

# TRINITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH (PCA)

BIBLE BELIEVING † CHRIST CENTERED † GRACE FILLED † GOSPEL DRIVEN



**Worship for the Lord's Day**

**First Sunday after Christmas**

**December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 • 10:45 A.M.**

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*Trinity Fellowship Church exists to glorify God by equipping a community of believers to worship God and be witnesses of Him in Central Arkansas and to the ends of the earth.*

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## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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At Christmas, we remember and celebrate the nativity of Christ and the mystery of the incarnation. Whereas during Advent we anticipate the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah, at Christmas we identify with the angels who proclaimed, “Glory to God in the highest”; with the shepherds, who were afraid but nevertheless offered worship; and with Mary, who pondered the meaning of these events in her heart (Luke 2:13–20).

The spirit of the worship service and the visuals of the worship space change dramatically from the Fourth Sunday of Advent to the celebration of Christmas. White, yellow, and gold are the colors of Christmas, and many visual symbols and images—angels, candles, the star of peace, shepherds, the manger, and so on—come to mind. Christmas carols have their own built-in spirit of celebration.

The Christmas season extends from December 25th through January 5th. Celebrating Christmas as a season helps us both to enter into the meaning of the incarnation more fully than celebrating a single day and to focus on additional Scripture texts that explore the meaning of Christmas beyond the familiar words of Luke 2.

Though North American culture considers Christmas the most important day of the Christian year, we must be careful to see the significance of Christmas in the light of all that follows, particularly Easter. In fact, Christmas is the first in a series of celebrations (Christmas, Epiphany, the Baptism of our Lord, and the Transfiguration of Jesus) that affirm the identity of Jesus as not only fully human but also fully divine. If the intervening weeks between these celebrations focus on the remarkable content of Jesus’ teaching and the relationships he established with his disciples, these four events anchor the church’s reflection on the meaning of Jesus’ life for our understanding of God and of the coming kingdom. Together, these celebrations prepare us for the journey toward the cross and the empty tomb.

*Reflection from The Worship Sourcebook*  
© 2004, Faith Alive Christian Resources

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# Celebration *of* Worship

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## Greeting and Announcements

### Prelude

*During this time, be prayerful and reverent in preparation  
for the worship of our holy God in His sanctuary.  
(Please silence all phones and electronic devices.)*

### † Carol

Hymns of Grace

### Sing We Now of Christmas

Nº 229

### † Call to Worship

**from Psalm 97**

Leader: *The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad! The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory. Zion hears and is glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O LORD. For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods. O you who love the LORD, hate evil! He preserves the lives of his saints; he delivers them from the hand of the wicked. Light is sown for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart. Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!*

### † Carol

Hymns of Grace

### Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Nº 226

### † Prayer of Invocation

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† Please stand, as able

## **Corporate Prayer of Confession**

Unison: Holy God, you sent a star to guide the Magi to the child Jesus. We confess that we have not followed the light of your Word. We have not searched for signs of your love in the world or trusted your good news to be good. We have failed to praise your Son's birth and refused his peace on earth. We have expected little and hoped for less. Forgive our doubt and renew in us all fine desires, that we may watch and wait and once more hear the glad story of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Lord. Amen.

## **Individual Prayers of Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

**Colossians 1:19–20**

Leader: *For in [Jesus] all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.*

### **† Carol**

### **I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day**

Hymns of Grace

Nº 249

### **Children's Message**

*Children are invited to come forward during this time.*

### **Prayers of the People**

*God calls us to be a praying people.  
Let us join in prayer, offering our praise,  
thanksgiving, and intercession to God.*

## Offertory

*Our offering is an act of worship in which we express our gratitude and reliance on God.*

*For those of you who are guests with us today, giving is not obligatory.*

*We are eager to share with you more about our church and its ministry  
and to invite you to participate with us as you are called by God.*

*Tithes and offerings may be placed in the plates in the narthex,  
or you may give online at [trinityfellowshipbca.org/give](http://trinityfellowshipbca.org/give),  
or by texting GIVE to 501-456-4896.*

## † Doxology

Hymns of Grace

N<sup>o</sup> 440

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

## † Prayer of Dedication

### Reading of Scripture

ESV Pew Bible

**Isaiah 60:1–7**

*pp.* 619–620

### Sermon

**“The Light of Zion”**

Rev. Brad DeVries

## † Carol

Hymns of Grace

**Joy to the World! (vv. 1–3)**

N<sup>o</sup> 224

† **Benediction**

† **Carol**

Hymns of Grace

**Joy to the World! (v. 4)**

*N<sup>o</sup> 224*

**Postlude**

*As you leave the sanctuary today, may you know the hope to which God has called you,  
experience the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,  
and trust his incomparably great power for us who believe.*

*Please help us love our community by recycling your unneeded bulletins as you leave.  
A recycling bin is located by the door in the narthex.*

We are scheduled to celebrate the Lord's Supper next Sunday. Let us therefore follow Paul's admonition in 1 Corinthians 11:27–29 to partake of the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner by examining ourselves before the Lord. The Westminster Shorter Catechism states, "It is required of them that would worthily partake of the Lord's Supper, that they examine themselves of their knowledge to discern the Lord's body, of their faith to feed upon Him, of their repentance, love, and new obedience; lest, coming unworthily, they eat and drink judgment to themselves."

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Newsletter Articles** ▶ Today is the final day to submit articles for the January Newsletter. Articles should be submitted via email to Heath.

**Sunday School Schedule** ▶ Sunday School classes will not meet January 3rd. All classes will resume on January 10th.

**Fellowship Lunch** ▶ Our monthly Fellowship Lunch will be Sunday, January 10th, following the worship service. The Westminster Small Group is responsible for setting up for the Fellowship Lunch.

**Small Groups** ▶ Small Groups will meet Sunday, January 10th, following the Fellowship Lunch.

**Bible Reading Plans** ▶ Bible Reading Plans for 2021 are available on the narthex table.

### **A Special Welcome to Our Visitors**

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ! Our prayer is that you will find great joy and spiritual nourishment as we worship together today.

- ❖ Welcome packets are available in the narthex. We encourage you to fill out a visitor's card and place it in the offering plate located in the narthex.
- ❖ Large print ESV Bibles are available near the bulletins.
- ❖ A cry room is available for infants and small children. The cry room is located adjacent to the narthex.

**TRINITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH (PCA)**

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**MISSIONARIES**

Austin Braasch . . . . . RUF at Arkansas State; Jonesboro  
Dan Anderson . . . . . Central Hope Church; Little Rock  
Del Farris . . . . . MNA Ministry to State; Colorado  
Michelle Hill . . . . . CRU/FamilyLife; Little Rock  
Mike and Eli Sabin . . . . . MTW; Guam  
Tom and Karen Mirabella . . . . . MTW; Chiba, Japan  
Union Rescue Mission . . . . . Little Rock



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