## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

**The Christmas Story** Luke 2:1-20

*This morning we will create an instant Christmas pageant together. If you selected a part as you entered worship this morning please follow the instructions given to you and take your place in the scene as the story is read. During the reading of the story we will pause and sing the stanza(s) indicated from the following carols:*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| #44 | O Little Town of Bethlehem | *Stanza 1* |
| #27 | Gentle Mary Laid her Child | *Stanza 1* |
| #59 | While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks | *Stanza 1* |
| #59 | While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks | *Stanzas 2-4* |
| #22 | Angels from the Realms of Glory | *Stanzas 1 & 4* |

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**Carols of Response**

*You may help us select the carols we will sing in response to the Christmas Story. Please choose your carols from the following list (we will sing only the first verse).*

#9 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
#20 Watchman, Tell us of the Night
#23 Angels We Have Heard on High
#25 Away in a Manger
#31 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
#37 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
#38 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear
#40 Joy to the World!
#41 O Come, All Ye Faithful
#47 Still, Still, Still
#48 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
#49 Once in Royal David's City
#53 What Child is This
#56 The First Nowell
#60 Silent Night, Holy Night

**Prayers of the People and Thanksgiving**

*Concluding Collect:*
A boy has been born for us;
**A child has been given to us.**
And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, the Prince of Peace. Once we were no people
**Now we are God's people**
Once we walked in darkness;
**Now we have seen a great light. Alleluia. Amen.**



**THE FLOWERS FOR TODAY'S SERVICE**
have been given to the glory of God
by Zane and Anghaarad Teague Dees,
in honor of the children and youth of Trinity.

**Assisting In Worship Today**

Anghaarad Teague Dees……Minister
Richard Hart……Minister
Edward Neeman……Pianist
Mike Cross……Usher Team
Ray Josey, Doug Maxwell
Marcie Swank……Greeters
Jane Gore, Brian Greene
Emma Micklon……Acolyte

**TRINITY ELDERS**

| Class of 2016 | Class of 2017 | Class of 2018 |
|---|---|---|
| Linda Brown | Kim Dudley | Jeff Bickers |
| Margaret Bruch | Cathy Hoover | Frank Kilgard |
| Patsi Peacock | Don Thieme | Marcie Swank |
| Sherry Stranahan | Bob Wakefield | Brooke Webb |
| | Kelly Wicks | Bryan Wright |

**OUR TRINITY STAFF**

Dr. Richard Hart……Pastor
Rev. Anghaarad Teague Dees……Pastor
Mrs. Andrea Micklon……Director of Children Ministries
Mr. John-Alan Gourdine……Director of Music
Dr. Edward Neeman……Pianist
Mr. Paul Guilbeau……Director of Chancel Handbells
Mr. Bryan Wright……Administrative Assistant
Miss Kendra Beasley, Miss Makinsey Rosser……Choir Interns
Mr. Zackary Serrott

**Message from the Finance Committee of Flint River Presbytery**

Many retirement accounts (IRA's etc.) require that you take a "minimum distribution" each year after you turn 70½. However, if you don't need the extra income, we hope you might consider a charitable donation to your church or to Flint River Presbytery, since there are many mission projects of our Presbytery that are in need of an extra financial boost. The deduction for your charitable contribution offsets the additional income taxes you would otherwise pay.

**A Message From Your Finance Committee**

As the end of the year approaches, please note well: For contributions to be credited in the 2016 tax year, they **must be received by Thursday, December 29, 2016.** These monies must be deposited in the Church's account prior to the last day of the year to be claimed as a 2016 donation. Year end contributions over and above one's pledge benefit the church and provide an additional tax benefit to the donor. Please consider your church if you are considering additional charitable contributions this year.

**Communion Sunday**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated **Sunday, January 1, 2017, at 11:00 a.m.** Food offerings will be received and dedicated for the Trinity Food Pantry Ministry during worship. We ask for specific items which are not typically available at the Second Harvest Food Bank. The following food items are especially needed:

**~Rice ~Jelly**

Please place your food donations in the baskets at the sanctuary door as you enter for worship.

**"De-Greening of the Church"**

The Worship Committee requests as many folks as are able to remain after worship on **Sunday, January 1, 2017**, to remove the decorations from the Sanctuary.

**Service of Ordination and Installation**

Our newly elected ruling elders will be ordained and installed by the Session on Sunday, January 8, 2017 during worship at 11:00 a.m. Please make every effort to be present and support those who have been called to serve our congregation in this important office.

***Belhar Confession Banner Dedication***

With the addition of another document to our PCUSA Book of Confessions, a new banner has been commissioned, designed, and constructed by our own Trinity members. The banner will be dedicated on **Sunday, January 8, 2017**, during worship at 1100 a.m. This will initiate a series of sermons by the Pastors focusing on the Belhar Confession. Special thanks to Barbara Aiken, Roberta Boyd, and Chris Roan, for designing and making the banner. We intend to submit the design to the PCUSA Office of Worship for use by other congregations who might like to make the banner. Trinity will retain the rights to the design, but give permission for its use.

**Stated Session Meeting**

The Stated Session meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, January 8,** at 4:30 p.m. Please contact Pastor Hart, Pastor Dees, or Bryan Wright if you cannot attend.

**These Days Devotional Booklets**

*These Days* Devotional Booklets are available in the atrium. These booklets are published by our denomination, The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and are provided at no charge by Trinity's Worship Committee. This issue begins January 1. Be sure to pick up your copy.

***Unison Reading** Isaiah 52:7-10

**How beautiful upon the mountains**
**are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,**
**who brings good news,**
**who announces salvation,**
**who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."**
**Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,**
**together they sing for joy;**
**for in plain sight they see**
**the return of the LORD to Zion.**
**Break forth together into singing,**
**you ruins of Jerusalem;**
**for the LORD has comforted His people,**
**He has redeemed Jerusalem.**
**The LORD has bared His holy arm**
**before the eyes of all the nations;**
**and all the ends of the earth shall see**
**the salvation of our God.**

***Closing Carol # 29** Go, Tell It on the Mountain

***Benediction**

***Passing The Peace of Christ**

**Offering**

*As you exit the sanctuary this morning the manger will be placed at the door so that you might place your offering in the manger as a reminder that all of our gifts are given in the name of Christ Jesus for the glory of the Kingdom of God.*

*All who are able may stand.

Please silence cell phones

**Upcoming Events**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Monday Dec 26 | | Church Office and Food Pantry Closed |
| Wednesday Dec 28 | | No WNS or Choir Practice |
| Thursday Dec 29 | | Last Day to submit Contributions For 2016 Tax Year |
| Sunday Jan 1 | 11:00 a.m. | Communion Service, Food Offerings |
| Sunday Jan 1 | Noon | "De-Greening" the Church |



**FOR YOUR DAILY PRAYER** The pastor and elders meet at 10:45 each Sunday morning to pray for the morning service and to remember by name each person on our prayer list. Please lift the names of these persons to God in your prayers.

**Members & Regular Participants**
Mae Baker
Marvin Bruch
Jansom Butts
Courtney & Josh Geidel
Barbara Sanders
Brooke Webb
Janet Wright

**Relatives**
Eric Aiken, *grandson of Barbara Aiken*
Reed Armond, *brother of David Armond*
Tim Bruch, *son of Margaret Bruch*
**Hannah Capece**, *granddaughter of Jane Gore*
Steve & Twila Capps, *cousins of Lynn Kilgard*
Ben Chunn, *grandfather of Brooke Webb*
**Alan Davis**, *husband of Paran Barrett Davis*
Jerry Dibble, *uncle of Leonard Mittelstadt*
Violet Dupras, *mother of Bill Dupras*
Ruth Duss, *mother of Sherry Stranahan*
Beth Anne Ellzey, *cousin of Anghaarad Dees*
Scott Ferguson, *brother-in-law of Kathy Roe*
Jeff Gore, *son of Jane Gore*
Diane Haines, *mother of Leonard Mittelstadt*
Dave Hart, *uncle of Richard Hart*
Doris Humphreys, *grandmother of Alexa Singer*
Melanie Jones, *niece of Jackie Wright*
James & Johnnie Kinchen, *parents of Jackie Wright*
John Luketie, *cousin of Sherry Stranahan*
Greg Majewski, *brother-in-law of Zane Dees*
Kim Radabaugh, *sister-in-law of Bob Radabaugh*
Herb Reinhard II, *father of Herb Reinhard III*
Jenny Roe, *niece of Kathy Roe*
Bonnie Schmidt, *mother of Lisa Pearce*
John & Gwen Seanor, *grandparents of Paul Guilbeau*
Laurie Teague, *mother of Anghaarad Teague Dees*
Gina Trulock, *sister-in-law of Chris Roan*
Davi Watkins, *sister of Barbara Aiken*

**Friends (contact person)**
Sherrard Ashley (Leonard Mittelstadt)
Les Bass (Zane Dees)
Melvin Benjamin (Chance Bickers)
Connie Benson (Jim & Marie Hill)
Sharon Coleman (Mili Collins)
Jackie Coxwell (Cindy Gallahan)
**Betty Davis** (Marcie Swank)
June Denney (Richard Hart)
Lynn Ferguson (Kathy Roe)
Courtney Fleming (Brooke Webb)
John Gentry (Catherine Loveday)
Ami Guilliams (Libby Bickers)
Susan Hancock (Winnie Dooly)
**Harry Haverkamp** (Candy Wakefield)
Cil Herndon (Catherine Loveday)
London Herring (Richard Hart)
Ernst Klaus (Kathy Roe)
Chris Lang (Mary Beckett)
Alex & Lydia Mai (Alexa Singer)
Hank & Tana Majeski (Kelly Wicks)
Rick McCall (Brian Greene)
David Moorer (Paul & Sonja Guilbeau)
Ashton Morgan (Catherine Loveday)
**Jeff Newbern** (Glennie Wicks)
Haley Grace Peeples (Christal Dudley)
Madelyn Pitts (Brian Preyna)
Doug Pool (Suzanne Lee)
Les Preston (Matthew Hart)
Rachael Prodanovic (Janet Wright)
Minnie Quartey (Paul & Sonja Guilbeau)
Sean Richardson (Mary Beckett)
Julie Seccord (David Johnson)
Amy Slaven, Leah & Ava (Melissa Mittelstadt)
Lizbeth Stevens (Bill & Ruth Stonestreet)
Nancy Vernon (Chris Roan)
Robby Walker (David Armond)
Nick Whilse (Kathy Roe)
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Woods (Linda Brown)
Phyllis Woody (Kathy Roe)
Lettrice Zellars-Little (Andrea Micklon)

**Members Remembered in Prayer This Week**

Eddie and Brooke Webb
Taylor, J. T.

Bill and Kelly Wicks

Our Military Personnel

Missionaries
Drs. Les and Cindy Morgan

Victims of hurricanes, flooding, and other natural disasters

Refugees fleeing oppression and countries that are offering those refugees shelter and aid. Victims of terrorism within our borders, and around the world.

**We Extend Our Christian Sympathy . . .**
to
the family and friends of
Marilyn Onan,
who died recently,
*requested by Janet Wright.*

# Trinity Presbyterian Church

*3501 Bemiss Road, Valdosta, Georgia, 31605*
*Phone: 229.242.3468 Web: www.trinitypresval.org*

***Mission Statement***

*As Believers, we will worship God by. . .*
*Praising, praying, responding to His Holy Word.*

*As Disciples, we will follow God by. . .*
*Studying, learning, living His Holy Word.*

*As Stewards, we will honor God by. . .*
*Caring, serving, sharing His Holy Word.*

***CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP***
***Christmas Day***
***Sunday, December 25, 2016***

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

The acolyte in today's worship brings the light of Christ into the sanctuary at the beginning of the service. At the end of worship, as we are called into service in our church, across our city, and beyond, the light of Christ leads us out into the world.

**Silent Meditation:**

Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger. ~ Luke 2:10-12

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude** Sheep May Safely Graze Arr. Egon Petri

**The Lighting of the Candles**

***Processional Hymn No. 28** *In dulci jubilo*
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

We come before You with the wonder and delight that You come to us in the child born in a manger.
**Be with us on this day of birth and rebirth.**
Come, honor us with the presence of Your gracious, joyful Spirit.
Fill our weary hearts with renewed hop and joy. Rekindle in our souls the light of Christ.
**Glory to You in the highest, O God, glory in the highest!**

**Invocation and The Lord's Prayer**