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*December 21, 2025*

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*



### **Worship With Us**

**Traditional Sunday Services at 8:30 am and 11:00 am**

**Our Mission Statement**

**"Life in the Son"**

**Loving. Inviting. Faithful Examples. Serving Our Neighbors**

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

*December 21, 2025*

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

*Welcome to Trinity. We are so glad you are here to worship today.*

*Let us prepare our hearts for worship.*

*Where indicated (\*), please stand in praise of God if you are able.*

PRELUDE

"Carol of the Bells"

M. Leontovich

*Ukrainian Carol*

Arr. by Mark Hayes

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF THE PRAYER SHAWLS

INVOCATION

THE ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

\*OPENING HYMN

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

NO. 218

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

NO. 881

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;**

**the third day he rose from the dead;**

**he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;**

**from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.**

\*GLORIA PATRI

NO. 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.*

CHILDREN'S TIME (11:00 am)

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. Amen.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Carols Around (and A Round)"

Arr. by Carl J. Nygard

\*DOXOLOGY

NO. 94

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.*  
*Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!*  
*Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!*  
*Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

READING OF THE WORD **Matthew 1:18-25**

<sup>18</sup> This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. <sup>20</sup> As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled:

<sup>23</sup> *Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son,  
 And they will call him, Emmanuel.*

(*Emmanuel* means "God with us.")

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he didn't have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. Joseph called him Jesus. .

Reader: This is the Word of God,  
 For the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

More Faithfulness

Rev. Gene Aiken

\*CLOSING HYMN

"What Child Is This"

NO. 219

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

NO. 431

*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;  
let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.*

*With God our creator, children all are we.*

*Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.*

*Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.*

*With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:*

*To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.*

*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.*

\*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\*POSTLUDE

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Robert J. Hughes

*Based on a tune by Felix Mendelssohn*

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*The pastors and congregation will be in prayer this week for the following persons:*

Gina Larson Ann Ledford Jason & Tami Lee, Tucker and Sadie

Lynn Lemire Gregg Lewis Robert & Claire Liddle

Please also keep our armed forces, police officers, first responders and teachers in your prayers.



Please note that the signup chart for altar flowers for 2026 is available in the Narthex area. Be sure and take the time to fill out the date or dates you want to provide flowers for worship during the year 2026.

Thank you for your part in helping us give God our Best!

**Our Gifts: Weekly Offering Week of**  
**December 14, 2025**

Needed each week:	\$	16,899.08
Received:	\$	10,220.00
Received online:	\$	2,031.00
Total received	\$	12,251.00

**Year to date**

Received:	\$	735,322.20
Expenditures:	\$	847,060.43

**Capital Campaign BF Contributions**

Sunday offering:	\$	8,485.00
Received online:	\$	270.00
Total received	\$	8,755.00

**Building Fund**

Weekly Building Fund Offering:	\$	8,755.00
Current Bldg. Fund Bank Balance:	\$	120,388.79
Current Bldg. Fund Bank Loan Balance:	\$	580,266.31

**Attendance for Sunday,  
December 14, 2025:**

8:30 am: **140**

9:45 am: **48**

11:00 am: **183**

In-Person Total = **371**

Online Total: **263**

Facebook Total: **563**



*When filling out your checks to Trinity UMC, the bank has requested the use of blue or black ink only. Thank you!*

Hearing amplification devices are available for anyone needing assistance hearing throughout the service. Please see an usher for assistance.

**Trinity Youth Group Christmas Party (ages 6th to 12th grade)**

**Tonight** meet at the parsonage (1200 Elizabeth St., NMB) at 5 pm for dinner, plus a white elephant gift exchange and s'mores around the firepit! There will be no Youth Group on December 28.

**Worship with Us on Christmas Eve**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Services**

December 24th - A Service of Lessons & Carols

All services include communion and candlelight.

5:00 pm service - Family-friendly Service

7:30 pm service - Traditional Service

*Becky Nissen, Harpist, will play 30 minutes prior to the 7:30 pm service at 7:00 pm.*

11:00 pm service - Traditional Service



The offering from **the three evening services on December 24, Christmas Eve**, will go to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

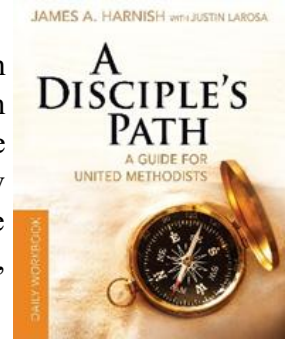
**There will be No Services on CHRISTMAS DAY.** The church office will be closed the week after Christmas and will reopen after the New Year on Monday, January 5. Staff will be available by leaving a message on the church voicemail or by contacting staff via their emails.

## Realm Picture Directory

Did you know that Realm is also the church directory? We would love to get everyone's picture uploaded to their profile so that when looking a person up we can put a face to a name. *To add your picture to your Realm profile, click the "More" or the four dots on the bottom of the screen in your Realm Connect app. Click the circle at the top corner of your profile with your initials in it. Click "My Profile." Click the camera icon near your initials; then click "New Profile Photo." Remember to click "Apply" after choosing your photo.* Please remember that Realm is private to the church and no outside entity can access your information or picture. If you need help accessing or setting up your Realm account, Pat Fahner is available Wednesday mornings from 9:00 am to 11:00 am in the volunteer office. We look forward to seeing you on Realm!

## New Members' Class Winter 2026

Join us for the New Members' Class at Trinity United Methodist Church starting **January 11!** Over six weeks, we'll explore our beliefs through *Disciples Path: A Guide for United Methodists* and meet our committee leaders. Classes will be held Sundays from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm with new members welcomed during worship on February 22. Sign up using the bulletin insert or in Realm. For questions, reach out to Pastor Stephanie, and let us know if you need childcare. We look forward to seeing you!



## January Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Ready to grow in your faith? Join our Tuesday morning Bible Study on *A Disciple's Path: A Guide for United Methodists*! This six-week class, starting January 13 from 10:00 am to 11:30 am will be led by Pastor Stephanie and is open to all who wish to deepen their discipleship. Learn about the commitments of our church while developing spiritual practices and discovering your unique gifts. Don't forget to get your book before the class starts! Sign up in Realm or on the Sunday morning bulletin!

## January Thursday Morning Bible Study: Cultures in Conflict

Starting January 15, join us for a dynamic Bible study led by Marie Peacock every Thursday from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. We will be studying *Cultures in Conflict* by Ray Vander Laan where we will learn from the Apostle Paul's bold witness in Athens and Corinth. This series invites you to reflect on how to live faithfully in a culture that challenges Christian beliefs. Gain insights on maintaining your spiritual integrity while navigating modern societal pressures. Sign up in the bulletin or on Realm to reserve your spot!

## Meetings This Week

*Today*      *Worship Service: 8:30 am (Sanctuary & Live Streaming Online)*  
*12/21*      *Contemporary Band Rehearsal: 9:00 am (AG Greene Choir Room)*  
*Adult Sunday School Classes: 9:45 am (Second Floor, Rm. 2 & Trinity Hall Mtg. Room 2)*  
*Contemporary Worship Service: 9:45 am (Sanctuary & Live Streaming Online)*  
*Worship Service: 11:00 am (Sanctuary & Streaming Online)*  
*Children's Sunday School: 11:00 am (AG Greene Choir Room)*  
*Youth Group Christmas Party: 5:00 pm (Rev. Gene's Home)*

*Monday*      *Weight Watchers: 9:30 am (AG Greene Choir Room & New Kids' Room)*  
*12/22*      *Monday Golf Outing: 1:00 pm (Azalea Sands Golf Club)*  
*Gamblers Anonymous: 7:00 pm (AG Greene Choir Room)*

*Tuesday*      *Staff Meeting: 12:00 pm (Library)*  
*12/23*      *Advent Bible Study **Waiting Here for You:** 6:00 pm (Trinity Hall)*  
*SAG Meeting: 7:00 pm (AG Greene Choir Room)*

*Wednesday*      *Crafters: 9:30 am (AG Greene Choir Room)*  
*12/24*      *Master's Meal: 12 noon (Trinity Hall)*  
*Christmas Eve Family Candlelight Service: 5:00 pm (Sanctuary)*  
*Christmas Eve Traditional Candlelight Service: 7:30 pm (Sanctuary)*  
*Christmas Eve Traditional Candlelight Service: 11:00 pm (Sanctuary)*

*Thursday*      *Christmas Day—Office Closed*  
*12/25*      *Gamblers Anonymous: 7:00 pm (Trinity Hall Meeting Room 2)*

*Friday*  
*12/26*

*Saturday*  
*12/27*

To find out more about what is going on at TUMC and to find out when things are happening and to register for upcoming events, check our website at [www.trinitynmb.com](http://www.trinitynmb.com). Click the **EVENTS'** tab to see the latest events. To view the entire calendar, click the **Full Calendar Link** at the top of the page.

## **Welcome to Trinity United Methodist Church!**

### **Volunteers this Week**

	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>
Ushers:	Aubrey & Pam Apple, Verne Cappell, Mike Walters	Bob & Linda Miller Don & Michelle Godwin Margaret Martin
Altar Guild:	Judy May & Margaret Martin	

### **Trinity Staff**

Ministers:	The Congregation
AV Technician:	Kyle Frankman
Child Care:	Tera Velez
Church Sexton:	Lee Ann McDonald
Director of Contemporary Music:	Richard Schellinger
Director of Traditional Music:	Dr. Kenneth S. Klaus, Ph.D.
Financial Secretary:	Heather Ensor
Office Manager:	Jennifer Piccolo
Organist/pianist:	Melanie Welborn
Pastor Emeritus:	Rev. Edmond Daniel
Pastors:	Rev. Gene Aiken; Rev. Stephanie Schellinger

**Office Hours:** Monday - Thursday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

### **Worship With Us**

**Traditional Sunday Services at 8:30 am and 11:00 am**

**Contemporary Worship Service on Sunday at 9:45 am**

The Nursery is available during all of the Sunday services.

Nursery (ages 0-3) AG Greene Nursery

Children/Youth Sunday School (4 yr. old - 5th Grade)

9:45 am during Passing of the Peace in the AG Greene Building's *New* Trinity Kids' Room

11:00 am following the Children's Sermon in the AG Greene Building

### **Adult Sunday School Classes**

9:45-10:45 am

Young + Young at Heart	2nd Floor, Room 2
XYZ Young Adults	Library - 2nd Floor, Room 4

Trinity Kids (Grades 1-5) meets Wednesdays from 4:30 to 6:00 pm in the AG Greene Building.

Youth Group (Grades 6-12) meets Sundays from 5:00 to 6:30 pm in the Youth Room.