

**Trinity Presbyterian Church  
December 18, 2022 A.D.  
The Fourth Sunday in Advent**

**Rev. Dr. Murray Joseph Thompson - Pastor**

Gathering Music  
Welcome & Announcements  
Prelude

Call to worship

L: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;  
***P: on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.***

L: The Light that is the Word of God, God incarnate  
***P: Let us worship as we wait for the newborn king!***

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath - The Davis Family**

**Prayer of Confession**

L: The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us. Because we have faith in Him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

***Holy Lord, in this time of Advent, we confess we often are distracted by the season's busyness, by the stress of commitment, and even by putting our own traditions ahead of the true meaning of Christmas. We confess we also often prefer being sentimental to being sacrificial. Forgive us for all the times we***

***have missed seeing You in our midst, for all the times we have doubted Your presence, and for all the times we have failed to hold the holidays as holy days. Pour peace into our lives and let us be bearers of Your peace to others. Remind us that this is a season of waiting and preparation for the greatest Gift of all. In the holy Name of our Savior, Jesus, we pray. Amen.***

Silent Confession

***(A time of silence will be observed for personal confession.)***

Assurance of Pardon

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace in the name of the Christ Child, Jesus. Amen.

***A Christmas Church Family Celebration  
The "ABC's of Christmas***

Sharing Our Faith with Our Children

\*Hymn - ***What Child Is This #53***

The Morning Scriptures: Colossians 2:6-12

**Spiritual Fullness in Christ**

<sup>6</sup> So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

<sup>8</sup> See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces<sup>[a]</sup> of this world rather than on Christ.

<sup>9</sup> For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, <sup>10</sup> and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. <sup>11</sup> In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh<sup>[b]</sup> was put off when you were circumcised by<sup>[c]</sup> Christ, <sup>12</sup> having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

Sermon: ***The One Born in a Manger is with You Now***

\*Hymn - ***The First Nowell #56***

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology (Hymn #592)

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

\*Sending forth and Benediction

\*Choral response           **God be with You Till We Meet Again**

**God be with you till we meet again, by his counsels guide, uphold you, with His sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again. Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet; till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.**

## Postlude

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Liturgist: Josh Coy

Head Deacons: Allyson Lord & Megan Davis

Rev. Dr. Murray Joseph Thompson

Music Director: Pamela Carroll

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The white poinsettia today is dedicated to the glory of God with gratitude and in recognition of the donation of children's clothing to foster children of Luzerne County.

Given by: Administrative Judge of Family and Juvenile Court Jennifer Rogers.



***“Called to Serve and to Witness”***  
***P.O. Box 239, 105 Irem Road, Dallas, Pa. 18612***  
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