TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GROWING TOGETHER. WELCOMING ALL.

CHARLOTTE, NC

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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT NOVEMBER 29, 2026

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT Meditation on "Conditor Alme"
Alec Rowley

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

✞LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

ONE: Today we begin the season of Advent, a season of watching, waiting, and preparing for the coming of Christ. We enter this season aware of the uncertainty in our world, but trusting in the promises of God.

ONE: The prophet Isaiah prayed, "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down!" Like generations before us, we long for God's presence, for justice and peace, for healing and reconciliation.

ONE: Today we light the first candle of Advent, the candle of Hope. We light it as a reminder that darkness will not have the final word, and that the light of Christ continues to shine in our world.

ONE: Let us pray.

ALL: Faithful God, as we begin this Advent season, awaken our hearts to your presence. Give us courage in times of uncertainty, strengthen our faith when we are afraid, and help us recognize the signs of your Kingdom breaking into our world. May this light remind us that you are with us, that your promises are sure, and that in Jesus Christ, we have reason to hope. Amen.

✞GATHERING HYMN Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates
Glory to God Hymnal, No. 93 TRURO

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all creation, you are always at work bringing new life into the world. Yet we confess that we often fail to recognize the signs of your presence. We grow weary in our waiting, anxious in our uncertainty, and hesitant to trust in what we cannot see. Forgive us, loving God. Give us eyes to see your kingdom unfolding, courage to live faithfully, and hope to trust that your promises are already taking root among us. Amen.

A TIME FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

At this time, you are invited to silently offer your personal prayers of forgiveness to God.

KYRIE ELEISON (Glory to God Hymnal, No. 92) [While We Are Waiting, Come]

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come. Jesus our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come

✞WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Friends, hear the good news: Even when we grow weary in waiting, God remains faithful.

Many: The one who has come among us in Jesus Christ continues to meet us with grace, forgive our sins, and lead us into new life.

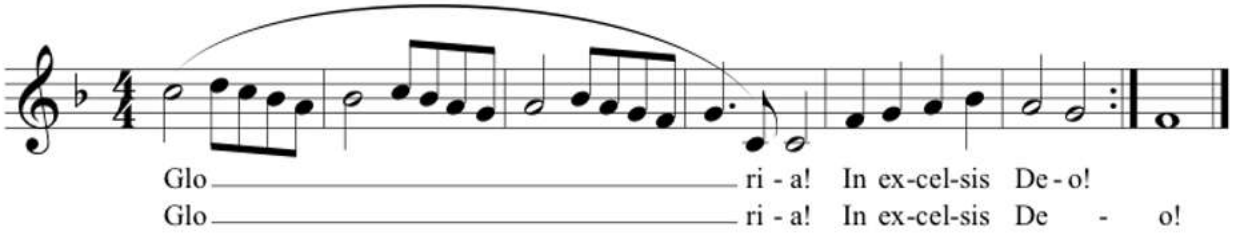
One: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Many: Thanks be to God!

✞THE PEACE

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

✞GLORY TO GOD



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Administered to Amalia Lucinda-Marie Campbell, daughter of Rebecca Heilman-Campell and Douglas Campbell.

HYMN OF BAPTISM [Child of Blessing, Child of Promise (Verses 1 and 4 only)]
Glory to God Hymnal, No. 486 KINGDOM

GOD SPEAKS TO US

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 64:1-9

ANTHEM Magnificat from the *Fifth Service*
Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656)
Jamie Abrams, Kel Williams, Jim Glenn, Erik Abrams and Richard Collins, soloists

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever. 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. Luke 1:46–55

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Mark 13:24-37

SERMON Advent Begins in the Dark
Rev. Nick Cheek

WE RESPOND WITH FAITH & COMMITMENT

HYMN OF RESPONSE O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Verses 1-4)
Glory to God Hymnal, No. 88 VENI EMMANUEL

✞AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostle's Creed
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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on 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 Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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 MUSIC

✞ DOXOLOGY VENI EMMANUEL
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise Christ, all people here below, Praise Holy Spirit evermore, Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Rejoice! Rejoice!! Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel!

✞PRAYER FOR OFFERING

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Hymn 552) Holy, Holy, Holy
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, hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be they 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

At Trinity, communion is served by intinction. Please come forward to the front of the Sanctuary. Wine is served on the pulpit side and juice is served on the lectern side. All bread is gluten-free. Return to your pew by the side aisles. If you are unable to come forward, an elder will bring communion to you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WE GO FORTH TO WITNESS & SERVE

✞SENDING HYMN — The Days Are Surely Coming

Glory to God Hymnal, No. 357 — LLANGLOFFAN

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE — Nunc Dimittis from the Fifth Service

Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656)

Jamie Abrams, Kel Williams, Jim Glenn, Erik Abrams and Richard Collins, soloists

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people, To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel. 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. Luke 2:29–32

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

WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Nick Cheek, preacher; Rev. Hillary Cheek, Dr. Eric Robinson, Director of Children, Youth and Families, liturgists; Dr. Justin Smith, Director of Music and Cultural Events; Shayne Doty, organist; and the Trinity Choir.

MUSIC NOTES: For Justin's Music Notes, 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.