

Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2024 ~ 10:30 a.m.



Trinity Presbyterian Church
420 Melrose Avenue, Santa Cruz, California 95062
www.trinitypressc.org ♦ trinitysc@sbcglobal.net
(831) 423-8995

quiet and ease, and no one shall make him afraid. For I am with you, says the Lord, to save you.

Today we light the candle of joy. We celebrate in big ways and small ways as we wait for Jesus, the Light of the World, to come to us. The greatest joy is being with people we love and being grateful for all that we have, right this minute.

Let us pray: God, we sometimes have a hard time looking ahead. We worry about what we have forgotten, or what we have done wrong, or what we have not done at all. Help us to let go of the past and look forward, trusting in the new things you are doing all the time. We give you thanks for the joy of this season and for all the ways we can bring joy to others while we wait. Amen.

***Hymn:** *Light an Advent Candle*, Becki Slagle Mayo
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.
Advent is a time of peace, the ancient prophets tell,
A King will be born in Bethlehem, our Lord, Emmanuel.
Light a candle, our Messiah will come.
Light a candle for the promised One.
Advent is a time of joy, of looking for the star,
As the wise men long ago followed from afar.
Light a candle, our Messiah will come.
Light a candle for the promised One.

Call to Confession

Diane Ford

Prayer of Confession

Take time to offer silent prayers.

Assurance of Forgiveness

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

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

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

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

THANK YOU

Pastor: Diane Ford
Music Director: Nicki Kerns
Lector: Marta Narus
Head Usher: Pete Halper
Greeter: Glenn Joy
Coffee: Pete Halper & The Vildardos

Guest Musicians

Trumpets: JD Poulson, Hector Torres
Horn: Joel Hangai
Trombone: Ben Nye
Tuba: Yuki Abe
Clarinet: Richard Robinson

Announcements

New This Morning? 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 pews, and place in the offering plate. Be sure to write "Staff Gift" in the memo line.

Big Basin Hike, December 28th

Join a guided walk in Big Basin on December 28, 10:00 AM, starting at the Visitor Center. This hike will focus on plants and fire recovery, offering a chance to unwind after Christmas. Be sure to bring food and water and consider making parking reservations in advance. For more information, see Kathy Willott or visit the Big Basin Redwoods State Parks website at <https://www.parks.ca.gov/bigbasin>. Rain or high winds will cancel this event.

Christmas Time at Trinity

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

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.

- Gigi Giannini: grateful for support of the congregation as she recovered from health issues, and happy to be in her new home.
- Bob Scott: recovering from his recent health issues and planning to be at next Sunday's worship service.
- John Christie: gratitude that he has been successful in finding new employment as a social worker and hopeful that it is a good fit.
- Juanita Stock: recovering at home with her daughter's assistance following a fall.
- Mary Lou Lamb's family: mourning her passing and thankful for her life.
- Nicki Kerns' mother-in-law: hospitalized.
- Sister Churches in Syria and Lebanon: patience and fortitude as they continue to minister with charity and compassion to the displaced in their war torn communities, especially for the Presbyterian church in Aleppo.
- A friend of Nicki Kerns: needing confidence and strength as she awaits the results of a biopsy report.
- The Rutan's friend, Kay: courage and wisdom as she confronts a medical decision.
- Rosie Bell: maintaining good health as she prepares for Nutcracker performances.
- Nicki Kerns' 15-year old former piano student: recovering from complications of cardiomyopathy.
- Oregon Ducks: gratitude that they maintained their unblemished NCAA record!