

First Sunday of Christmas

December 29th, 2024 ~ 10:30 a.m.



Trinity Presbyterian Church

420 Melrose Avenue, Santa Cruz, California 95062

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(831) 423-8995

Prelude

The Golden Carol
English Carol, arr. Roger Wilson

Elizabeth Bunch

Welcome and Announcements

Debbie Bates

Preparation for Worship

Come, let us enter God's presence with joyful hearts, lifting our voices with praise and thanksgiving, for in this sacred space, we are welcomed as God's beloved children. Let us worship the One who is the source of all good.

Introit

The Cradle
Austrian Carol, arr. Roger Wilson

Elizabeth Bunch

Call to Worship (responsive)

There is good news of great joy for all!

Our Savior is born: the Messiah, the Lord.

Now we have seen the saving love of the Lord,

The glory of God's people and a light to all.

Let us worship God.

***Hymn of Praise: PH #464**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee vs. 1, 3

Call to Confession

When we gather to worship, we take time to bring our whole selves and even the whole global church to God in prayer. Let us name our need for healing and forgiveness as we pray together:

Confession (unison)

Mayre Vincent

God our Savior, we confess that we fail to live in your light.

When you come to us with grace, we say there is no room for you.

When you shine on us with glory, we turn away in fear. Forgive us, God of grace. Pour out the blessing of your love, so that,

justified by your grace, we may receive everlasting life,

and sanctified by your Spirit, we may live and love as Jesus taught.

Take time to offer silent prayers.

Assurance of Forgiveness

When we speak of our sin, when we stop the silence and cover up,
God is faithful to forgive our guilt. When we name our wounds,
when we stop the silence and cover up,
God is faithful to heal and provide. Thanks be to God!

Prayer by Lisa Ann Moss Degrenia and Diane Ford

***Gloria #576 (refrain only)**

Gloria, Gloria

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria alleluia, alleluia!

***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 (unison)

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 (Page 8)**

Joseph, Son of an Ancient King, by Daniel Charles Damon

Third verse written by Diane Ford

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,

that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed,

we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Scripture

Luke 2:41-52

Mayre Vincent

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them. Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Debbie Bates

Call to Offering

As we offer ourselves to Christ again today, we bring our financial resources, our time and talents. We do this to "be about our Father's business." And the Lord, like a hen protecting her brood, rejoices in our community's response. Let us gather today's offerings. Ushers, please come forward.

Offertory

The Holly and the Ivy
English Carol, arr. Chip Davis

Elizabeth Bunch

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

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

**Bright Morning Star, we return to you the gifts you provide,
and dedicate them to your realm on earth and your glory in heaven.
Increase our wisdom and spiritual discernment,
we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***Hymn, GTG #100 (Pg 7)** *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout, vs. 1, 4*

***Blessing and Charge** **Debbie Bates**

***Postlude** *Ancient Provençal Carol, by Franz Liszt* Elizabeth Bunch

***We invite all to stand in body or in spirit.**

*PH - Presbyterian Hymnal; GH - Gather Hymnal;
GTG - Glory to God Hymnal*

THANK YOU

Guest Pastor: Debbie Bates

Guest Music: Elizabeth Bunch

Lector: Mayre Vincent

Greeters: Jeff and Patti Lawton

Coffee: Elizabeth and George Bunch

Flowers: Larry and Lorraine Vilardo

Announcements

Welcome to Trinity Presbyterian Church

Are you new today? 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.trinitypresssc.org>

21st Annual Interfaith New Year's Vigil for Peace

7:30 - 9:30 pm Doors open at 7:00 Free

Holy Cross Parish Hall 210 High Street Santa Cruz

Pastor Diane's Installation, January 5th

Join us Sunday, Jan. 5 at 3:00 P.M. as Diane Ford is installed as our new pastor. Catered Reception Follows – Please Call or Email office to RSVP.

Third Thursday Happy Hour, January 16th

Gilman Brewing Co. at Branciforte and Soquel (formerly Tony & Alba's) is the location for Trinity's Happy Hour on Thursday, January 16th, at 4 p.m. Invite a friend and come enjoy fine Food, Fellowship and Drinks!

Third Monday Book Club, January 20th

Hi Bookies! There will be no book club meeting in December. We'll resume in the Fireside Room at Trinity on January 20th with *The Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters. Whether you're a regular attendee or a newcomer, all are welcome to join in the conversation.

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

- The Lawton's Australian friend, Diane: still contending with cancer treatments.
- Tim Vincent: joyful to receive a cancer-free diagnosis!
- Ruth, Ed Sams' neighbor: undergoing treatments for breast cancer.
- Quincy, Rosie Bell's friend: experiencing health issues.
- The Rutan's grandson, Jaron: gratitude for the apparent correct diagnosis of his mysterious symptoms and gradual return to normal mental and physical health, including resuming his college studies in January.

100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
liv - er us from the con - quer-or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

HYMN: Joseph, Son of an Ancient King

Vs. 1:

Joseph, son of an ancient king, what did you teach our Savior?
Did you teach him to dance and sing? Did he share your labor?
Did you tell him about your dream and of the desert journey;
warned by angels of Herod's scheme, how you had to hurry?

Vs. 2:

Seeking work in a foreign land, could you support your family?
Did you hold him with calloused hands? Were you homeless, hungry?
Did you shelter him in your cloak while heaven's wind was blowing?
Did you wonder at words he spoke as a boy, still growing?

Vs. 3:

In the temple, when Jesus taught, wisdom beyond his young years,
Did you search through the crowd for him, filled with doubts and fears?
Did you find him with wise men there, his words a revelation,
While you and Mary stood in awe, hearts filled with hesitation?

Vs. 4:

Did you teach him to work with wood? Did Jesus like to help you?
Were you always so wise and good? Did your dreams all come true?
Joseph, son of an ancient king, angels will guide your going;
Through the desert with Mary, bring Living Waters flowing.

From Pastor Diane: Our Advent Supper/Study group discussed Joseph's character and role in the lives of Mary and Jesus. Enjoy this, *Joseph, Son of an Ancient King*, by Daniel Charles Damon. I composed an additional verse about the young Jesus staying behind in the temple, where he amazed all with his wisdom and left his parents worried and searching for him.