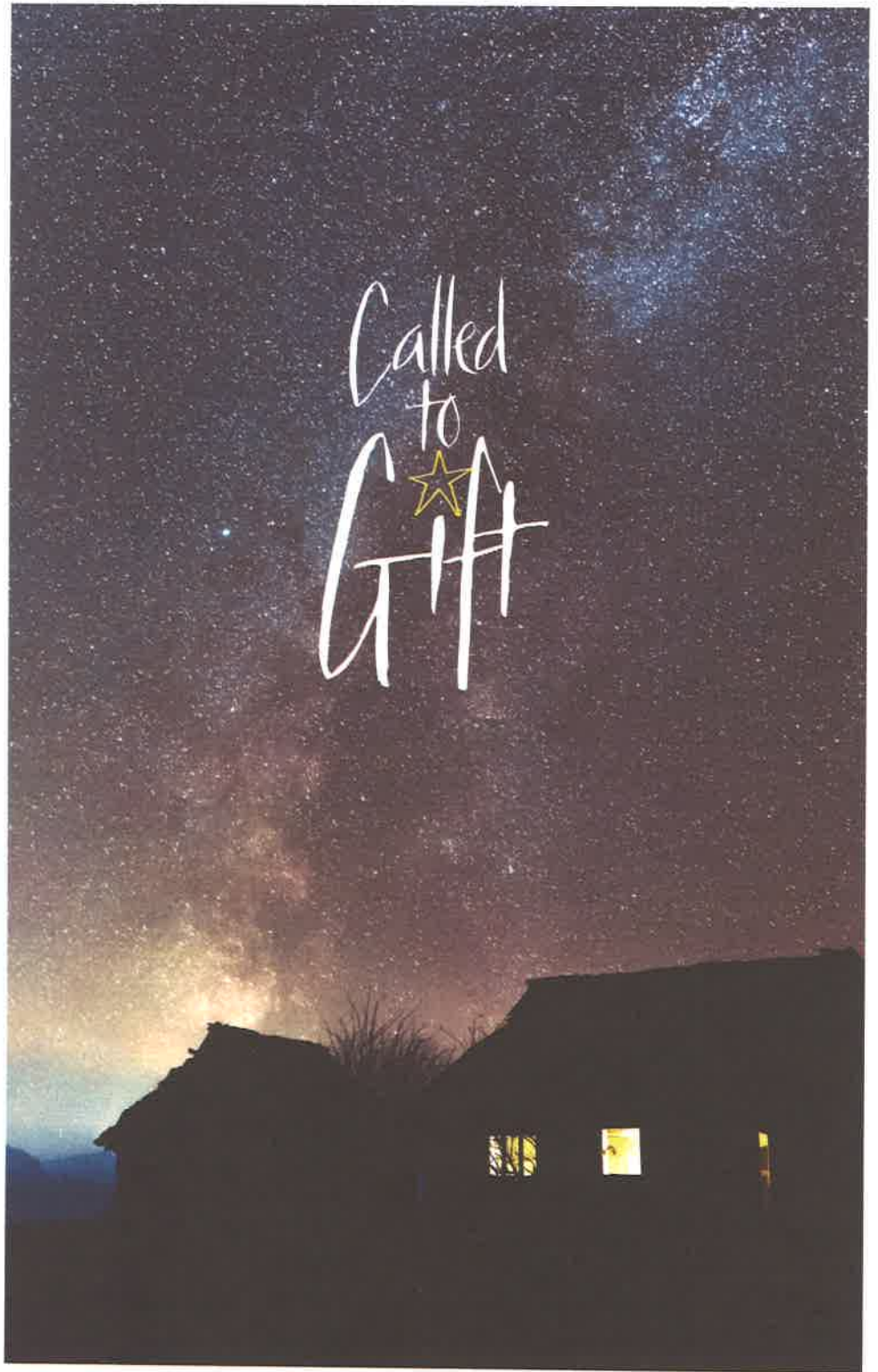


Called
to
GIF



11/27/2022

WELCOME

Welcome to Trinity Reformed UCC, where all are welcome, especially those who are single, married, widowed, divorced, rich, middle-class, poor, LGBTQIA+ (or not), living nearby or far away. No matter where you were born, what language you speak, your skin color, ethnicity, culture, ability, or disability, we welcome you. We also want you to know that we love crying newborns, active toddlers, kids, youths, adults, and seniors, and people who are thick, thin, short, tall, or in between. We welcome you whether you can sing high, sing low, sing only in the shower, try to sing, or if you cannot carry a tune in a bucket (our pastor can't either). You're welcome if you are a first-time visitor, have been here before, are a member, or if you do not really know why/what/who brought you here. We welcome You if you attend church weekly, sometimes, rarely, never, or if this your first time ever. We welcome you if you are baptized, aren't baptized, don't know, or don't even know what that means. We extend a special welcome to you if you have been hurt by Church and hope you will find nothing but love here. Please know that we welcome you with all your questions and doubts, beliefs, disbeliefs, and unbelief. In short:

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey: You are welcome here.

Period.

WEEKLY SERVICES

ONSITE

Sunday Worship 9:30 AM

Sunday School 2nd and 4th Sunday 8:30 a.m.

ONLINE

Live at tinyurl.com/trinf

Recordings will be on our website.

For more info visit us on the web at
www.TrinityUCCCollegeville.org

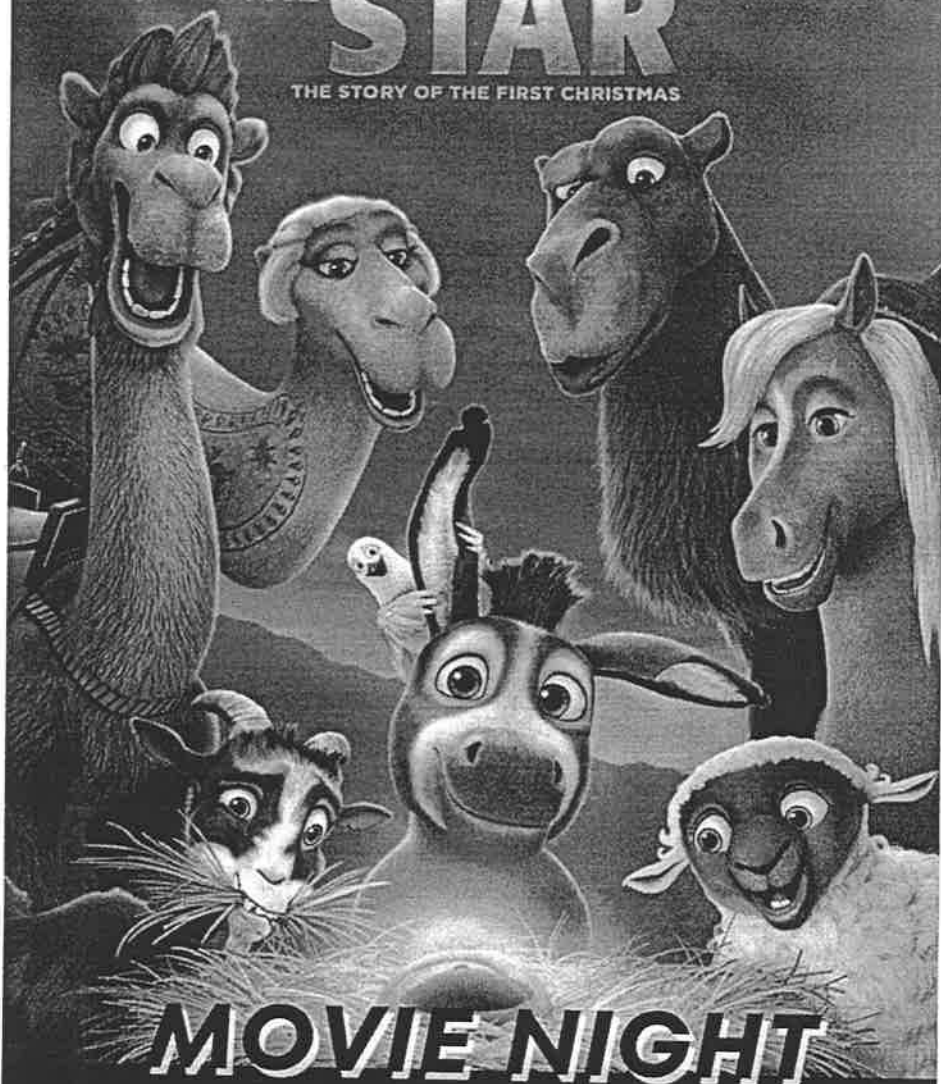


TRINITY
REFORMED CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

TRINITY REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
532 East Main Street, Collegeville, PA 19426
PHONE: (610)489-4223

THE STAR

THE STORY OF THE FIRST CHRISTMAS



MOVIE NIGHT

December 3, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Doors open at 6:15 PM

Trinity Reformed Church UCC

532 East Main Street, Collegeville, PA 19426

www.trinityucccollegeville.org

Wheelchair-accessible



Bethany Children's Home

Every year at Christmas, Trinity supports youths and young adults residing at Bethany. This year's wishlist can be found at <https://bethanyhome.org/holidays-at-bethany>.

The Wishlist, as always, contains many crafts and sports items as well as cottage needs. If purchasing online, please have items shipped to Trinity and not Bethany. You may, of course, also bring your donations to church. All donations will be dropped off at the same time by us, to make it easier and safer for the volunteers and staff at Bethany. Sincer Bethany has become an approved placement for underage victims of child trafficking, or those at risk of beign trafficked, these safety measures are even more necessary. **Please note: Donations need to be received by Trinity no later than December 11th.**

Thank you to everyone that can give.

Order of Worship

November 27, 2022 – First Sunday of Advent

(* Indicates that the congregation may stand)

PRELUDE

IMPROVISATION

MIKE RUHL

WORDS OF WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(ADAPTED FROM PSALM 122 AND ISAIAH 2)

L: I was glad when they said to me,

All: "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

L: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,

All: that we may learn God's ways and walk in God's paths.

L: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

All: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord this Advent and always!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NCH 122 COME, O LONG EXPECTED JESUS

*LITANY OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

L: Advent is a journey of preparation. Whether God feels near or far to you; whether faith feels like a gift or a struggle; welcome to this journey.

All: Let's watch, let's rest, let's make space for love to be born again.

L: Many things have tried to overwhelm us- division, oppression, sickness, poverty, war.

All: We need to be surprised by the Spirit this season.

L: Today is a first step of turning toward God with expectation.

All: We have come to be overwhelmed with hope.

L: This morning we light the candle of Hope. The start of a new, yet familiar, journey. A bold proclamation. Though all predictions seem dire, we light a candle in the shadows, trusting it will magnify God's hope in the world. *(The candle is lit)*

*CALL TO AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(ADAPTED FROM ROMANS 13)

L: You know what time it is:

All: Now is the time to wake from sleep.

L: Salvation is near!

All: Let us confess our sin.

(Moment of silent contemplation, confession, and prayer. Please be seated)

L: As we begin our Advent journey, we confess that our lives, our communities, and our cultures are not always pleasing to God.

All: We remember and confess the separation and the isolation that our actions can cause. Our shame leaves us feeling distant from God and from one another.
L: Yet even now, our longing for the One who tears open the heavens and comes down, kindles like a fire in our soul.
All: Even now, as we wait, we dare to hope; we dare to trust in God's forgiveness; and we dare to let go of our shame. Gracious God, overwhelm our doubts and fears with your hope. Amen.

KYRIE (RESPONSIVE) #750 NCH (LORD, HAVE MERCY UPON US, CHRIST..., LORD...)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Even though we can't see our way through Advent yet, God is ready to surprise us. Trust that the One who created you renews you today and every day. In that great love, we are forgiven and restored. That love overwhelms us with hope.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

*HYMN NCH 102 O HOW SHALL I RECEIVE YOU vs. 1 & 3

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (IN UNISON)

All: God of glory, we know that you are coming at an unexpected hour. Come to us now, in spirit and truth. Take us up into your presence, make us ready to hear your teaching and do your will, through Jesus Christ our hope. Amen.

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| SCRIPTURE READING | HEBREW SCRIPTURE | ISAIAH 2:1-5 |
| | EPISTLE | ROMANS 13:11-14 |
| | GOSPEL | MATTHEW 24:36-44 |

SERMON SACRED TIME REV. SUZANNE E. SCHWARZ-GREEN

*HYMN NCH 116 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL vs. 1 & 2

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PRAYER RESPONSE (#501 – BLUE HYMNAL)

Response: Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Hear our prayer, O Lord; And grant us Thy peace. A-men.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

(Please place your giving into the offering plate or you may give online by going to www.trinityucccollegeville.org.)

OFFERTORY CHANCEL CHOIR BRING US HOPE (SCHRAMM)



*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

#506 – BLUE Hymnal

We give Thee but Thine own, What'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: God be with you all. ALL: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts; ALL: We lift them up to God.
P: Let us give thanks to God! ALL: It is right to give God our thanks and praise!
P: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Word of God, Logos from the beginning....
...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your
name and join their unending hymn:

(HOLY, HOLY, HOLY" #522 – BLUE HYMNAL)
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Thy Glory'
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest
Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

THE STORY REMEMBERED

P: Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ....
...And so, in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves as a
holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the
mystery of faith.
All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

THE SPIRIT TRANSFORMS

P: Anoint this community with your Holy Spirit.....
...And now, as beloved children of a loving God, we pray the prayer of Jesus.
All: 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
P: Christ invites all to his table...
...These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Please remain seated and let us
sing our communion hymn while the servers will distribute the elements.

COMMUNION HYMN

NCH 330

LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

THE POURING AND BREAKING AND SERVING

L: Through the broken bread

All: We participate in the body of Christ

L: Through the cup of blessing

All: We participate in the new life Christ gives.

L: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING.

P: At this table, Christ is the host, welcoming all who hunger. At our own tables, may Christ be our guest this day and always, that we might welcome hope, peace, joy, and love into our lives, and become hosts to God's presence and people.

All: God of Love, Thank you for feeding us with your Word and at your table. Guide us to the stables of our world, where the lonely and longing gather. Lead us to the mangers of our time, where hope and renewal are born again. Make us heralds of your love and joy. Amen..

*HYMN

NCH 103

WATCHER, TELL US OF THE NIGHT

Vs. 1 & 3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

L: This service has ended. Your service has begun.

Go in peace. Go in joy. Go to love and serve God.

All: Thanks be to God

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

NCH #812

"THREEFOLD AMEN"

POSTLUDE

IMPROVISATION

MIKE RUHL

ABOUT COMMUNION

This is God's table and not ours; therefore, here at Trinity, this table is open to all who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of God's people.

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All other music – public domain.

Liturgy in parts by the UCC Pension Board/Christmas Fund

506

WILLIAM WALSHAM HOW, 1864

S. M.

ST. ANDREW
JOSEPH BARNBY, 1866

We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;

All that we have is Thine a-lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee. A-MEN.

812

Threefold

"Danish"

A - men, a - men, a men.

750
Kyrie

Text: Traditional, 6th century

Music: The American Lutheran Hymnal

Congregation or choir

Leader
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

501

Prayer Responses

5. 5. 5. 5.

GEORGE WHELPTON, 1847-1930

pp Devoutly

Come, O Long-Expected Jesus

122

Charles Wesley, 1744; alt.

1 Come, O long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set all peo-ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope to all the earth im - part;
3 Born all peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, you came to reign!
4 By your own e - ter - nal Spir - it, come to claim us as your own;

From our fears and sins re - lease us; grant us your true lib - er - ty.
Dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, en - ter ev - ery long - ing heart.
Born to rule on earth for - ev - er, come, be known to us a - gain.
By your all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, let us share your cross and crown.

Charles Wesley, the brother of John, was one of the students known as "Methodists" at Oxford University. He wrote hymns for every occasion. This is from his small collection Hymns for the Nativity.

Tune: STUTTGART 8.7.8.7.
Melody attrib. to Christian F. Witt (1660-1716)
from Psalmodia Sacra, Gotha, 1715
Alternate tune: IN BABILOÑE

O How Shall I Receive You

102

Paul Gerhardt, 1653

Transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, and others; alt.

1 O how shall I re - ceive you, how meet you on your way,
 2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you un - to me;
 3 You come, O Christ, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good - will,

blessed hope of ev - ery peo - ple, my soul's de - light and stay?
 your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.
 to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.

O Je - sus, Je - sus, give me now by your own pure light,
 O love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
 In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day

to know what-e'er is pleas - ing and wel - come in your sight.
 in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race.
 when a re - newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.

As a German Lutheran pastor serving during the Thirty Years' War, Paul Gerhardt's trials were legion. In the midst of it all, he composed more than a hundred hymns, among them some of the finest and most beloved in Christian hymnody.

Tune: ST. THEODULPH 7.6.7.6.D.
 (VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN)
 Melchior Teschner, 1615

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Isa. 11:1-12; Exod. 19-20:17

Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, 1710
 Based on ancient antiphons from Advent Vespers
 Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851, and others; alt.
 St. 2, 7, transl. Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916; alt.

Unison

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, and
 3 O come, O come, O A - do - nai, who
 4 O come, O shoot of Jes - se, free your
 5 O come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and

ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly
 or - der all things far and nigh; To us the path of
 came to all on Si - nai high, And from its peak a
 own from Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny, From depths of hell your
 o - pen wide your heaven - ly home; Make safe the path to

ex - ile here, un - til the Child of God ap - pear.
 knowl - edge show, and help us in that way to go.
 sin - gle law pro - claimed in maj - es - ty and awe.
 peo - ple save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.
 end - less day, to hell's de - struc - tion close the way.

In the medieval Western church, seven "Great O" antiphons, the basis for this hymn, were sung consecutively on the seven days before Christmas, ending with what appears above as the first stanza.

Tune: VENI EMMANUEL L.M. with refrain
 Melody from a 15th-century French "Processional"
 Arr. Thomas Helmore, 1854

Let Us Break Bread Together

Acts 2:42

African-American spiritual

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
 * 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

* "Share the cup" may be substituted for "drink wine."

The earliest version of this spiritual probably began with the current stanza three, and was a song some of the enslaved in Virginia used when gathering for secret meetings. The communion stanzas were added some time after the Civil War.

Tune: LET US BREAK BREAD
 10.10. with refrain
 Harm. David Hurd, 1983

Watcher, Tell Us of the Night

*Isa. 21:11-12**John Bowring, 1825; alt.*

1 Watch-er, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom-ise are.
 2 Watch-er, tell us of the night, high-er yet that star as-cends.
 3 Watch-er, tell us of the night, for the morn-ing seems to dawn.

Trav - eler, O a won-drous sight! See that glo-ry - beam-ing star!
 Trav - eler, bless-ed - ness and light, peace and truth its course por - tends.
 Trav - eler, shad-ows take their flight, doubt and ter-ror are with-drawn.

Watch-er, does its beau-teous ray news of joy or hope fore - tell?
 Watch-er, will its beams a - lone gild the spot that gave them birth?
 Watch-er, you may go your way; has-ten to your qui - et home.

Trav-eler, yes; it brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el!
 Trav-eler, a - ges are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth!
 Trav-eler, I re - joice to-day, for Em - man - u - el has come!

This hymn, a dialogue between watcher and traveler, was suggested by the dialogue in Isaiah 21:11-12. John Bowring was a gifted linguist, worker for political and social reform, member of Parliament, and governor of Hong Kong.

Tune: ABERYSTWYTH 7.7.7.7.D.
 Joseph Parry, 1879
 Alternate tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

CHURCH EVENTS

CHOIR PRACTICE *Sundays 8:40 AM*

ADVENT POTLUCK & MUSIC

12/3 after worship

SUNDAY SCHOOL

12/11 at 8:30 AM.

MOVIE NIGHT: THE STAR

12/4 at 6:30PM.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

11/28 at 7PM in Hendricks Room

Pastor: Rev. Suzanne E. Schwarz-Green

Pianist: Mike Ruhl

Cherub, Junior & Chancel Choirs: Carolyn Santoro

Chime, Youth Bell & Adult Bell Choirs: Cindy Golden

The paraments for the season of Advent are blue.

During Advent we prepare for Christs coming on Christmas. Blue represents hope and expectation.

NEW OR FIRST TIME HERE?

Thank you for choosing to worship here today. We are blessed by your presence. If you have questions, need assistance, or would like to be on our email list, please let one of the ushers know and/or fill out one of the visitor cards located in the pews.

YOUNG DISCIPLES

Children are always welcome at Trinity. Greeters can provide you with an activity pad for children. If you require a space to care for your child's needs, an usher can help point you to the nursery. Consider enrolling your child in our Sunday School!

THANK YOU

Altar Flowers: Lynne Paul – in loving memory of my husband Walter Paul

Usher/s: Linda Augustine

Greeter/s:

Reader: Clifford Porter

Prayer Box

Please include the following individuals/causes to your daily prayers this week:

Special Requests: Charlie M. (rehab after accident) • Christine and Jeffrey (friends of Sherry W., loss of baby during pregnancy)

Ongoing Requests: Connie C. (mother of Missy W.) • Bob C. (Father of Missy W.) • Jackie H. (daughter of Angela S.) • Hubie B. • Leslie H. • Joan R. • Flo S. • Ron H. (friend of Earl & Cheryl H) • Nera K. (Aunt of Nick V.) • Mary Ellen & Glenn D. • Deb S. • Pastor Suzanne • Ruth F. • Cousin Ray & Charlene (cousin of Beth Z) • Lisa K. (for family member placed in hospice), her daughter Jennie, and Jade (granddaughter of her cousin) • Audrey & son Michael S. • Laura M (mother of Heather W), brother Mike, father Bruce, Gavin (friends' son), friend Jer • Eric & family (friend of Beth Z.) • Shannon C. & Family • George D. • Bill D. & family (Brother of Lynne P) • Nick V. and partner Joe • Rob S & Family (serious car accident, friend of Pat M.) • Jack (father of Sherry W.) and Ashley • Father of Jim K

Please let us know if prayers need added or removed or have been answered!

November 27, 2022

Matthew 24:36-44

Called to Gift

United Black Christians Anniversary

Today is United Black Christians Anniversary. United Black Christians (UBC) is an officially recognized special interest group of the United Church of Christ (UCC), providing voice and vision for more than 70,000 African Americans.*

UBC represents lay and clergy persons who faithfully minister in more than 278 predominately African American congregations of the United Church of Christ and those African American members in congregations that are not predominately African American.

UBC seeks to preserve our tradition as a people of faith and hope.

UBC recognizes that it is the Black Church that has meant survival for African Americans on these shores.

UBC affirms that it is the Black Church that will assure our continued growth, development, endurance and ultimate liberation.

UBC affirms that each of us has gifts to offer and is entitled to the full rights and privileges of the United Church of Christ.

Provide voice for the African American members of the United Church of Christ

To strengthen Black churches in the UCC

To train and nurture leaders of our churches for Gospel inspired service to the Black community

To provide relevant ministry for our youth and young adults

To empower the laity for present day ministry

To create ecumenical and world-wide partnership for service and evangelism

To be active advocates for liberation and racial justice at home and abroad

To provide spiritual nurture for our members

To enhance clergy-lay ministry partnership

To provide support to African American Seminarians

“Remembering Our Way Into the Future” ~ Zechariah 8:4-8

*https://www.ucc.org/domestic-policy/ourfaithourvote_about/about-us_united-black-christians/

