

**December 31, 2023**



**Trinity Presbyterian Church**

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# Trinity Presbyterian Church

## First Sunday of Christmas

**10:30 a.m.**

**Sunday, December 31, 2023**

**Gathering Music**

*Christmas Fantasia*

Carl F. Mueller

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Passing the Peace of Christ**

*Greet one another with the Peace of Christ*

“The Peace of Christ be with you.”

“And also with you.”

**Preparation for Worship**

Matthew 2:11

When the Magi came into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts: gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

**Prelude**

*I Wonder as I Wander* Traditional Appalachian

*I wonder as I wander, out under the sky. How Jesus the Savior did come for to die; To save all the people like you and like I, I wonder as I wander, out under the sky. When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall. With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all. But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall. And the promise of ages it then did recall.*

**Call to Worship**

One: Arise! Shine! The light you have been waiting for is here!

All: **Darkness has been banished!**

One: God's light of hope floods the earth.

All: **God's light comes to us all.**

One: Lord, make us ready to journey to this Light.

All: **Prepare our hearts to receive this Light. Amen.**

**\*Hymn of Praise #66**

*We Three Kings*

## **Call to Confession**

One: The Good News is the light of God has come, which calls all the people of the earth to come together in God's realm of shalom. Let us confess the ways in which we have rejected God's vision of wholeness:

## **Prayer of Confession**

**All: God of light and darkness, we have seen the glimmer of your star-light beckoning to us, but we have turned away and followed other paths. We confess that we have not loved you with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not loved ourselves. Forgive us, Holy One. Strengthen our faltering steps and guide us in your holy way of peace. Amen.**

*Take time to offer silent prayers of confession.*

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

One: Lift up your eyes and see the grace of God poured out into your lives.

**All: The light of God shines through the darkness. Our hearts rejoice for Christ is in our midst.**

\***Gloria #23** (refrain only)

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo*

## **Prayer for Illumination**

### **Scripture Reading**

Matthew 2:1-12

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The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Sermon**

Searching for Hope

Rev. Clyde Vaughn

\***Hymn** (*music on insert*)

*I am the Light of the World*

## **Prayers of the People**

*After each petition 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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## Call to Offering

### Offertory

*March of the Three Kings*

Provençal Melody

### \*Doxology #593

***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. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.***

### \*Prayer of Dedication

**All: For gifts abundant and for grace abounding, we give you thanks, generous God. Bless the gifts we bring today. Use these gifts and our lives to be your gift of grace to others. Amen.**

### \*Closing Hymn #29

*Go Tell it on the Mountain*

### \*Blessing

### \*Amen

### \*Postlude

*God Rest Ye Merry*

arr. Richard Robinson

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

## **THANK YOU**

Pastor: Rev. Larry Vilardo  
Guest Preacher: Rev. Clyde Vaughn  
Music Director: Nicki Kerns  
Guest Musicians: Elizabeth Bunch, Richard Robinson  
Lector: George Bunch  
Greeter: Tim and Mayre Vincent  
Usher: Pete Halper  
Coffee: Jeff and Patti Lawton

## **We Welcome Rev. Clyde Vaughn**

Clyde is the part-time Pastor at Boulder Creek United Methodist Church (merged with the Presbyterian Church in Boulder Creek). Clyde served Grace UMC from 1981-1991, and had a great collegial relationship with Trinity during those years, including shared VBS and a clergy study group. Now retired, Clyde is enjoying his garden, and he and Sheila enjoy traveling. Clyde has been a frequent guest preacher at Trinity and has many friends among the congregation.

## **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!

### **Christmas Joy Offering**

If you haven't already participated, it's not too late to add your gift to the special 2023 Christmas Joy Offering that benefits church leadership — past, present, and future. Use a pew envelope and mark it "Christmas Joy Offering." Thank you for your thoughtful donation.

### **Annual Congregational Meeting, January 28, 11:30am**

Join us for our annual congregational meeting, directly after the worship service. Reports for the printed publication need to be emailed to the church office by January 16, 10am. Pages, Word, or email; no PDF please.

### **Church Office Closed**

The church office will be closed between December 22 and January 2. Pastor Larry is available for emergencies, 707-372-2958.

I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

\*Words and music by  
Jim Strathee



"I am the light of the world! You peo-ple come and fol-low



me!" If you fol-low and love You'll learn the mys-ter-y Of



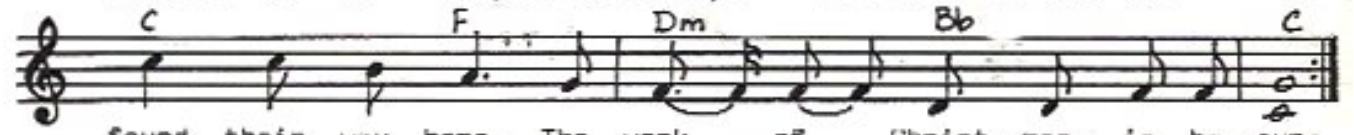
what you were meant to do and be. \_\_\_\_\_



1. When the song of the an - gels is \_\_\_\_\_ stilled When the
2. \_\_\_\_\_ To find \_\_\_\_\_ the lost and lone - ly one, To \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ To free \_\_\_\_\_ the prison - er from all chains, To \_\_\_\_\_
4. To - bring hope \_\_\_\_\_ to ev - 'ry task you do, To \_\_\_\_\_



star in the sky is gone, When the kings and the shepherds Have  
heal the brok-en soul with love, - To feed the hungry child-ren with  
make the now-er-ful care, - To re - build the na-tions With  
dance at a ba - by's new birth, - To make mu-sic in An



found their way home, The work \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ Christ-mas is be-gun:  
warmth and good food, To feel the earth be-low the sky a -bove!  
strength of good will, To see God's child-ren ev-'ry-where!  
old person's heart, And sing to the col - ore of the earth!