

✚ Fourth Sunday of Advent ✚
December 23, 2018 10:00 A.M.

GATHERING IN WORSHIP

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

◆Prelude

Lighting of the 4th Advent Candle

**Rafael and Grace Yah,
Ella, Isabella,**

◆Call to Worship (Responsively)

Pastor: Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock. You who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh. Awaken your might; come and save us.

**People: Restore us, O God;
make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.**

Pastor: How long, LORD God Almighty, will your anger smolder against the prayers of your people?

**People: You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have made them drink tears by the bowlful.**

Pastor: You have made us an object of derision to our neighbors, and our enemies mock us.

**People: Restore us, God Almighty;
make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.**

◆Hymn of Praise (BH #154) *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (vs. 1,3,4)

◆Invocation

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

WORD

Scripture Readings

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:39-45

Hebrews 10:5-10

◆Gloria Patri (BH #109)

Pastoral Prayer

◆Hymn of Preparation (BH #151) *In The Bleak Midwinter*

Message "One Love Sacrifice making us Holy!"
Rev. Mark Westlind, Senior Pastor

RESPONSE

◆Hymn of Response (BH #181) *When Christmas Morn is Breaking*

Prayer of Confession (People)

People: Lord, we see those in the world that mock your name and oppress those of us who follow You. Today we ask You for forgiveness because we have sometimes turned our frustration and feelings of persecution into righteous anger and even rage toward those who torment us. We confess this. We ask that you would give us the Savior's heart when He was dying on the cross and said, "Forgive them for they know not what they do." Please Lord, restore us and give us love, kindness, and goodwill toward all of humanity. Teach us to pray for them, to reach out to them, and to live lives worthy of You.

(Silent Reflection)

Assurance of Pardon (Pastor)

Pastor: People of God, the Lord has heard your confession and your contriteness of heart. He not only forgives you; He also promises to help each of us live lives worthy of Jesus Christ. Know with confidence that your sins are forgiven and that He is ready to help our attitudes toward those that He loves. For we know that He loves the WHOLE world.

Passing of the Peace

Life Together

Offering

Offertory *Refiner's Fire*

◆ *Doxology*

◆ Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

◆ **Hymn of Dismissal** (BH #159) *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*
(vs. 1,2,4)

◆ **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 feel free to ask an usher for assistance.

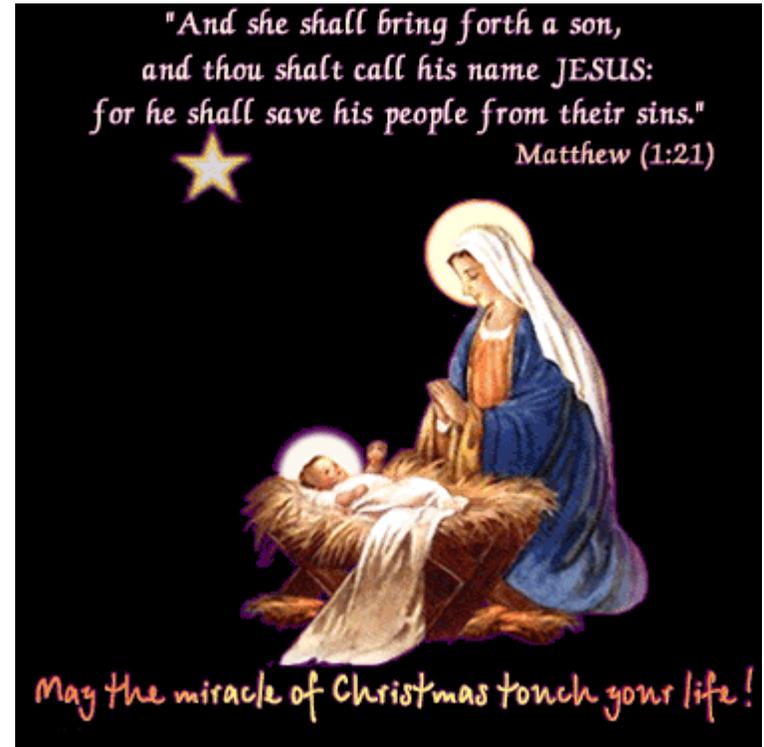
PRAYER CONCERNS: Marjorie Cassady, Ember Lou Eigenbauer (Diana Eigenbauer's great-granddaughter), Chloe Johnson, Char Dunk-Sladek, Lorraine Sorensen, Doris Wallace.

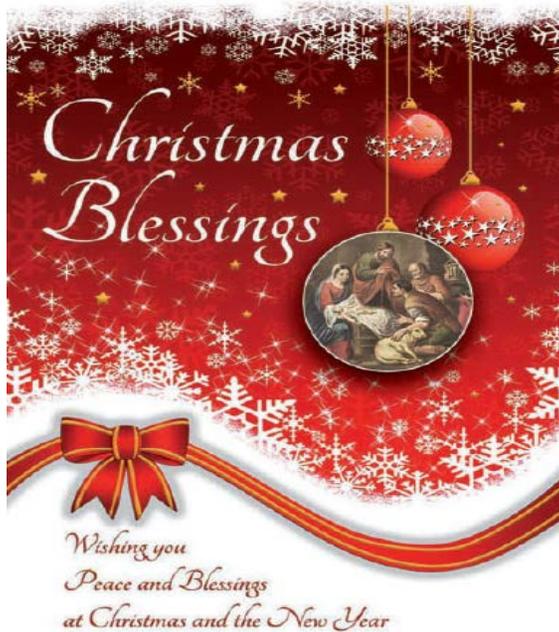
The altar flowers this morning are given by the Shannon and Lee Families in memory of Roger Shannon.

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

Trinity Evangelical Covenant Church
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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 _____

Calendar for the Week:

Today: Covenant World Relief Offering Sunday

NOTE: No Adult Sunday School today

10 A.M. Nursery for Infants/Sunday School Pre-K – 6th Grade

10 A.M. Worship

11:20 A.M. Confirmation Class

This Week:

Mon.-Fri. Noah's Ark Preschool Winter break through January 4

Mon. **5 P.M. Christmas Eve Service
of Carols and Candles**

Tues. *Merry Christmas*

Next Sunday:

9:00 A.M. Adult Sunday School, Fireside Room

10 A.M. Nursery for Infants/Sunday School Pre-K – 6th Grade

10 A.M. Worship

11:20 A.M. Confirmation Class

December 30 – Nursery Helpers: Rita Grijalva, Maddie Ford

Greeters: Chuck & Marcia Lellos

Announcements:

Adult Sunday School - Class starts at 9:00 A.M., Fireside Room

The December Adult Class will next meet on December 30 with Greg Goetz concluding his study on the topic "Monasticism".

For the month of January, Patricia Petersen will lead the class on different weekly topics:

January 6: Background: "Fly Thru-History, Geography and people of God."

January 13: Meaning: "The Day of the Lord--The Dark Side of Love."

January 20: Zephaniah 1:1-18 "Judah and Jerusalem will be punished" and Zephaniah 2:1-3 "Turn to the Lord."

January 27: Zephaniah 2:4-15 "The Nations will be punished" and Zephaniah 3:1-20 "Judah and Other Nations will turn to the Lord".

Start the New Year off right and join us at 9:00 AM to explore these Biblical passages.

Thanksgiving Offering

Thank you for your generosity towards the Thanksgiving Offering. As of December 16, 2018, the offering total is \$8,451.00.

Worth Township Youth Commission Events:

11601 S. Pulaski, Alsip, youthcommission@worthtownship.com

Office: 708-371-2900.

Coat Drive

Residents in need of a winter coat are welcome to come to the Township during normal business hours now through January 31 and choose a coat. Residents can check back as often as needed throughout the season as donations come in daily.

Today's Scriptures:

Micah 5:2-5a

²"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." ³Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. ⁴He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. ⁵And he will be their peace.

Luke 1:39-45

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

Hebrews 10:5-10

⁵Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; ⁶with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased.

⁷Then I said, 'Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll—

I have come to do your will, my God.'"

⁸First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them"—though they were offered in accordance with the law. ⁹Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second. ¹⁰And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

TRINITY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH
9230 S. Pulaski Road, Oak Lawn, IL 60453
WORLD RELIEF OFFERING

Please use this envelope for your gift for Covenant World Relief.
Your gifts to CWR make a difference in the lives of the world's most
vulnerable. Your gift is appreciated.

Please make your check payable to Trinity Evangelical Covenant Church and
note “World Relief Offering” in memo section.

Name: _____

Envelope No: _____