

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 21, 2025

Gathering
Welcome
Announcements and Prayer

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Today, we come face to face with the scandal of Advent: Mary, the unmarried mother; God Incarnate growing in Mary’s womb as a vulnerable baby; Joseph contemplating leaving Mary because of her pregnancy; God’s love at work in ways that society and propriety could not understand; God calling Mary and Joseph to faithfulness despite the fear of disgrace.

With Mary and Joseph, we choose to wait, watch, and listen for the way of Love instead of responding in fear to the world’s judgment.

We light this candle of love as a sign of our faithfulness as we seek, find, and follow Emmanuel, God with us.
Light the fourth candle of the Advent wreath.

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------|
| *Opening Hymn | “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (vs. 1-4) | 211 |
| *Canticle of Mary | | 199 |
| *Psalter | Psalms 80 (Response 1) | 801-802 |
| *Gloria Patri | | 70 |
| Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen. | | |

Passing of the Peace: Let us greet one another with words of love and peace.

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------|
| “Let the Children Come!” | Patsy Boggs | |
| | (Those 3 years of age through 8 years of age may go to Children’s Church.) | |
| Scripture Lessons | Isaiah 7:10-16 | Page 606 (O.T.) |
| | Romans 1:1-7 | Page 144 (N.T.) |
| *Gospel Lesson | Matthew 1:18-25 | Page 7 (N.T.) |

Prayer of the People for Advent
Prayer of Confession
The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings
Offertory
*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Celebration of the Great Thanksgiving for Advent

Cantata “The Long Expected One”

*Dismissal With Benediction
*Benediction Response “May the Lord, Mighty God, Bless and Keep You”

*Please Stand As You Are Able

Leading in Worship Today

Pastor: Rev. Darlene L. Kelley
Music Director: Christopher A. McCroskey
AV Director: Marie Stiles
AV Assistants: Chris Derrick; Erin Derrick
Time Together: Joyce Robinson; Slone Taylor

VISITORS ARE WELCOME in the service of worship! Please make use of the visitor’s tags (located in the pew backs) to help us better welcome you as a visitor to Trinity this morning. We ask that you also please fill in the pew pad as it passes to register your attendance with us. Large print hymnals are available from the ushers.
You may join as a member into the life and work of this congregation by Confession of Faith or by Transfer of Membership from another church. If you would be interested in becoming a member, please speak to the pastor.

TODAY’S LOVELY FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Amanda Meek Snow, by Edwa Meek and Patsy Meek Boggs.

“AS MEMBERS OF THIS CONGREGATION, WE WILL FAITHFULLY PARTICIPATE IN ITS MINISTRIES BY OUR PRAYERS...

Marie Stiles Marilyn Lloyd Ruth Frady Rhett Hook Libby Strickland Christopher McCroskey
EmGLISH Pearcy Diane Muszynski Ray Frady Latson Lewis Jeanette Hornsby John Ballentine
Hannah Glanz Hilda Edwards Fran Laska Kaye Floyd Jan Stamps

Shut-Ins: Gillett Hipp; Linda Maloch; Jean Raynor

Family and Friends: Donna Eidson (former Trinity pastor); Ghent Brewer (brother-in-law of Jeanette Hornsby); Kim & Sandra Meetze (friends of Martha Cooke); Dave Griffin (husband of Chantel Griffen); Matt Imel (husband of Holley Gleaton Imel); Cayla Watters (friend of Karen Carter); Tommy Stokes (nephew of Joyce Robinson); Kati Flowers (mother of friend of Blake Kamoroff); Berry Cochran (son-in-law of Charlyn McNeill); Jim Lewis (father of Mark Lewis); Christina Lindemuth (daughter of Karen Carter); James Leonard (previous coworker of Mark Lewis); Kathleen Varnadore (Ted & Ruth Frady’s neighbor); Paul Frenzel (friend of Chris Derrick); Sissy Henry (former member of Trinity), Keith James, Jay Clark (friends of Darlene Kelley); Sean & Tucker Smith (cousins of Darlene Kelley); Sonny Hardee (brother of Lynn Martin); Colby Martin (son of Donna Muszynski); Lynne Powell (friend of the Ballentines and Branhams); Bryan Collard (brother-in-law of Mary Sue Lewis); ; Michael McNeill (brother of Mary Sue Lewis); Mary Davis (daughter of Bob & Libby Strickland); Chuck Hardee (cousin of Lynn Martin); Bruce Beatty, Sandra Hornsby, Gloria Erd, Gwen Scott, Dana Ammer (friends of Lynn Martin); Nancy Wilson (friend of Jeanette Hornsby); David & Kristen Turner (brother and sister-in-law of Pam Turner); Chip Mixon (friend of Tommy Gleaton); James Boggs (father of Claire Boggs); Robert Bradley (Business Associate of Simon Ross); Monnie Tiller (friend of Chris Derrick); Adrin & Linda Hargett (stepfather and stepmom of Christopher McCroskey); Haidee Baehr (friends of Ruth Frady); Denise Paul, Scott & Karen Nelson (cousins of Gale Frady); Dan Conner, Max Johnson (friends of Gale Frady); Janet Beck (friend of Jo Ann Heiting); Adam Lavender (son of Phil Lavender)

If you have a friend or family member on the Prayer List, we ask you to please keep us updated. If no word is received, we will trust that our prayers have been answered and remove the name. To update us, please call the office or e-mail us at trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com.

OUR PRESENCE ...

In-Person Attendance 12/14 SS: 10 Worship: 34

OUR GIFTS ...

General Fund 12/14 \$ 2,825.00

OUR SERVICE ...

OUR WITNESS.”

Upcoming Events

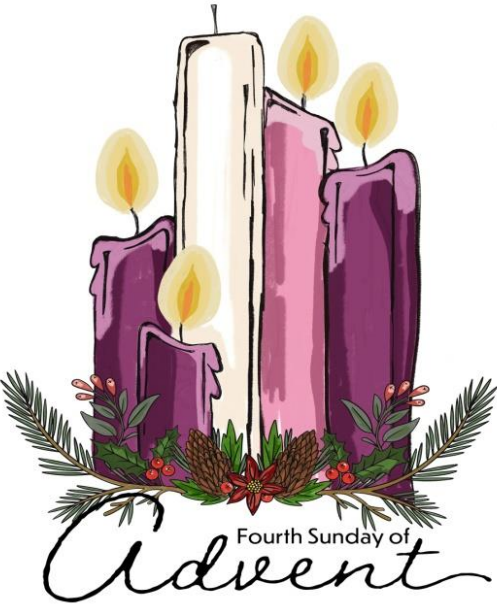
- 12/23 Fellowship Hall Reserved, 5 p.m.
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service, 6 p.m.
Office Closed
- 12/25 Christmas Day
Office Closed
- 12/26 Office Closed



| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Ministers | The Congregation |
| Pastor | Darlene L. Kelley |
| Resident Bishop | Leonard Fairley |
| District Superintendent | Rev. Fran M. Elrod |

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our vision is to Connect, Nurture, Inspire and Transform



1201 Mohawk Drive
West Columbia, SC 29169
Telephone: 803.794.7777
E-mail: trinityumcwc@sc.rr.com
Website: www.trinityumcwc.org



Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service
Wednesday, December 24
6 p.m.



Taste of Trinity
Sunday, December 28

Taste of Trinity, our church-wide covered dish luncheon, will be held on **Sunday, December 28**, following worship. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to share great food and fellowship!



Every year envelopes are placed on the tree in the Gathering Area to support one or more charitable causes. This year it will support **God's Helping Hands Project Share**, which helps with utility bills, and **Nancy K Perry Children's Shelter** in Lexington. Just pick an envelope from the tree, include your contribution and place it in the offering plate on any Sunday or drop it off at the Church Office. We ask that all donations be in by December 31. Your generosity is always appreciated.

The Long Expected One

Trinity United Methodist Church Choir

Music Director: Christopher A. McCroskey
Narrator: Dan Greshel
Visuals: Erin Derrick

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” | Choir |
| | Jo Ann Heiting, Soloist |
| “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel/A Virgin Shall Conceive” | Choir |
| “Mary, Did You Know?” | Choir |
| | Mary Louise Robinson, Soloist |
| “Away in a Manger” | Children |
| | Rhett Hook, Guitar |
| “Angels from the Realms of Glory” | Choir |
| “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” | Choir |
| “Go Tell It on the Mountain” (Reprise) | Choir |
| “The Star” | Duet |
| | Dan Greshel & Laurie Knapp |
| “He Is Born” | Choir |
| “Joy to the World” | 246 |
| | Choir & Congregation |

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR ADVENT



The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us turn our eyes to the sky and
look for the star.

**Let us look to Jesus,
the Light of the World.**

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**God will speak peace to his people,
to those who turn to him in their hearts.**

When he humbled himself
to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the
foundation of the world to open for us the way of salvation. Confident that your
promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come
again in glory. And so we join our voices
with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory,
for ever praising you and singing:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna, in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, in the highest.

He is the one foretold by all the prophets, whom the
Virgin Mary bore with love beyond all telling.
John the Baptist was his herald
and made him known when at last he came.

In his love Christ fills us with joy
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
so that when he comes again He may find us watching in prayer, our hearts filled with
wonder and praise.

**Jesus, may the light of Your Love always shine in our hearts. As Christmas
draws closer, we marvel at your great Love for us. Let your Love
transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter. Our
hearts are open to You, O Emmanuel.**

Accept our praises, Almighty God, through your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and as
we follow his example
and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread
and wine
may be to us his body and his blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;

He broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is
given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks; He gave it to his disciples saying: Drink this, all
of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Pour out your Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and cup. May
they be for us the living body and blood of Christ, Emmanuel, God's Love with us. By
your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the
world until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church all honor and
glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.
AMEN.

Prayer of Confession for Advent

Almighty God, Light of the World,

You caused light to shine out of darkness in the advent of Jesus our Christ; you constantly open to us the ways we are to prepare. We confess our unwillingness to see the light and to walk in your ways.

We have not always opened our eyes to the needs of others, and our feet have wandered from the paths of justice and peace. We ask that the Spirit of Christ be born anew within us, that our hearts be stirred to glorify the nativity with acts of compassion and service.

(All confess to God in silence).

Good News! Good News! Good News!
God so loved the world that he gave
Sinful and broken humanity a gift: Emmanuel,
God is with us.
This proves God's love toward us!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God! Amen**

Edited from Mary Ann Neevel, Bread for the Journey, edited by Ruth Duck (Pilgrim Press, 1981), 21 Used by permission.



PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE FOR ADVENT

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, remind us that you are always with us, that like Joseph we might always be eager to fulfill your will, and be eager to pray:

O God, in days to come the mountain of your house will be established, and your joy shall reign. We pray for our church and our community that

you might teach us your ways and that we might walk in your paths. Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.

In your Kingdom, O Lord, wolves lie down with lambs and children play with serpents without fear. **We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind especially those we lift up in our hearts; that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs. Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.**

In the fullness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary. And his name was Emmanuel:
God Is With Us.

We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer. Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.

(A Moment of Silent Prayer)

O Christ, hear our prayers, restore us, and show us the glorious light of your countenance that we might be saved. **God is with us. Glory to God! Amen.**

Edited from Rick Morley, on his A Garden Path blog. Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/12/prayer-of-intercession-advent-4.html>. Used by permission.