyterianpcusa@gmail.com

PRAYER CONCERNS In Sympathy: Leah Epps upon the loss of her mother Dorothy; the family of Marian Lowry **Hospice:** Cathy O'Neal **Hospital:** Bill Payne; Robert Walker; Don Steele (Carole Steele's father) **Rehab/Nursing:** Neena Haskins (Carolina Reserve); Jane Sugawara (Tore's Home); Jack Caylor (HHR); Ruth Mills (CV Care Center); Kaye Papazian (Arbor Terrace); Nell Payne (Brookdale); Nancy Underwood (Florida); Julia Sellers (Durham); Jerry Miller (Indiana); **Home:** Linda Walker; Bob Daley (Cynthia Moser's brother); Anne Wright; Brian Dillon; Evans Thibodeau; Steven Lockwood (Betty's son); Paul Hugger; Bob McLean (Judy Groff's brother); Diane Purnell; Kim Henderson (Kisner's daughter); Ken Sugawara; Jeremy King's daughter; Bruce Crossman; Jay, Lorrie, & Robert Pelc (Carole Ball's family); Carolyn Erickson; Fitz Sthresley; Paul Soltesz; Nancy Twitchen; Dan Green; Katie Hankla; Gillian Vaughan (Edie Clark's granddaughter); Sandra Dwork; Helen Dearborn; Kim & Jason Ball; Julee Gray (Kuykendoll's friend); Lauren McBride (Kuykendoll's daughter); Barbara Nichols; Bud Weeks; Jim Emme; Jim Luzadder; Irene Lunsford, T.K. Owens (family of Dolly Owens & Nancy Twitchen); Barbara Pickwood; Alice McCullough; Dave Morrison; **Others:** our mission coworkers and the people of Madagascar and Guatemala, our sister church Fuente de Vida, the people of Israel and Palestine, Sudan, Ukraine and Russia, and those harmed by new anti-LGBTQIA+ legislation and by gun violence.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL GUIDES AVAILABLE. Pick up your copy on the purple narthex table (one copy per household, please). Many thanks to all authors and artists who contributed!

THE MITTEN TREE is ready to receive your warm gifts for those in need this Christmas Season! All donations taken to IAM. Thanks for sharing the wonder of the season!

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS! To support the poinsettia fund this season in honor or memory of loved ones, visit the "Sign-ups" page on our website or fill out a form (on the ushers' table) and bring into the office.

ADVENT IS HERE. Mark your calendar for these seasonal events:

- **Prayer Service for the Longest Night:**
Wed., Dec. 13, 4:00 p.m.
- **Christmas Eve Morning Worship:**
Sun., Dec. 24, 10:00 a.m. (*single service*)
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service:**
Sun., Dec. 24, 7:00 p.m.

More details in the December Tidings issue.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: DRIVE-THRU DINNER Dec 12, 4:30 - 6:30 PM. Photos with Santa, festive decorations, and Christmas "carol-e-oke"! Come pick up your meal (if ordered) or just to say "hi" and see the decorations. Members of the Trinity choir will be singing, but ANYONE is welcome to come sing a few tunes with us. Easy Christmas carols and we will have all the words for you! Bring a friend, bring a grandkid, and have fun. And "bon appetit!"

LEAD WORSHIP DURING ADVENT. You're invited to light a candle on the Advent wreath and share a reading with the congregation on the Sundays of Advent. If interested, please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex; see Dwight Christenbury if you have questions. Thank you!

MANY THANKS TO OUR CHRISTMAS DECORATING CREW! They are Julie Carter, Vickie Hugger, Duane Johnson, Jim Kisner, Claire and Bob Lux, Don Osterberg, Sarah Thibodeau, and Sandy and Bud Weeks; we couldn't have done it without them!

2024 FLOWER RESERVATIONS ARE HERE: Head to "Sign-Ups" on our website to reserve Sunday sanctuary flowers in honor or memory of your special events or loved ones.

DEATH CAFÉ Mon, Dec 18 at 4pm. We practice gentle listening, sharing stories of loss, fear, and grief from deep within our hearts. Death Café meets monthly in the lounge. Light refreshments are served. New and returning members are always welcome.

VISITORS Would you like to join Trinity? Let Mark or Dwight know. We look forward to welcoming you as a member!