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December 7, 2025

Second 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 7, 2025

Second 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

"What Child Is This"

arr. by B.C. Dockery

Carole Petro, flute

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF THE PRAYER SHAWLS

INVOCATION

THE ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

"Prepare the Way of the Lord"

by Stephen Schwartz

from *Godspell*

*OPENING HYMN

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

NO. 213

*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

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

"Prepare the Way of the Lord"

by William Rowan

*DOXOLOGY

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 3:1-12**

3 In those days John the Baptist appeared in the desert of Judea announcing, ² "Change your hearts and lives! Here comes the kingdom of heaven!" ³ He was the one of whom Isaiah the prophet spoke when he said:

The voice of one shouting in the wilderness,
"Prepare the way for the Lord;
make his paths straight."

⁴ John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey.

⁵ People from Jerusalem, throughout Judea, and all around the Jordan River came to him. ⁶ As they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River. ⁷ Many Pharisees and Sadducees came to be baptized by John. He said to them, "You children of snakes! Who warned you to escape from the angry judgment that is coming soon?" ⁸ Produce fruit that shows you have changed your hearts and lives. ⁹ And don't even think about saying to yourselves, Abraham is our father. I tell you that God is able to raise up Abraham's children from these stones. ¹⁰ The ax is already at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that doesn't produce good fruit will be chopped down and tossed into the fire. ¹¹ I baptize with water those of you who have changed your hearts and lives. The one who is coming after me is stronger than I am. I'm not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹² The shovel he uses to sift the wheat from the husks is in his hands. He will clean out his threshing area and bring the wheat into his barn. But he will burn the husks with a fire that can't be put out."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

More to Come

Rev. Gene Aiken

*CLOSING HYMN

"Heralds of Christ"

NO. 567

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

*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

Christmas Postlude on "In Dulci Jubilo"

Gilbert M. Martin

From a 15th Century Latin Melody

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Coffee and Fellowship in Trinity Hall

For the four Sundays in Advent, please join us for a time of coffee and fellowship following the 8:30 am and the 9:45 am services in the Fellowship Hall. Each week this time of fellowship will be hosted by one of the many groups/committees that make all things possible at Trinity! This week's coffee hour will be hosted by the Congregational Care Committee. Next week's coffee and fellowship time will be hosted by the Adult Sunday School classes.

*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God for His many blessings and in loving
memory of Mack Pollock.*

Given by his wife ,Doris, and his daughters, Ann, Susan, and Kelley



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

Georgia Jackson Beth Johnson Harold & Audrey Johnson

Billy & Cindy Jones Richard & Linda Jones Tanner Jordan

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

Our Gifts: Weekly Offering Week of
November 30, 2025

Needed each week:	\$	16,899.08
Received:	\$	7,050.00
Received online:	\$	4,349.00
Total received	\$	11,399.00

Year to date

Received:	\$	730,619.87
Expenditures:	\$	819,451.63

Capital Campaign BF Contributions

Sunday offering:	\$	850.00
Received online:	\$	550.00
Total received	\$	1,400.00

Building Fund

Weekly Building Fund Offering:	\$	1,400.00
Current Bldg. Fund Bank Balance:	\$	111,037.05
Current Bldg. Fund Bank Loan Balance:	\$	582,145.97

**Attendance for Sunday,
November 30, 2025:**

8:30 am: **134**

9:45 am: **69**

11:00 am: **154**

In-Person Total = **357**

Online Total: **117**

Facebook Total: **586**



*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.

Blue Christmas

A Service of Hope and Healing

A quiet spiritual service for those who are carrying pain or loss during this
Season of Celebration.

Please join us

Thursday, December 18, 2025

7:00 pm in the Sanctuary



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

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 up a person 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!

ASAP

It is time for the **Reverse Advent Calendar boxes for ASAP**. The complete shopping list can be picked up in the volunteer office or at any of the ushers' tables. The ASAP team appreciates all that you do to help us give more to our veterans. Contact Jackie Stanley at jstan10@yahoo.com or Linda Miller at lmiller4681@gmail.com for more information.

ANGEL TREE

Thank you for your generosity to the Angel Tree children. *Please be sure to attach the angel with the gift information to the wrapped gifts.* **Please have gifts returned under the tree no later than Thursday, December 11th.** The gifts will be available for pick up after services on December 14th to be delivered any time before Christmas. Please call Sharon Bruns at (678) 986-0280 if you would like to help or have any questions.

Join the Fun at Our Polar Express Movie Night!

Join us on **Friday, December 12 at 6:30 PM** for a magical evening of fun, laughter, and holiday cheer as we watch *Polar Express*! Families are encouraged to come in their coziest PJs for an unforgettable experience filled with popcorn, hot chocolate, and festive cookie decorating!

We need amazing volunteers like YOU to help bring this event to life! Whether you can help with the snack table, assist with hot chocolate, or guide our little artists at the cookie decorating and craft tables, your support will make this event truly special!

We also invite you to contribute sugar cookies—whether they're plain round or creatively decorated like candy canes, snowmen, or stars, every cookie counts! Please bring your donations to the kitchen fridge, labeled for the movie night, during the week of **December 7th**. Please sign up in the bulletin or contact Pastor Stephanie by calling the church office to sign up! Together, let's make this a night filled with joy and holiday spirit!

Meetings This Week

<i>Today</i>	<i>Worship Service: 8:30 am (Sanctuary & Live Streaming Online)</i>
<i>12/7</i>	<i>Contemporary Band Rehearsal: 9:00 am (AG Greene Choir Room)</i> <i>Adult Sunday School Classes: 9:45 am (Second Floor, Rm. 2 & Trinity Hall Mtg. Room 2)</i> <i>Contemporary Worship Service: 9:45 am (Sanctuary & Live Streaming Online)</i> <i>Worship Service: 11:00 am (Sanctuary & Streaming Online)</i> <i>Children's Sunday School: 11:00 am (AG Greene Choir Room)</i> <i>Youth Group: 5:00 pm (Youth Room)</i> <i>Festive Brass Concert: 6:30 pm (Trinity Hall)</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Weight Watchers: 9:30 am (AG Greene Choir Room & New Kids' Room)</i>
<i>12/8</i>	<i>Faith, Love & Friendship Circle: 10:00 am (Trinity Hall Meeting Room 2)</i> <i>Monday Golf Outing: 1:00 pm (Azalia Sands Golf Club)</i> <i>Trustees' Meeting: 5:30 pm (Trinity Hall Meeting Room 2)</i> <i>Gamblers Anonymous: 7:00 pm (AG Greene Choir Room)</i> <i>Finance Meeting: 7:00 pm (Library)</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Staff Meeting: 12:00 pm (Library)</i>
<i>12/9</i>	<i>Advent Bible Study Waiting Here for You: 6:00 pm (Trinity Hall)</i> <i>Dot Jordan Circle: 6:00 pm (Trinity Hall Meeting Room 2)</i> <i>SAG Meeting: 7:00 pm (AG Greene Choir Room)</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Bridge: 9:00 am (Trinity Hall Meeting Room 2)</i>
<i>12/10</i>	<i>Crafters: 9:30 am (AG Greene Choir Room)</i> <i>Master's Meal: 12 noon (Trinity Hall)</i> <i>Trinity Kids: 4:30 pm (AG Greene Building)</i> <i>Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:00 pm (Sanctuary)</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Contemporary Worship Rehearsal: 3:30 pm (Sanctuary)</i>
<i>12/11</i>	<i>Gamblers Anonymous: 7:00 pm (Trinity Hall Meeting Room 2)</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>Family Movie Night: 6:30 pm (Trinity Hall)</i>
<i>12/12</i>	
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Carolina Masters Chorale: 4:00 pm (Sanctuary)</i>
<i>12/13</i>	
<i>Looking Ahead</i>	
<i>12/14</i>	<i>Christmas Cantata</i>
<i>12/18</i>	<i>Blue Christmas Service</i>

Welcome to Trinity United Methodist Church!

Volunteers this Week

	8:30 am	9:45 am	11:00 am
Ushers:	Bob & Kathy Slack, Kenneth McIver, Mike Walters	CJ Bennett Ann Aiken	Bob & Linda Miller Don & Michelle Godwin Scott Keziah
Altar Guild:	Pam Early & Wanda Furr		

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.