

**Trinity Presbyterian Church
December 31, 2023 A.D.
The First Sunday of Christmas**

Rev. Dr. Murray Joseph Thompson - Pastor

Gathering Music
Welcome & Announcements
Prelude

L: O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures!

P: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

L: May my meditation be pleasing to you, O God, for I rejoice in the Lord.

P: Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord!

L: Therefore, let us worship God on this day! Amen!

Call to Confession:

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Together, with boldness, let us confess our sins unto the Lord who hears all. Let us pray . . .

In Unison: ***With new life all about us, O God, we still cling to old ways. In spite of our promises we seek self assurance. You send the Holy Spirit to enliven our existence. The darkness of doubt dispels the new light the Spirit brings. We are afraid of what it might mean if we surrendered ourselves. So we continue to pursue our flights of fancy, and pretend that we can go it alone. Forgive us, O Lord . . .***

Pastor: Friends, as far as the East is from the West, so far has He removed our sins from us. Believe the Good News of the Gospel, in Jesus Christ we are all forgiven. Amen.

*Our Response

What a Friend We have in Jesus

***What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what
peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, all because
we do not carry everything to God in prayer!***

The Children's Moment

*Hymn - ***Open My Eyes That I May See #324***

The Morning Scripture Lesson: Luke 2:22-35

Jesus Presented in the Temple

²² When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"^[a]), ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."^[b]

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss^[c] your servant in peace.

³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel.”

³³ The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

The Sermon: ***My Eyes have seen Your Salvation***

*Hymn - ***God be with You Till We meet Again #540***

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 counsel 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

Liturgist: Nicole Fleschut

Head Deacons: Karin Thompson & Josh Coy

Rev. Dr. Murray Joseph Thompson

Music Director: Pamela Carroll

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The flowers today are dedicated to the glory of God in memory of Robert Jones our father. Given by: Ken Jones & Alice Kocher



“Called to Serve and to Witness”
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