

# TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA



*Lisle*

### TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN VISION STATEMENT

*Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we seek to BE Christ's faithful disciples, living – intentionally – the inward/outward journey as a community of the concerned, a fellowship of the forgiven, and a company of the committed – reaching out to make Christ's presence known in society through face-to-face servant ministry.*

December 29<sup>th</sup> 2024 ~ First Sunday of Christmas

**"The ringing of the bells moves us from a spirit of getting here to a spirit of being here."**

GATHERED BY GOD IN WONDER

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

GATHERING SONG: NO. 133 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" v. 1, 4

CALL TO WORSHIP

**God is in our joy.**

God is in this room.

**We have reason to celebrate.**

We have a reason to sing.

**Thanks be to God for the bright hope of this day.**

INTRODUCTION TO THE OPENING HYMN

\*OPENING HYMN: NO. 143 "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

ADMITTING THE BROKENNESS OF LIFE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Joyful God,

You told us that in order to enter the kingdom of heaven,  
we must be like children.

**Did you mean that like children, we must practice unhindered**

\*Invitation to stand

**joy? Did you mean that like children, we should lean into laughter, release our cynicism, and open ourselves to delight?**

In a world as broken and battered as ours, we admit,

**this often seems easier said than done.**

Forgive us, patient God, for the moments

when we are so focused on the bad that we miss the good.

**Forgive us for hearing the nativity story and staying in our seats instead of jumping for joy.**

We know that even now

you are sowing delight in our lives.

**Open our hearts up to it.**

**With gratitude we pray, amen.**

*Time for Silent Confession*

**Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

**We are seen. We are loved. We are forgiven.**

That is news worth celebrating! That is news that should make us want to cheer, laugh, cry with relief, dance, and sing all at the same time! So in response to God's goodness, I invite you to rise in body or spirit and join me in the sung response. Let us make a joyful noise for God's abundant mercy.

\*SONG OF RESPONSE: NO. 110 "Love Has Come" v.3

Love has come and never will leave us!

Love is life everlasting and free.

Love is Jesus within and among us.

Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.

Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.

Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

SEASONAL CHOIR: "Good Christian Friends Rejoice"

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD IN OUR MIDST

NOTES, PRAYERS, AND HOLY DOODLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

CAROL SING

RESPONDING IN GRATITUDE AND SERVICE

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY: "The First Noel" (Traditional, arr. Zack Smith)

\*DOXOLOGY: No. 134 "Joy to the World" v. 1

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO FINAL CAROL

\*FINAL CAROL: NO. 134 "Joy to the World" v. 2-4

\*BENEDICTION

\*INSTRUMENTAL BENEDICTION: "We Three Kings" (John Henry Hopkins, arr. Zack Smith)

*We are especially grateful for the musical gifts offered today. Thanks to Rachel Grimsby for working with our seasonal choir over the past few weeks, and to David Carothers and his bandmates for sharing their music once again!*

## Worship Leadership

Stephanie Sorge, Pastor  
Judy LePera, Liturgist  
Eric Ruple, Pianist  
Mason Street Brass, Music  
Ginnie Reinhold, House Steward

*We welcome all who are visiting with us today  
and encourage you to sign the guest book or to fill out the blue  
"Welcome to Trinity" slip.*

## Trinity Announcements

**New Year's Retreat:** Centering Space will offer a New Year's retreat for contemplation and renewal on Sunday, January 19 from 4:00 - 7:00 pm. Plan to join us as we celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King and pray for the incoming political administration. Sessions will include contemplation stations, yoga, dance, Zentangle, and massage. A light supper will be provided at 6:00 to conclude our time together. There is no fee for this retreat, however, you are invited to make a free will offering to cover the costs associated with the retreat. Information is available on the Centering Space website or you can contact Teresa Harris or the Church Office. Register at [centering-space.org](http://centering-space.org) or let the office know you'd like to register so that we can have an estimate of how many people will attend.

**Winter 2025 Yoga:** A new yoga session will be offered by Centering Space and led by Robin Atwood on Tuesdays, January 7 - February 11 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. There are still spots available! Register at [centering-space.org](http://centering-space.org) or let the office know.

**For more details and announcements:** Visit the "What's



## This Week at Trinity

**December 29 - December 3**

### **Sunday, December 29**

7:45 am - Book Study

Zoom

10:00 am - Hybrid Worship

Church House & Online

### **Tuesday, December 31**

5:30 pm - Christmas Eve Service

Church House & Online

**Office Closed**

### **Wednesday, January 1**

**Happy New Year! Office Closed**

### **Thursday, January 2**

6:30 pm - Faith and Light

Sanctuary

7:00 pm - Chess Club

Commons

### **Friday, January 3**

5:45 am - Lectio Divina

Zoom

8:30 am - Rocktown Wellness

Commons



**More  
Announcements**



**Online  
Calendar**

## TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN MISSION STATEMENT

Confident of our identity as God's pilgrim people sent into the world to embody the gospel and serve God's people as prophets, we eagerly search – with eyes and ears wide open – for the newness of Christ's love and grace breaking into our lives each day. To ALL, we offer a receptive, safe space:

- to *worship* in creative and participatory ways,
- to *nurture and be nurtured* as we learn and grow together – fearless of the questions and challenges that faith stirs within us,
- to be in *fellowship* with one another – building together a loving, forgiving, caring community; and,
- to experience the *mission* and ministry that calls us out - beyond ourselves – to work with God for justice, peace, and love.

## TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN SESSION

Stephanie Sorge, *Moderator*  
Linda Bradley, *Clerk of Session*

### CLASS OF 2024

Jason Brown  
Rick Comstock  
Kandy Grant  
Virginia Healy

### CLASS OF 2025

Yogi Gillette  
Mark Dewey  
Mary Lou McMillin  
Susie Phend

### CLASS OF 2026

David Carothers  
Amy Lemmons  
Ginnie Reinhold  
Bob Schminkey



### Trinity Presbyterian Staff

Stephanie Sorge, *Pastor*  
[stephanie@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org](mailto:stephanie@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org)

Kim Shank, *Pastoral Care Associate*  
[kim@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org](mailto:kim@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org)

Christabell DeMichele, *Church Administrator*  
[office@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org](mailto:office@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org)

Victoria Riddle, *Communications Specialist*  
[communications@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org](mailto:communications@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org)

Church Office Hours:  
Mon-Fri 10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Stephanie's Sabbath: Friday  
Kim's Sabbath: Tuesday

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