

✚ 2nd Sunday of Advent ✚
December 10, 2017 10:00 A.M.

GATHERING IN WORSHIP

Please use the time during the prelude for quiet meditation to prepare yourself for worship.

◆Prelude

◆Call to Worship (In Unison)

The Lord Almighty has declared that we are his people. On the day when He acts, we will be his very own. He will be merciful to us as parents are merciful to the children who serve them. Once again we will see the difference between what happens to the righteous and to the wicked, to the person who serves Him and the one who does not. Amen!

◆Hymn of Praise (BH #424) *We are Singing*

◆Invocation

The Lord's Prayer (forgive us our sins...)

Lighting of the 2nd Advent Candle

Schroeder Family

WORD

Advent Readings

Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 3:4-6

Schroeder Family

Sacrament of Baptism

Jacob ColtonTabor

◆*Gloria Patri* (BH #109)

Pastoral Prayer

◆Hymn of Preparation *O, Holy Night*

Message

“Get Ready, Here I Come”
Rev. Mark Westlind

RESPONSE

◆Hymn of Response (BH #148) *Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming*

Prayer of Confession (In Unison):

**Holy and loving God, we confess that we have dwelt in darkness and preferred it to the light;
That we have been proud of our accomplishments and despaired over our shortcomings.**

**We confess that there are many parts of our lives that need to be lifted up,
and parts of our lives that need to be taken down a notch.**

**Smooth down the mountains of our pride,
and lift up the valleys of our doubts.**

Refine and mold us into a people willing to partner with you to usher in your kingdom where the low and the mighty are brought together.

Help us to listen to the voice of any prophet that turns us to you and away from our sinfulness.

Help us to welcome your leveling kingdom whether we are in valleys, mountains, or both.

Help us to realize that peace never happens on its own.

Give us wisdom to accept that the pursuit of your peace requires that some things be brought up and others, brought down.

No matter the status of our lives, help us to welcome you to our lives

as we continue to wait for your Child, our Hope, and our Salvation.

(Silent Prayer)

Words of Assurance (Pastor):

Listen! For this is Good News!

God's Grace is wider than our wildest imaginings.

God's Grace embraces us as we are and where we are and draws us out to be the people we were created to be.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Life Together

Offering

Offertory *Refiner's Fire*

◆ *Doxology*

◆ Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

◆ **Hymn of Dismissal** (BH #188) *Go Tell it On The Mountain*

◆ **Benediction**

Postlude

◆ **Indicates those who are able should stand.**

NOTES OF INTEREST

Childcare is offered for infants and younger children in the church nursery. If you need directions or more information feel free to ask an usher for assistance.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Greg Goetz, Carol Latimer, Bruce Sladek, Lorraine Sorensen, Linda Stearns (Pryme Tymers "Happygrams"), Gloria Vitro, Linnea Wimpenny.

Today Joe and Elisa Tabor bring their son Jacob Colton Tabor before the congregation for the sacrament of baptism. The godparents are Jim Tabor and Becka Haure.

Rev. Mark Westlind.....	Interim Pastor
Stuart Seale.....	Director of Music and Worship
Betty Aardema and Nate Van Der Male.....	Organists
Amanda Fulton.....	Director, Noah's Ark Preschool
Karen Christakos.....	Church Secretary
Joe Michalowicz.....	Custodian

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Advent

CHIC 2018 NEWS

Calling all High School Students...CHIC is coming! July 15-20 in Knoxville, TN. CHIC is a triennial conference for high school students sponsored by Make and Deepen Disciples, the Evangelical Covenant Church. CHIC is a worship, transformational and fun week of Christ! If you have completed grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 in the 2017-2018 school year and are 15 years old by Dec. 31, 2017 then you are eligible to go. If you are a senior and already went to CHIC you are welcome, too!

Registration forms are available in the church office or see Kellie Lee. **Deposits and registration sheets are due this Friday, Dec. 15, 2017.** Please pay \$100 early bird registration deposit by Dec. 15, 2017. Final payments of \$499 are due May 15, 2018.

Extra fees include: optional excursions from \$10 to \$75 and transportation fees. We are looking into air fare and bus costs.

Questions? See Kellie Lee or email: pglkl199@comcast.net

Save the Date

Mark your calendar for the next Family Event on Wednesday, January 3. We are going to Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) in Aurora from 12-2 P.M. Founded in 1987, FMSC is a Christian non-profit that provides nutritionally complete meals specifically formulated for malnourished children. Donations given fund the meal ingredients, volunteers hand-pack the meals, and the meals are donated to FMSC food partners around the world, where kids are fed and lives are saved!

All are welcome! See Linda Kozak to sign up.

Calendar for the Week:

Today: Name Tag Sunday

10 A.M. Worship
10–11 A.M. Nursery for Infants/Sunday School Pre-K – 6th Grade
11:15 A.M. Confirmation Class and High School Youth Group
11:30 A.M. Adult Sunday School, Fireside Room

This Week:

Mon. 10 A.M. Noah's Ark Cookies with Santa
Tues.-Fri. 9 A.M. Noah's Ark Preschool
Tues. 9:30 A.M. Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room
Tues. 6 P.M. C.E. Board meeting – Holiday gathering at Heidi Weszely's house
Tues. 6:30 P.M. Deacons meeting
Tues. 7 P.M. Trustees meeting
Thur. 11 A.M. Pryme Tymers – Musichorale Christmas Program
Sat. 10 A.M. Presentation of "A New View of Handel's Messiah" lectures, sponsored by Pacesetters. Break for lunch at 12 P.M.

Next Sunday: Covenant World Relief special offering

10 A.M. Worship
10–11 A.M. Nursery for Infants/Sunday School Pre-K – 6th Grade
11:15 A.M. Confirmation Class and High School Youth Group
11:30 A.M. Adult Sunday School, Fireside Room
4 P.M. Christmas Concert and Carols Sing-A-Long
5 P.M. Dinner, Peterson Hall

Dec. 17 – Nursery Helpers: Nancy Mondry

Greeters: Jim & Carol Strickland

Announcements:

Adult Sunday School

On December 10 and 17 Mel Mueller continues his class as he explores the book of First John. Why John wrote this letter and what was the purpose of his writing. All are welcome to attend.

Church Family Christmas Greeting

The Trinity Youth Group will lead this annual church fundraiser with proceeds directed to Every Kid a Camper fund. For a donation, they will help you with your Christmas card chores: they will purchase, address, stamp and mail Christmas cards to all church members. Each card will include a list of the donors' names. *Today, December 10* is the deadline to donate. Please fill out the Church Family Christmas Greeting envelope and return to the church office.

Worth Township Holiday Events

Christmas Care Program – Families in need of assistance may come to Worth Township, 11601 S. Pulaski Rd., Alsip, and fill out an application form for toys for their children (ages infant to 14 years of age) *through tomorrow December 11*, from 8:30 A.M.-4:30 P.M. Applicants will need to pick up items the week of December 11-21, by appointment. Families in need of outerwear this winter may also select items from the used Coat & Outer wear drive now through January 29 or until the coats find a new home. For details contact the Youth Commission, 708-371-2900.

Santa's Room - Come see Santa at Worth Township. Children accompanied by an adult may visit Santa December 4 through 15, Monday-Friday, from 3:30-5:30 P.M. and 6:30-8:30 P.M. There is no charge but a donation of a new toy/canned goods for the Christmas Care Program/Food Pantry would be appreciated. Enter the building at the west entrance.

Pryme Tymers Program

The Pryme Tymers next meeting is Thursday, December 14 at 11 A.M. with a special presentation by Musichorale Choir singing excerpts from their Christmas Concert. At noon, a catered Ham luncheon will be served in Peterson Hall. Call the church office to make your reservation *today*.

"The Kingdom" class

Pastor Mark's Wednesday evening class will break for the Christmas holiday starting December 13 and will resume January 10.

Homeless Shelter Donations Most Appreciated

Covenant Women want to thank all of those who donated clothing and toiletries to the "Affordable Recovery Shelter" in Blue Island. In all, about 75 bags were donated. We were able to organize clothing rooms for the men (140) and another for the women (25). Presently Trinity is the only church making donations. As soon as we bring in the clothing it is taken and used.

We will continue to collect donations of the following items, which can be placed in the boxes beneath the Christmas tree in the Narthex: Soap bars, shower gel, shampoo/conditioner, hand lotion/moisturizer, BIC razors/shaving cream, toothpaste/toothbrush, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, bath towels, socks and underwear, knit caps and gloves. Sharing these needs with family and friends during the holidays will also help you to declutter your closets. Again, Thank You for your time in collecting these most needed items. Just seeing their faces as they leave with fresh, clean clothing shows that someone out there cares – we are making a difference in their lives.

Women's Bible Study

On Tuesday, December 19, 10:30 A.M. the Women's Bible Study group is invited to a brunch at Barbara Johnson's house at 10:30 A.M. Please note: No study on December 26 or January 2. Class resumes January 9.

Pacesetters - New Year's Eve

Attention Pacesetters and other interested friends - don't forget our early New Year's Eve celebration. Join us at the home of Barbara Johnson immediately following the morning service on Sunday, December 31. Look for details to follow in upcoming bulletins.



The Pacesetters invite everyone to join them on Saturday, December 16 for Gregory Athnos' presentation on 'A New View of Handel's Messiah'. Greg, Professor of Music for 32 years at North

Park University, has done research and has an entirely new view of Handel's spiritual commitment to the text used in the masterpiece.

Greg will present two lectures - Handel and His Inspired 'Messiah': We think we know this monumental work, having heard it or sung it so many times. But is there another way to look at the masterpiece? Can we discover another level of 'spiritual depth or commitment'? Who assembled the texts? Why? How did Handel incorporate his own 'spiritual understanding' of the texts? We will view the composition from the same 'Baroque' perspective the composer used.

- 10 A.M. Class begins
- 12 P.M. Lunch - Chicken
- 1 P.M. Class resumes

The cost is approximately \$10. To RSVP, fill out the tear off below and place in the offering plate.

RSVP is due Sunday, December 3.

RSVP – Handel's Messiah lectures, Saturday, Dec. 16

Name _____

Attending _____



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Attending _____



**Christmas Concert
And
Carols Sing-A-Long**

*Trinity Evangelical Covenant Church
Sunday, December 17
Program 4 P.M.
Dinner 5 P.M.*

Trinity invites you and your family and friends to join us for a Christmas music celebration on Sunday, December 17, at 4 P.M. The program will feature the Trinity Children's Choir, Trinity's Holiday Ensemble and special guest Heather Van Der Male, with plenty of sing-a-long carols and Christmas favorites. There will also be our traditional dinner provided by Chi-Tung catering immediately following the program in Peterson Hall.

Help us spread holiday cheer by inviting your family and friends!

There will be a free will offering during the program and a suggested donation for dinner.

RSVP below or call the church office 708-422-5111 by December 10.



RSVP - Christmas Concert Dec. 17

Name: _____

Number of Adults _____

Number of Children _____

**Today's Scripture:
Malachi 3:1-4**

"I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the LORD Almighty.

²But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ⁴and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

Luke 3:4-6

⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
⁵Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.

⁵Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.
The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.

⁶And all people will see God's salvation."

*Christmas Eve Service
Sunday, December 24, 10 A.M.
Service of Carols and Candles*



WELCOME TO TRINITY

So that we can get to know you better and you can better know us, please complete the tear-off below and place in the offering plate. Thank you!

Date: _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____
