



# TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GROWING TOGETHER. WELCOMING ALL.

CHARLOTTE, NC

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TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST NOVEMBER 19, 2023

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

Trumpet Tune  
David Johnson (1922-1987)

### WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

#### †CALL TO WORSHIP

One From the corners of worry and fear, God calls us to this place of sanctuary.  
Many: In every moment where we look for strength to continue, Jesus calls us to this time where we can welcome the peace given to us.  
One: In every person who embraces acceptance,  
in every touch that offers healing and hope,  
Many: the Spirit calls us to see our sisters and brothers of grace.  
All: Let us worship our grace-filled God!

#### †GATHERING HYMN

*Glory to God Hymnal, No. 702*

[Christ Be Beside Me](#)

BUNESSAN

### WE OPEN UP TO GOD

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We have so many rules in the backs of our minds for others to follow, God of grace, that we often forget to simply love them. We are so focused on what others are doing, or not doing, that we fail to take stock of our own actions or inaction. We use words which shatter the hearts of others, as ours slowly wither from lack of the breath of your Spirit. Forgive us for our choosing to live the way we want, Merciful God, rather than being the holy people of your hopes. May we seek to love you as completely as did Jesus Christ, who loved us dearly. Amen.

## TIME FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

### KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

#### †WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Beloved, this is the good news: we are heard, we are forgiven, we are loved.  
Many: Thanks be to God, whose forgiveness is beyond what we can possibly imagine.

‡THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you –  
And also with you!

‡GLORIA PATRI

*Glory to God Hymnal, No. 582*

[Glory to God](#)  
GLORY TO GOD

GOD SPEAKS TO US

MORNING WATCH

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 25: 14-30

ANTHEM

Jubilate Deo  
Benjamin Britten (1900-1976)

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands; Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God: It is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise. Be thankful unto him and speak good of his name. For the Lord is gracious, His mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth from generation to generation. (Based on Psalm 100)

SERMON

*The Greatest Risk of All*  
Rev. Dr. Steve Lindsley

WE RESPOND WITH FAITH & COMMITMENT

‡HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Glory to God Hymnal, No. 475*

[Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing](#)  
NETTLETON

‡AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Iona Creed)

We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn; in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands, conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire. We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst to share our humanity. We affirm a faith that takes us beyond a safe place: into action, into vulnerability and onto the streets. We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line, to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation; to stand with those on the edge; to choose life and be used by the Spirit for God's new community of hope.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## A MOMENT FOR OFFERING AND MEDITATION

To make an offering by text, text TPCGIVE to 73256.

For online offering click [HERE](#) or scan QR Code to the right.



### OFFERTORY

‘For I will consider my cat Jeoffry’ from *Rejoice in the Lamb*  
Benjamin Britten

For I will consider my cat Jeoffry for he is the servant of the living God, duly and daily serving Him. For at the first glance of the glory of God in the East, he worships in his way. For this is done by wreathing his body seven times round with elegant quickness. For he knows that God is his saviour. For God has bless’d him in the variety of his movements. For there is nothing sweeter than his peace when at rest. For I am possessed of a cat, surpassing in beauty, from whom I take occasion to bless Almighty God.

### †DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

### †PRAYER FOR OFFERING

WE GO FORTH TO WITNESS & SERVE

### †SENDING HYMN

*Glory to God, Hymnal No. 351*

[All Who Love and Serve Your City](#)

CHARLESTOWN

### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God  
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

†*All who are able are invited to stand.*

**WORSHIP LEADERS:** Rev. Dr. Steve Lindsley, preacher; Rev. Rebecca Heilman-Campbell, liturgist; Rev. Jodi Martin, Director of Christian Formation and Youth; Dr. Justin Smith, Choir Director; Dr. John Siler, organist; and the Trinity Choir.

*For those in need of hearing assistance, our Sanctuary is equipped with a “loop system” that broadcasts the audio into your hearing aids using t-coil technology. Alternately, headphones can be accessed in the Narthex.*

**MUSIC NOTES** – To read Justin’s music notes today, scan the QR Code under offering.

## WELCOME TO TRINITY

You are welcome and there is a place for you here at Trinity! We strive to be an open and inclusive community, acknowledging and embracing the rich diversity of God's creation so we embody our calling to, "grow together and welcome all." We love having children, and their wiggles, worship with us at Trinity. If you choose, childcare is provided for ages four and under. We are happy your family is here! Whatever in your life brought you to worship with us today, you are welcome, and we hope you feel at home.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THANKSGIVING WITH CHARLOTTE FAITH COMMUNITY** - Join our brothers and sisters of all faiths at this long-time community event when Trinity hosts this year's Interfaith Thanksgiving Service sponsored by Mecklenburg Ministries on Tuesday evening, **November 21**, at 7:00 p.m. Philip Blount will deliver the charge to the congregation. Canned goods and non-perishables will be collected for Loaves & Fishes at the Interfaith Service. An event not to be missed!

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR YOUTH GROUP** – There will be no Sunday School classes or Youth Group on Sunday, **November 26**.

**TRINITY BOOK CLUB** - Please join Trinity Book Club on **November 28**, at 5:30 p.m., at Leroy Fox, to discuss, *The Passenger*, by Cormac McCarthy. RSVP to [lynettekneel@gmail.com](mailto:lynettekneel@gmail.com).

**DECORATE MCCREESH PLACE** - You're invited to join the residents of McCreesh Place on Sunday, **December 3**, following worship and First Sunday Lunch to help decorate their residential main room. Expect festive music, cookies, lots of ornaments, and good ole Christmas cheer! Children are welcome! Email Rev. Rebecca if interested.

**JOURNEY TO THE MANGER: A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL** – Sunday, **December 10**, at 2:00 p.m., Trinity kids will present, "Journey to the Manger" an indoor Nativity play. Imagine yourself on the road to Bethlehem and see the story come alive. Activities will start from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m., and will include crafts, a petting zoo, singing carols & hot chocolate! New this year will be a Christmas Fair, so you can give to our local mission partners and support WDS parents, and Trinity members who have family-owned businesses.

**TABLES FOR SIX** – Come and join Tables for Six, Trinity's dinner fellowship opportunity. You and the participating members of your household will be assigned at random to a dinner group, who will then meet for dinner and fellowship six times over the next six months. Contact Kyle Nielsen with questions, [nielsky@gmail.com](mailto:nielsky@gmail.com) or scan QR code under offering.

**SIGN UP NOW FOR ROOM IN THE INN** - Sign up for the 2024 Room in the Inn season. We will be partnering with Sardis Presbyterian on their campus again (they have individual rooms for our neighbors). We need overnight hosts, evening/morning bus riders, dinner provider, lunch provider, and morning clean up. Thanks for your help! Scan QR code under offering.

**SIGN UP FOR ADULT MISSION TRIP** – Sign up for our joint adult mission trip with Sardis Presbyterian Church to Calvert City, Kentucky, who were hit with tornadoes several years ago and is still recovering. An informative meeting will be held on Sunday, **January 21**, following worship (light lunch provided). Sign up deadline is **February 1**. Scan QR code under offering.