

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 1st 2024 ~ First Sunday of Advent
"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. 91 "Come, Come Emmanuel"

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

CALL TO WORSHIP AND ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

In a weary and worn world, how do we begin again?
Where do we start?

Let us begin with the good news! Let us begin by trusting that we are a blessing, loved by a gracious God.

Let us begin with music and singing!

Let us begin with warmth and welcome. Let us begin with hope.

Yes, let us begin with hope.

Today we light the candle of hope to shine a light in a worn and weary world.

May this be our foundation. May this be our fresh start. May this be our new beginning.

May hope flow forth from here. Amen!

*OPENING HYMN: NO. 611 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

ADMITTING THE BROKENNESS OF LIFE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Affirming God,
Your first words to creation were words of love. You looked at this earth and said, "It is good."**

**You spoke affirmations through the prophets. You spoke blessings over Mary.
You spoke belonging through Christ.**

**At every turn, you have reiterated that we are a blessing, made in your image, held in your love.
Forgive us for forgetting this truth.
Forgive us for measuring our worth by society's measuring stick instead of yours.**

**We believe.
Help our unbelief.
In Christ's name we pray, amen.**

Time for Silent Confession
Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Family of faith, I don't know the last time someone told you that you are good, just as you are. I don't know the last time you heard that you are loved and created in the image of God. I don't know the last time you trusted those words and truly believed that you are a blessing. However, in case it has been a while, hear these words from Isaiah: God says,
**"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name.
You are mine."**

We are forgiven. We are loved. Let it leave you awestruck.
Thanks be to God! May we believe it. Amen.

*SONG OF RESPONSE: NO. 87 "Comfort, Comfort Now My People" v.1

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

School-aged young disciples are welcome to proceed upstairs to continue to worship with engaged hands, bodies, and minds.

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD IN OUR MIDST

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Isaiah 43:1-7 and Luke 1:26-38

SERMON: "You Are a Blessing"

HYMN OF RESPONSE: "Memento Novo"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in a blessing God
who calls us Beloved.**

**We believe that this blessing showed up in the life of Mary,
and was also bestowed upon the hemorrhaging woman,
the poor in spirit, the children, the crowds, the Jews,
the Gentiles, the faithful and the doubting.**

**So in faith,
we trust that God's blessing,
like ripples on the water,
forever reaches toward us.**

**And with wild hope,
we believe
that because of this blessing,
we are covered in love.**

**We are more than enough.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

RESPONDING IN GRATITUDE AND SERVICE

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*DOXOLOGY: "Creator of the Stars of Night" v. 4
*To God the Parent, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
praise, honor, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING 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.**

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*FINAL HYMN: NO. 547 "Go, My Children, With My Blessing"

*BENEDICTION

*SUNG BENEDICTION: NO. 92 "While We Are Waiting, Come" v. 1

Worship Leadership

Stephanie Sorge, Preacher
Mark Dewey, Liturgist
Paulo Steinberg, Pianist
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

December 1 Activities: We will be having some family friendly activities going on after worship today! Nancy will be making advent wreaths with folks, and Susie will be getting together some younger volunteers to help with decorating the church and making Christmas ornaments. We would love to have you join us! us! Then, at 2pm, we are having a baby shower for Caroline Kempfer-Ware. All are invited to celebrate the coming of a new little girl!

Advent Devotionals & Calendar: If you would like a copy of our Advent devotional, you can pick one up here at the church or you can let the office know if you would like us to place one in your box or mail it to you. We will also be following an Advent Calendar this year, along with a photo challenge! You can download this online or pick one up here at the church.

For more details and announcements: Visit the "What's Happening Now" page on our website.



This Week at Trinity **December 1 - December 7**

Sunday, December 1

7:45 am - Book Study	Zoom
10:00 am - Hybrid Worship	Church House & Online
11:15 am - Wreath Making & Christmas Decorating	Church House
2:00 pm - Baby Shower	Commons

Monday, December 2

10:30 am - Enneagram Class	Harbor Room
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Tuesday, December 3

5:00 pm - Yoga	Sanctuary
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Wednesday, December 4

5:45 am - Lectio Divina	Zoom
9:00 am - Clothes Closet set up	Commons
12:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting	Yoke Room
6:30 pm - Clothes Closet Open	Common

Thursday, December 5

9:00 am - Backpack Program	Keister Elementary
11:30 am - Grief Support Group	Harbor Room
6:30 pm - Faith and Light	Sanctuary
7:00 pm - Chess Club	Commons

Friday, December 6

5:45 am - Lectio Divina	Zoom
8:30 am - Rocktown Wellness	Sanctuary



**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



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

Trinity Presbyterian Staff

Stephanie Sorge, *Pastor*
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Kim Shank, *Pastoral Care Associate*
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Christabell DeMichele, *Church Administrator*
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