

Trinity Church: Third Sunday of Advent December 11, 2022

WELCOME AND LITURGY OF GATHERING

Leader: Reading of [Psalm 146:5-10](#). This is the word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

*Trinity is fostering a haven of belonging where wanderers and wonderers
gather to discover and embody the love of Jesus in the world.*

COMMUNAL SINGING

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

The shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
When lo! throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light

The shepherds feared and trembled
When high above the earth
Rang out an angels' chorus
To hail our Savior's birth

For I am like a shepherd
My hopes and faith to guard
Each day I find the answer
And Love is my reward

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?

Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing,
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

COMMUNITY CONFESSION AND ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Leader: Today marks the third Sunday of Advent, the season in which we anticipate celebrating the birth of Jesus. For unto us, a child is born - the reorienting presence of God With Us - will show us the way. This Advent, we pause. We breathe. We pray. We dig deep. We reach out. We rise up. We remember. We vision. We sit with the pain. We stay with the trouble. We wait, expectant. We light candles. We labor. We open to You, and to one another, and to the Sacred Mystery that is Emmanuel, God-With-Us, Love Incarnate, Divinity Enfleshed.

Reading - [Isaiah 35:1-10](#)

Prayer & Candle Lighting: The Joy of God-With-Us does not come as naïve optimism, or surface level feel-good-ness. Joy cannot be imposed from on high. Joy cannot be commanded. The Joy of God-With-Us is mingled with grief, exists side by side with mourning, knows that pain and death are all too real, but do not have the final word. This joy tends tenderly to beauty, and softness, and the gladness that comes from paying attention to what matters. The Joy of God-With-Us is collective, liberating us from deadly despair. Joy is gestating in darkness; it comes unexpectedly. Joy invites our expectation, and demands our participation. Prepare the way, for joy with sorrow. May Joy be birthed among, within, and through us, this Advent.

ALL: Forgive us, Emmanuel. Called to lives of gentleness, too often we are filled with anger and hurt. Invited to be generous, we tighten our grips on our clothes, our food, and even our love. Called to be just with everyone, it is all too easy to turn away from those who are different from us.

Leader: Friends, hear the good news: despite our failures, God rejoices over us, calming our fears with love.

ALL: Thanks be to God! Freed from fear, we will embrace everyone with the love of God and proclaim the good news with joy for all people!

BLESSING AND PASSING THE PEACE

Adults: The Lord be with you!

Children and Kids Ministry Leader: And also with you!

PreK-5th grade children may now move to their ministry space. Younger children and youth remain, and are welcome, in the Gathering. Materials for toddlers are available and we understand that their presence means they will be heard, no need to worry about their vocal contributions.

ADVENT REFLECTION

Reorienting Presence

Lifted Up - [Psalm 146.5-10 & Luke 1:46b-55](#)

**For discussion prompts visit the series page [here](#).*

LORD'S TABLE LITURGY

Leader: During this season of waiting, at the Table, we remember the mystery of the One who died that we might live forever.

ALL: As your Spirit moves upon the gifts of the bread and the cup, may she touch us with unexpected hope and the power of patience, that we might fully rejoice in your coming to dwell among us. As we wait for Christ's return, we would fill the empty dreams of the world with your vision for peace and wholeness; we would feed the lost with the bread of hope; we would gently lead the exiled back to your Kin(g)dom.

Leader: The Table of the Lord is open for all who seek the presence of Christ.

RESPONSE & OFFERING OF WORSHIP

The [Offering Basket](#)

You Say

I keep fighting voices in my mind that say I'm not enough
Every single lie that tells me I will never measure up
Am I more than just the sum of every high and every low?
Remind me once again just who I am, because I need to know

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
You say I am held when I am falling short
When I don't belong, oh You say that I am Yours
And I believe, oh I believe

What You say of me
I believe

The only thing that matters now is everything You think of me
In You I find my worth, in You I find my identity,

Taking all I have and now I'm laying it at Your feet
You have every failure God, and You'll have every victory,

Oh I believe, yes I believe
What You say of me
Oh I believe

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our **Community Conversation** will take place TODAY after the Gathering. Whether you've participated in seasonal small groups this fall or not, the conversation will provide an opportunity to share highlights, learn, and communally process the Evolving Faith Conference content.

Advent. The sermon series and resources for observing Advent are posted online at www.indytrinity.org/advent.

Morning Prayer weekday mornings during Advent. We will make our way through the Advent season together by gathering virtually on weekday mornings to center ourselves around the anticipation of the incarnation of the Christ as well as support one another during this joyous, contemplative, and sometimes difficult time. Each morning go through the morning prayers of the Divine Hours by Phylis Tickle, reflecting on poems from Mary Oliver, and listening to music that Trinity is sharing throughout this season. Join us weekday mornings at 7am on [Zoom](#) or catch up throughout the day on [FB](#) or [YouTube](#). Questions? email joel@indytrinity.org

Morning Prayer Help. Advent begins on this Sunday (11/27) and Morning Prayer for Advent begins Monday (11/28). This year I am asking folks from the Trinity community to sign up to help with the reading of scripture and poetry for these mornings during Advent. Morning prayer is at 7am and if you are interested in reading the scripture or poetry for the morning you can do so live or you can send a video or audio recording of you or your children reading to be included. Please sign up for a day and reading, [here](#). Contact Joel at joel@indytrinity.org with questions. [Sign up sheet](#)

Holiday Schedule:

Christmas Eve Gathering @ 5:30pm
No Gathering December 25th
January 1st Brunch Gathering @ 10am

A Brunch Gathering is happening on January 1st. Bring a dish or two to share. We'll spread out around the building as is comfortable to folks.

2023 Trinity Retreat. One of the congregational renewal activities supported through the Clergy Renewal Grant is a retreat. Mark your calendars for August 25-27, 2023 and check your emails for the invitation to RSVP. Please indicate on the form if you're interested in serving on a small planning team in the spring and summer to help finalize retreat details.

Benevolence Fund: Given the previous requests this year, *the budgeted benevolence fund has been used*. Which is great because that also means we've been able to extend care to folks! As a way to provide an opportunity to respond to a new financial need within the Trinity family, we are asking for special contributions to the benevolence fund (\$2,000 - \$5,000 is the current need). This fund will be open for a bit. We invite you to consider giving as an act of care. Contributions may be made at Gatherings or [online](#). Please, please, please make a memo on checks or send an email to contact@indytrinity.org and let us know you've contributed to the fund so they can be appropriately allotted.

THE BENEDICTION

Leader: God sends us forth with songs of joy in our hearts.

**ALL: We will go to sing of wonder to all who are empty of life
even as we gather them close to our hearts.**

Leader: Jesus calls us to step out of our fears into lives of witness.

ALL: We will go to breathe peace into all the broken places around us.

Leader: The Spirit teaches us new dance steps of grace.

**ALL: We will go to take our siblings by the hand
to dance in the streets of the kingdom.**

(Some liturgies adapted from lectionarylitanies.blogspot.com and enfleshed.com)

COMMUNAL CONNECTION

Remain on the Zoom or Gathering space for general connection and prayer.

Guide Dog Training. With a Guide Dog at Gatherings, please familiarize yourself with resources under "[Blindness and Guide Dog Etiquette](#)" and discuss main points with those in your household. Additional FAQs may also be found [here](#). If you or anyone in your household has severe allergies or any fear of dogs, etc. please contact us so we can do our best to keep Gathering spaces welcoming for all.

Gathering Guidelines leveled and by metrics. Guidelines are [linked on the homepage](#) of Trinity's website (www.indytrinity.org). Please be prepared to adhere to the guidelines by metrics outlined by the CDC Covid Dashboard for [Marion County and Hamilton County](#). Additionally, we'll do our best to communicate with visuals (on the doors of COhatch) and with verbal announcements when we shift between levels (and therefore adjustments to Gatherings tighten or loosen). Questions? Email us at contact@indytrinity.org.

Land Acknowledgement. We acknowledge that the land on which we gather for worship was stolen from the Myaamiaki people of the sovereign Miami Nation, who were driven out of the area and of their native lands by genocide, force (through broken treaties and laws imposed upon their nation), and systematic dispossession. (ref: [Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery, Trinity Church](#))

Gathering Hosting Schedule. As an act of service and care, please join staff, leaders, and others from your parish in hosting Sunday Gatherings. These are great times to connect and welcome others to converse while serving as well. Arrival at 9:45am is great, 9:30am is super helpful for assisting with audio equipment and/or indoor set up. Cleaning up on the back end should only take 10-15 minutes. The hosting checklist is in the Trinity office. Thank you!

December

11th: Broad Ripple

18th: North/Carmel

24th (Saturday, Christmas Eve): Elders

January:

1st (Brunch): Fishers

8th: Midtown/Downtown

15th: Broad Ripple

22nd: North/Carmel

29th: Fishers