

W CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

3rd Sunday
of Advent
December 15, 2019

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude Adam Ravain

Welcome Brad Clayton

Introit *While We Are Waiting, Come* Chancel Choir

*Call to Worship *(responsive)* MJ Ray

We have been looking for a sign.

Emmanuel — God with us.

We have been waiting for a savior.

Emmanuel — God with us.

The time is near — can it be?

Emmanuel — God with us.

Come and let us worship the God of sign, wonder, and promise.

*Hymn No. 82 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath The Van Iddekinge Family

Response: *Wait for the Lord* (hymn no. 90)

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart!

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart!

Call to Confession MJ Ray

Prayer of Confession

Refining God,

It is not easy for us to admit that we are not a blameless people. We have trouble believing the promises You have made. We find ourselves captive to emotions and desires which stun us, but doubt You can save us. We prefer the shadowy streets of the world, rather than walking in Your Light.

(silent confession)

Forgive us, Faithful One.

May the Light of Christ show us Your way; may the Love of Christ overflow from our lives to others; may the Life of Christ be our model as we seek to be Your people.

Amen.

Kyrie

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

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Declaration of Forgiveness

*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.

*The Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(During the Passing of the Peace, children are invited to come forward for the time with our young disciples.)

Proclamation of the Word

Prayer With Our Young Disciples

Mary Steen

(After the children's time, K-2nd graders may follow their leaders to Room 206 for Children's Worship.

Parents are welcome to take 3-5 year olds to the playground for Children's Enrichment. Thank You for signing out your kids as they exit.)

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25 (pew Bible p. 783)

Brad Clayton

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ!

Sermon

Matthew's Story

Brad Clayton

Response to the Word

*Hymn No. 110

Love Has Come

Offering

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Chancel Choir

arr. Molly James

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be, He is Alpha and Omega,
He the Source, the Ending He, of the things that are, that have been, and that future
years shall see, evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost
conceiving, bore the Savior of our race; and the Babe, the world's Redeemer, first
revealed His sacred face, evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him; angel hosts, His praises sing; all dominions, bow
before Him, and extol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be silent, ev'ry voice
in concert ring, evermore and evermore!

Prayer of Dedication *(responsive)*

MJ Ray

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

Trinity Whitley

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 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 Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Trinity Whitley

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.

*Hymn No. 136

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Sending Out Into the World

Congregational Meeting

*Charge & Benediction

Brad Clayton

*Congregational Response

Amen

Hymnal p. 601

Postlude

Adam Ravain

*Live Simply, Love Generously, Serve Faithfully, Speak Truthfully, Pray Daily,
and Leave Everything Else to God*

Thank you for joining us for worship today!

Coming up:

(for full details please visit www.faithpcusa.org/upcoming-events)

- ◆ **Thank you** to those of you who have completed 2020 pledge cards to allow us to plan the 2020 budget. If you have not yet had a chance to do so, it is not too late — there are extra pledge cards available in the church office, sanctuary lobby, and online at faithpcusa.org/resources.
- ◆ **Congregational Meeting.** Today, at the conclusion of worship. Purpose: to elect a new class of deacons and elders as well as at-large members of the 2020 Nominating Committee.
- ◆ **Christmas Poinsettias.** Forms are available in the brochure rack, the church office, and online to order a Christmas poinsettia in memory or honor of a loved one. Cost is \$10 per poinsettia. Order deadline is TODAY.
- ◆ **A Christmas Carol.** Performances are at 7:30 p.m. on **December 19, 20, 21, and 22** in Fellowship hall. For more information and/or to purchase tickets, visit faithpcusa.org/achristmascarol.
- ◆ **Mission Opportunity.** Join Faith friends on a one-day mission trip to continue Hurricane Michael recovery in either Marianna or Blountstown on **December 21**. Contact Laura Barrett (lkbarrett@embarqmail.com) or Jill Stewart (jillstewart1229@gmail.com) with questions. Sign up at this link: signupgenius.com/go/10c0a4ba4ae2fa7fc1faith.
- ◆ **Christmas Joy Offering.** Next week we will have the opportunity to participate in this special offering to support students at Presbyterian related schools and colleges and for current and retired church workers and families with critical financial needs.
- ◆ **Christmas Eve Services:**
 - 5:00 p.m.** Family Service. Children are invited to select a costume as they enter the sanctuary to participate in the Christmas Story. The nursery will not be available for this child-friendly service.
 - 7:00 p.m.** Traditional Candlelight Communion Service. The nursery will be open. Christmas Poinsettias may be picked up at the conclusion of this service.
- ◆ **Diaper Offering.** If you plan to attend the 5 p.m. Family Service on Christmas Eve, we invite you to bring a gift of diapers for infants to bring forward during the offering. They will be donated to the Brehon House.
- ◆ **Church Office.** The church office will be closed **December 24 through January 1**. Please make sure all financial contributions for 2019 are dated and submitted to the Finance Office no later than **December 31**. If you have a pastoral emergency when the office is closed, please dial 850/684-4325 (you must dial the area code).

Stewardship Update

Budget YTD: \$1,131,097
Received YTD: \$1,082,171
Spent YTD: \$1,079,953



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Brad Clayton, Senior Pastor

Trinity Whitley, Associate Pastor

After hours Pastor-on-call: 850/684-4325 (you must dial the area code)