

**First Sunday of Advent  
Communion Sunday  
December 1, 2024 ~ 10:30 a.m.**



**Trinity Presbyterian Church**  
420 Melrose Avenue, Santa Cruz, California 95062  
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(831) 423-8995

**Prelude and Processional**    *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*    Nicki Kerns  
by Mark Hayes

## **Welcome and Announcements**

**Preparation for Worship**    *Calling All Angels*, p. 11

“The noisier our surroundings, the more likely we are to lose touch with the inner life of the spirit, and the more vulnerable we become to engaging in gross consumption – which is great for commerce and terrible for the human spirit.”

**Introit**    *Our King and Savior*, by Draweth Nigh    Nicki Kerns

## **Call to Worship**

Let us keep watch! Hear what the Lord will say to us in these days.

**We need a good word for right now,  
but we can't hear God's voice over our own noise.**

The Lord is in his holy temple.

Let all mortal flesh keep silence before God.

**We will keep silent and not be afraid.**

**We will be still and wait for a word.**

Rejoice, O daughter Zion. The Lord will come dwell in your midst,  
and none will be afraid.

**Let all living things be silent before the Lord.**

**\*Hymn of Praise, PH #2**    *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

## **Children's Message**

*Children are invited to remain with us for the Lighting of the  
Advent Candles, and then go to Sunday School.*

**Lighting the Advent Candles**    Psalm 27:1, 4-5, 13-14  
*Calling All Angels*, p. 121-122

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? One thing I asked of the Lord; this I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under

the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

Today we light a candle to remind us that hope is stronger than fear. As we wait for the birth of the Christ child, we will remember to find quiet moments along the way so that we can listen for God's word.

Let us pray: God, our hope is in you. Help us to listen for your word so that we will be ready to share the good news of Jesus with others. Thank you for the gifts of this season, for all the ways we can worship you and serve others while we wait. Amen.

**\*Hymn      Light an Advent Candle, Becki Slagle Mayo    Nicki Kerns**  
*Advent is a time of hope, of waiting for the light*  
*To lead us to the promised One to break the dark of night.*  
*Light a candle, our Messiah will come.*  
*Light a candle, for the Promised One.*

### **Call to Confession**

Come to the meeting place of prayer. Enter God's presence and be still. Be silent. Listen and wait, expectantly. Come to the meeting place of prayer without fear. Perfect love casts out fear. Come boldly, listen, and wait for the coming of Christ.

### **Confession**

Expected Messiah, you invite us to your sacred stillness.

**Forgive us when we get caught up in our racing world.**

You give us peace that passes understanding.

**Forgive us when we seek the false peace that the world offers.**

Emmanuel, you are ever-present; Holy Spirit, you equip and guide us.

**Forgive us when we allow fear to lead.**

As we celebrate your first coming, and await your second,

**Heal and empower us, that we can demonstrate courage,  
hope, and peace in our daily lives.**

*Take time to offer silent prayers.*

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

By virtue of your baptism, you are citizens of the Kingdom of God. Receive God's forgiveness and healing. Embrace courage, hope, and the peace of Christ — your inheritance with all the saints.

\***Gloria #23** (refrain only) *Angels We Have Heard on High*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

## \***Passing the Peace of Christ**

*Greet one another with the Peace of Christ*

The Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **Prayers of the People**

Before each prayer request, please give your first name. After each, please say, "**God of Life and Hope**" and all respond, "**Hear our Prayer.**"

## **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.**

**Anthem** *O Come, Messiah King* Trinity Choir  
by Lloyd Larson/Christian K. von Rosenroth

Come, O bright and Morning Star, Light of light without beginning.

Shine upon us, grant us hope, and renew our hearts with singing!

God of light and Prince of Peace, come end our night of longing;

O come to us and with us dwell, O come, Emmanuel.

Dayspring of eternity, brightness of the Father's glory; Come to earth,

O gift of love, and fulfill the prophet's story. Joy of every longing heart,

we yearn for the dawn of morning; O come to us and with us dwell,

O come, Emmanuel.

O come, Messiah King, Our spirits shall take wing with praise to God who reigns on high! O come, Messiah King.

The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks,  
The endless night shall be no more as life to joy awakes!

The King shall come when morning dawns, the light is drawing near;  
Make straight the path, prepare Him room, The King shall soon appear!

O come, Messiah King, Our spirits shall take wing with praise to God who reigns on high! O come, Messiah King. O come, Messiah King.

### **Prayer for Illumination**

**How can we know you, unless you reveal yourself to us? How can we see your path, unless we seek it fearlessly? Come, Lord Jesus, come, your servants are listening.**

### **Scripture**

**Luke 1:5-25**

In the time of Herod king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah. His wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly. But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old. Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside.

Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. And he will go

on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous — to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man, and my wife is well along in years.” The angel said to him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time.” Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the temple. When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized he had seen a vision in the temple, for he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak. When his time of service was completed, he returned home. After this, his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. “The Lord has done this for me,” she said. “In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

**Rev. Diane Ford**

**Call to Offering**

**Offertory**

*Romanza* by Beethoven/Scott

Nicki Kerns

**\*Doxology #591**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise Christ all people here below;*

*Praise Holy Spirit evermore;*

*Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

**\*Statement of Faith**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius**

**Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.**

**\*Communion Hymn, PH #5 vs. 1-3      *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence***

### **Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

#### **Call to the Table**

#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

#### **Sharing the Bread and Cup**

*The outer ring contains wine, the inner rings contain grape juice.*

#### **Response to Christ's Feast**

Living Christ, at this shared table you have welcomed and filled us, and by your Spirit you have united and blessed us. God of Life and Hope, with all of your saints, and the "great cloud of witnesses," we walk by faith until your kingdom comes. Amen.

**\*Hymn, PH #22, vs. 1 and 4**

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

**\*Blessing and Charge**

**\*Amen**

**\*Postlude**

*Leggiero* by Lani Smith

Nicki Kerns

\*We invite all to stand in body or in spirit.  
*PH - Presbyterian Hymnal; GH - Gather Hymnal;*  
*GTG - Glory to God Hymnal*

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## **THANK YOU**

Pastor: Diane Ford  
Music Director: Nicki Kerns  
Lector: Ed Sams  
Head Usher: Pete Halper  
Greeters: Jerry and Sandy Thormann  
Coffee: Chuck and Nancy Cobery  
Flowers: Esther Lauer

## **Announcements**

### **Welcome to Trinity Presbyterian Church!**

We look forward to getting to know you better. Please fill out a visitor welcome card found in the pew pockets in front of you. After worship, please join us for coffee, tea, and juice in the Magnolia Courtyard. We are glad you are here!

### **Online Church Service**

Experience our live services or explore past ones on YouTube. If you want edited sermons complete with dates, sermon titles, bulletin covers, and volume enhancements, check out our Vimeo website. Both platforms can be accessed through our website: <https://www.trinitypressc.org>

### **Christmas Staff Gifts**

Every year at Christmas, we thank Trinity's staff members for all they do with a monetary gift. For the next few Sundays, the Deacons are accepting donations for these gifts. Place your check or cash in the envelope found in the bulletin and place in the offering plate. Be sure to write "Staff Gift" in the memo line.



## **AFC Dinners, Every 2nd & 3rd Wednesdays**

Looking to contribute to your community through cooking or small donations? Contact Debbie Bates at [debates44@aol.com](mailto:debates44@aol.com) to see what can be provided.

## **Christmas Time at Trinity**

Join us for one or many of our holiday services/events in December.

December 2: Advent Study Dinner - Week 2, 5:30pm

December 8: Morning Worship at 10:30am

December 9: Advent Study Dinner - Week 3, 5:30pm

December 15: Cantata During Sunday Service, 10:30am

December 16: Advent Study Dinner - Last Week, 5:30pm

December 22: Morning Worship at 10:30am

December 22: Caroling After Church, 12:30pm

December 24: Christmas Eve Service, 6pm

**Please continue to remember these people and situations in your prayers.**

- Bob Scott: hospitalized with a heart issue.
- Shirley, Sandy Thormann's friend: passed away a day short of her 97th birthday; comfort for her family and good friends.
- Santa Cruz al El Salvador Delegation: celebrating 30 years of building relationships; gratitude for the impact they are making on young lives; traveling mercies for their return trip.
- Deb O'Connell: experiencing a torn meniscus and anticipating surgery early in December.
- Debbie Bates' son, Steven: thankful that he has found employment in his field of interest in Tacoma.
- Marta Narus' friend, Mary Lou Lamb: celebrating a birthday.
- Mary Ann Hobbs' celebration of life: grateful for the warmth and support for Russ Hobbs and his family.
- Emily, Darrell Yeane's granddaughter: joy in celebrating her marriage.

# Calling All Angels

**Mondays, December 2nd - December 16th, at 5:30pm**

## **Advent Study Dinners: Calling All Angels**

The topics on Monday nights continue in the book's daily readings and the theme and sermons on Sundays. If you have never participated in Trinity's Advent Study, try something new this season!

The topic is universal and can be applied to all aspects of our lives. Plan to arrive at 5:30 for fellowship. Dinner begins at 6 o'clock. The evening will close sometime between 7:30 and 7:45, depending on how the conversation goes.

Each session will begin with a potluck dinner in the Fireside Room.

Please fill out the form below to let us know if you are planning to attend the dinner on **December 2nd**, and what you would like to bring to share.

Yes, I/We will be attending the Advent Gathering Monday,  
**December 2nd, @ 5:30pm.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

I/we would like to bring *(please circle one)*

main dish    casserole (no soup)    salad    dessert

*Please place in the offering plate*



As is our tradition, plan once again to decorate the sanctuary with poinsettias for the Advent/Christmas season. This is a great opportunity to memorialize or honor loved ones or just send a Christmas greeting to the church family. The poinsettias are \$15 each. Please complete the form below and attach a check or cash for \$15 for each poinsettia. Place in the offering plate, or leave in the church office by December 4th. The poinsettias may be picked up after the Christmas Eve service.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia(s).

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

My donation of \$15 for each plant is attached.

Since 1938, as a congregation in the Presbyterian Church, USA, Trinity has carried on a ministry of worship and service in the Santa Cruz community and has extended itself into the world through participation in regional, national, and international mission programs. You are warmly invited to join us in the challenge of Christian faith and ministry. Should you have questions about church activities, pastoral services or membership at Trinity, please speak with the Pastor or any of the church officers listed below.

### **Trinity Presbyterian Church Supports**

Presbyterian Missionaries in Congo: Jeffery and Christi Boyd  
on the Mexico/US border: Craft Giron and Mark Adams and Miriam Maldonado Escobar  
The Covenant Network of Presbyterians ♦ Faith Community Shelter  
Wings ♦ Rebele Family Shelter ♦ Habitat For Humanity ♦ Friends Outside  
Immanuel House ♦ Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. General Mission ♦ Sweet Pea Project  
Alcoholics Anonymous ♦ Santa Cruz al Salvador  
Court Appointed Special Advocates 18 ♦ Urban Works  
Boy Scout Troop #618 ♦ Cub Scout Troop #618

**Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.**

**Church Office Hours:** Tuesday -Thursday 10:00a.m. - 2:00p.m.

**Choir Practice:** Sunday, 9:00a.m.

### **Trinity Church Officers**

#### **Session**

**Ellen Bauerle**, Clerk of Session

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
<b>Kathy Willott</b>	<b>Michael Christie</b>	<b>George Bunch</b>
<b>Charlie May</b>	<b>Debbie Bates</b>	<b>Ed Sams</b>
<b>Chad Bell</b>		

#### **Deacons**

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
<b>Gwen May</b>	<b>Jolynn Carrington-Khoury</b>	<b>Pete Halper</b>
<b>Lorraine Vilardo</b>	<b>Elizabeth Bunch</b>	<b>Kim Johnston</b>
<b>Karen Wichelmann</b>	<b>Vickie Rutan</b>	<b>Nancy Cobery</b>

### **Trinity Staff**

Pastor: **Rev. Diane Ford**

Music Director: **Nicki Kerns**

Office Manager: **Cailan Darling**

Custodian: **Hortencia Martinez**