Christ-Centered / Biblically-Based / Spiritually-Alive!

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Venice, Florida

8:30 A.M., November 28, 2021
First Sunday of Advent

Traditional Worship
We welcome you warmly to Trinity Presbyterian Church where we strive to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. We are especially thankful for visitors, and we are grateful to be able to worship in person again.

All service liturgy is projected onto the screen, but you’re welcome to use the pew Bible or hymnal when referenced. If you have trouble hearing clearly, there are hearing devices that could be obtained from one of the ushers.

We are currently livestreaming our worship services for those who are not able to be with us in person. Please feel free to invite others to worship with us online. You may access our livestreaming on YouTube on Sunday or recordings afterwards. Please go to the church website (trinitypc.org) for the direct link.

During this period, baskets will be placed in the narthex for your offering. As an alternative, you may also give online directly by either going to the church website and clicking on the green “GIVE NOW” button, or scan the QR code here on the right with your smart phone.

The season of Advent is a corporate spiritual journey that calls for expectant waiting and readiness for the coming of Christ. It is hoped that when the church travels this journey and treats it as a discipline of life and prayer, the joy of Christmas is immeasurably intensified. The color purple or blue is used for Advent as it is expressive of hope (expectation, anticipation), which is again the dominant mood of Advent.

SESSION
Class of 2021
Mike Hague
Debbie Kretz
Mark Mitchell
Cheryl Szekeres

Class of 2022
Kim Joynes
Sally Strayer, Clerk
Bob Ulasewich

Class of 2023
Cookie Baker
Bob Elliott
Sondra Guffey
Scott Lantz

DIACONATE
Class of 2021
Wilson Barker
Nancy Eells
Susan Mather
Mary Walters

Class of 2022
Diane Fuchs
Dennis Ihde
Dave Kretz

Class of 2023
Kaye Elliott
Tammy Glover
Julie Miller
Lou Szekeres, Moderator

Lectionary Readings for Today (Year C):
People’s response in **bold & italic** type

APPROACHING THE THRONE OF GRACE

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

“And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints” (1 Thessalonians 3:12-13).

GATHERING MUSIC

Doug Hamstra, Organ

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

Linda Mercantini

GREETINGS & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SHARED

Pastor Bill Teng

The Lord be with you. **And also with you** . . .

. . . The grace and peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you**.

VOLUNTARY

Nocturne in E Minor, Op. 72, No. 1 Chopin (1827)/arr. B. Delfausse (2021)
Ann Alton, Cello / Donna Smith, Piano

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Jerry & Janet Henry

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but have the light of life” (John 8:12).

**We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.**

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shine” (Isaiah 9:2).

**Come, Lord Jesus, our light and life.**

Until that day, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

HYMN #133

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

PRAYER OF ADORATION

MAKING OUR CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God: We confess we often resist your holy realm — You seek justice and righteousness, but we pursue selfish agendas; you promise us salvation, but we trust in our own strength.

Forgive us, God of grace. Lead us in your way of truth so that we may be ready to see you face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SILENT REFLECTION (Reflecting on the Prayer of Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

. . . Friends, believe the Good News. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.
CALL TO OFFERING

Ann Alton, Cello / Donna Smith, Piano

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

READING AND HEARING GOD’S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING, Jeremiah 33:14-16
The Word of the Lord.  Thanks be to God.

Hymn #801  “This Is the Day”  THE LORD’S DAY

The Word of the Lord.  Thanks be to God.

SERMON

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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 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.

Hymn  “In Christ Alone”  Getty & Townend (2002)

CHARGE AND BLESSING

VOLUNTARY

“Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts” from Christmas Oratorio
Saint-Saens (1858)/ arr. A. Whitworth (2000)
Doug Hamstra, Organ

Audio/Video Tech Team
Lou Szekeres, & Martha Cornell

Join a 30-minute Online Prayer-n-Share
Thursday Evenings at 7:00
(Please see church website for link: TrinityPC.org)
What Happened on This Day in Christian History

November 28, 1628 is the birthday of John Bunyan. He was a foulmouthed youth who came to Christ after hearing a group of ladies talking about spiritual things. Later as a Baptist preacher, he was imprisoned for his faith. While in prison, he wrote Christian classics such as Pilgrim’s Progress. Hugh MacKail, a Presbyterian in Scotland, was licensed to preach at 20 and preached his last message at 21. He was captured for his faith, and his trial occurred on November 28, 1666. When he refused to recant, he was tortured and taken to the scaffold. As he ascended, he told the crowd, “Every step is a degree nearer heaven.” At the top, he took out his pocket Bible, read from its last chapter, and spoke of Christ before being hanged. On November 28, 1863, Thanksgiving was observed for the first time as a regular, official American holiday, having been declared the previous month by President Abraham Lincoln. On November 28, 1904, Jeremiah E. Rankin, 76, died. He was the author of the hymns, “Tell It To Jesus” and “God Be With You Till We Meet Again.” The funeral of missionary doctor Paul Carlson, a Covenant medical missionary murdered by Congo rebels in 1964, was held on November 28, 1964. Time Magazine featured Dr. Carlson on its cover, making his martyrdom a matter of worldwide attention. On this day in 1984, Pope John Paul II completed the last of 133 homilies in St. Peter's Square on the theme, “Theology of the Body.” It was the first time in public catechesis that a pope made use of higher criticism of the Old Testament and freely cited a number of Protestant theologians.
Meet and Hear Our Pastor-Candidate on December 19
Our Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has announced it has decided on a final pastor-candidate who will be preaching on Sunday, December 19, in a joint worship service at 10:00 a.m. Session has called a Congregational Meeting for immediately following the service for our full members to approve the candidate and the Terms of Call. All church members and worshippers are urged to be present for that Sunday. Please keep in mind that our Presbyterian polity does not permit the identity of the candidate to be disclosed prior to that day for obvious reasons, and our PNC members will not be able to answer any specific questions about the candidate as a result. Thank you for your kind understanding!

Coffee Connections & Fellowship — Sunday Mornings, 9:30 to 10:30
Join us for an hour of connecting while enjoying a cup of coffee each Sunday morning following worship services in the Welcome Center. It’s a great way to get reacquainted with old friends and make new ones. We look forward to meeting you!

Praise Team Rehearsals — Tuesdays @ 7:00pm
The Praise Team rehearses together on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm. A Google Drive is set up online with recordings of the worship music. Team members can download the recordings and practice on their own. If you wish to be a part of the Praise Team, please see our Music Director, Donna Smith.

Prayer-n-Share — Thursdays @ 7pm
Join Pastor Bill and others for this 30-minute Online time of sharing prayer concerns with each other before engaging in prayer for the church, our country, and one another. You can find the Zoom link on our website (trinitypc.org). If you have a prayer concern, please call the church office (941-493-0018 ext. 224) or email Juanita.fauser@trinitypc.org.

Trinity Matters!
The December/January issue of our newsletter will be published and sent out via email this week. If you’re interested in receiving our electronic newsletter or to receive a hard copy by mail, please call the church office at 941-493-0018.

New Members Class
Several people have been worshiping with us regularly and expressed the interest in making Trinity their church home. Anyone who wishes to learn more about Trinity and possibility joining, Pastor Bill will be holding a New Members Class on Saturday morning, December 4th at 10:00. If you would like to be a part of this orientation class, contact the church office (941-493-0018 ext. 224), email Pastor@trinitypc.org, or talk with Pastor Bill after worship.
Stewardship Update
So far, we have received **73 Faith Promise Cards totaling $236,100** to be given to the mission and ministries of Trinity for 2022. If you have yet to return yours, please either put it in the offering plate after worship service today or mail it back to the church office before November 30. This will help Session formulate our 2022 Operating Budget. If you have any questions regarding the budget, please feel free to call either **Elder Geoff Baker**, President of the Board of Trustees, or **Pastor Bill Teng**. Thank you for your continued support as we anticipate what God will continue to do in and through us in 2022!

**CAM** (Community Assistance Ministry) is once again accepting donations. Please feel free to drop off any non-perishable food items, diapers, wipes, clothing, etc. at the church Office during the week or on Sunday mornings.

Christmas Joy Bags for Misión Peniel
**SWEETS & TREATS!** This year, Misión Peniel has changed how they are handling the Christmas Joy Bags for 2021: We are being asked to fill Christmas treat bags with individually wrapped candies or other edible treats and monetary donations. They will purchase gift cards with the monetary donations from local vendors in their area and divide them equally among their families. Deadline for all donations is **Sunday, November 28** to allow time for delivery. Please see **Deacon Kaye Elliot** in the foyer on Sunday mornings to donate or additional information.

**Family Promise**
Family Promise continues and Trinity’s upcoming (host) week on the schedule is **December 5 through 12**. Volunteers are needed to provide meals or food gift cards only for the families being served through this program. Meals and gift cards should be dropped off at the Day Center, 720 Shamrock Blvd., Venice. For more information contact **Graham Cofer** (941-525-0668).

**White Elephant Results**
Many thanks to all of those who helped make this year’s White Elephant Sale a great success. We could not have done it without such a great group of volunteers. The total, to date, raised for Missions is just over $10,600. Thank you, everyone!!!

**Venice Symphony Youth Orchestra Winter Concert**
Join us in the Community Life Center on **Friday evening, December 3 at 6:30pm** for the Venice Symphony Youth Orchestra Winter Concert. Our own **Donna Smith** directs this very gifted group of musicians ranging in the age of elementary school through high school. There is no charge for the concert — there will be a donation basket at the door. Let’s come out and give them our support and encouragement.
Please pray for Dianne Pike and family as her husband, Carl, died on November 21 after a brief illness. May the peace and comfort of our risen Lord be with them as they mourn his passing!

If you have a special prayer request, please contact the church office (941-493-0018 ext. 224) or email Juanita.fauser@trinitypc.org.

**For Healing**
- Willy & Mello Wolter
- Neil Wooster
- Melba Elmer
- Ron & Mary Foster
- Kirk Kochensparger
- Alice Burton
- Keith Askim
- Wilson Barker
- Bill Ingleton

- Mark Mitchell
- Carolyn Lin
- Sandy Kagy
- Ethel Zeller
- Greg Baker (Geoff’s brother)
- Joshua Henry (Jerry & Janet’s son)
- Nick Hoot
- Myron Ihde (Dennis’ grandson)
- Mona Lee Burr

**Assisted Living Facilities**
- Gertrude Bouwma
- Jim Meister
- Bill Carlson
- Annette Goodsen
- Charlie Barr
- Bill & Kay Hesterhagen

- Betty Lutze
- Merrie Manbeck
- Jolan West
- Gladys Moore
- Nancy Opie
- Betty Kuhlman

**This Week at Trinity**
(November 28 - December 5)

**Sunday — First Sunday of Advent**
- 8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour
- 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

**Tuesday**
- 9:00 a.m. CAM Food Distribution
- 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

**Wednesday**
- 3:00 a.m. Mission Team Meeting (Conference Room)
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

**Thursday**
- 9:00 a.m. CAM Food Distribution
- 7:00 p.m. Online Prayer-n-Share (see website for link)

**Friday**
- 6:30 p.m. Venice Symphony Youth Orchestra Concert (CLC)

**Saturday**
- 10:00 a.m. New Members Class (Conference Room)

**Sunday — Second Sunday of Advent (with Holy Communion)**
- 8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour
- 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

**Church Directory**

**Ministers:** Entire Congregation

**Assisted by:**
- Rev. William C. Teng, Interim Pastor, pastor@trinitypc.org
- Juanita Fauser, Church Administrator, Juanita.Fauser@trinitypc.org
- Linda Trzaskos, Finance Manager, finance@trinitypc.org
- Donna Smith, Music Director, MusicDirector@trinitypc.org
- Doug Hamstra, Organist/Pianist, organist@trinitypc.org
- Todd Miller, Director of CAM, Todd.Miller@trinitypc.org

4365 Englewood Road, Venice, FL 34293  l  941.493.0018   l  www.TrinityPC.org