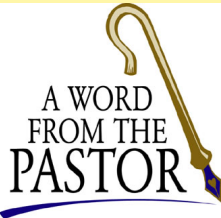




Volume 8, Issue 1

2023
January

The Trinity Times



HAPPY NEW YEAR TRINITY!

WE love to celebrate the New Year. We make all things new. We put away the old and embrace newness.

“Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”

Isaiah 43:18-19

The above verse is what comes to mind. The difficulty is we are very good about doing the celebration of newness, but not so good when it comes to not remembering the former things!

As much as we love to celebrate newness, we do not so well embracing change. As much as we celebrate the new year, what we really tend to embrace is stagnation. We don't like to change. But growth does not happen unless we do change. Newness is not about how we celebrate; but as we grow, change is inevitable. When a plant grows, it looks different. We may have to get a new pot. We may have to cut away some parts that aren't growing for the plant to thrive.

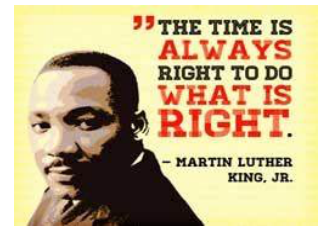
I heard a story about a woman who loved a new plant. She would water it and cut its leaves so that it looked the way she wanted; but the plant did not thrive. It wilted and almost died until she got help from her friend who knew how to nurse the plant back to health. We cannot expect growth only in the way we want! We must accommodate the needs of the plant. In our families we may have to face new relationships, new challenges, but we accommodate the change. We don't force growth in the ways we want the result to look. We have to accept what is needed in order for growth.

As we celebrate the new year, and make resolutions and plans for the future, let us remember that if we truly want something new in our lives... if we really want to grow... we have to embrace change. Let's not think about efforts that have been fruitless in the past, but make room for growth, and feed that growth, with what it really needs. The love of Jesus.

Pastor Jessica



This year we will celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, on Monday, January 16, 2023.



It marks the 28th anniversary of the civil rights leader's life and legacy. Observed on the third Monday each January, as "A day on, not a day off", it is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service, to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities.

Help Plan Trinity's 2023 Fellowship Calendar



All are invited to the "LIVE" annual fellowship planning meeting on Sunday, January 8th at 11:30 a.m. We will have pizza for lunch. Please put this date on your calendar. (The snow date is January 15.) Ideas like the Ladies' Luncheon, Spaghetti Supper, the BAZAAR, repairs in the church, and special Church Fellowship trips will be in the mix of activities considered. Bring your new ideas to share and help plan a 2023 of fun-filled fellowship and community events!

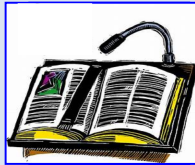


Thanks to all who help to make Christmas special each year...

The Pastor, the Lay Readers, the musicians, the Zoom producers, the secretary sending out all those bulletins, the bell ringers at the market, the people who donated for the LCCM food bank and the Christmas stockings for the nursing homes, and the volunteers who delivered the gorgeous poinsettias. Each of you helps us remember that Jesus is the reason for the Season!

Liturgists

- Jan. 1 - Barb Querry
- Jan. 8 - Dea Kishpaugh
- Jan. 15 - Rev. Rick Clark
- Jan. 22 - David Wallett
- Jan. 29 - Deb Forry



If you are unable to serve as lay reader, please call... 717-838-2812

- 04... Leslie Dissinger
- 18... Joyce Twigg
- 30 ... Claire Earle
- 30... Tammy Smith



LADIES' (and men's) LUNCHEON AT HOSS'S



*The ladies' monthly fellowship luncheon will take place at Hoss's in Annville on **Tuesday, January 17th at 12:00.** (Please note change of time!) All are invited to come out and enjoy the time together. The men of Trinity also meet at Hoss's on the other side of the restaurant. It's a lot of fun and good food!*

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

On Sunday, February 12th, Trinity will be celebrating Souper Bowl Sunday. We will again collect cans of soup and monetary donations to be delivered to Lebanon County Christian Ministries. You're invited to wear your team colors to church. In previous years, Trinity folk have generously supported this outreach ministry. Thank you in advance for your generosity again this year.



Redner's Receipts

Don't forget to drop your Redner's Receipts into the box that is provided in the Parlor! Even if you don't shop at Redner's, perhaps a friend or family member does... those receipts add up and are an easy way to generate a little extra income for the church! To date we are nearing \$1000 received by saving Redner's Receipts!

From Carol & George Hollich...



There is a proverb that says, "It takes a village to raise a child." But have you considered **that it takes a congregation to build a church?**

Thanks to all of you who support Trinity with your time, treasure, and presence in worship... in-person and on Zoom each week.

Thanks to Deb Forry for doing the bulletins, to Caroline Jacobs, soloists, and choir for their music. **Thanks** to the liturgists and technology gurus for their willingness to help. **Thanks** to Wilson Justiniano, the communion stewards, ushers, and greeters who prepare the Church for worship. **Thanks** to all of you who do the things that no one sees... unless they are not done! And finally a **Special Thanks** to Pastor Jessica for her inspiring messages and caring ways.

It's all of the above and more that make Trinity a loving Church and wonderful place to worship our Lord and Savior! **Have a happy and healthy New Year!**

Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army

Sally DeJesus once again rallied Trinity to ring the bell and collect money for the Salvation Army kettles on 11/26/2022. There was a steady flow of people going in and out of the Market and we thank the bell ringers for their time and support of Salvation Army's Christmas mission project.



Dear Sally,

You and your fellow church members are helping those in need here in Lebanon County by ringing the bell each year for the Salvation Army. Thank you!

Terry

Dr. Terry Weaver,
Savation Army Advisory Board Member
Red Kettle Campaign Chairman



Thank you for making the 2022 Christmas Project spectacular this year. We were able to make 1,400 stockings. This year we are including Manor Care, Hillfarm Estate, the Dixon Foundation, and Lebanon Free Clinic. Thank you to all who helped make, sort, and deliver the stockings....

Lebanon County Church Women United

DISCRETIONARY FUND



Each month the pastor is asked to help members of Trinity or the community as they go through difficult times. Gifts placed in the offering plate marked "Discretionary Fund" is one way you can support this special fund. Please consider helping those in need!

A Prayer for the Season of Epiphany

Gracious God, You are the giver of every perfect gift. As we celebrate and embrace the new year that you have blessed us with, we humbly pray that we can continue to keep our eyes focused on you. We celebrate the coming of your Son and joyously make plans for a new year filled with hope, joy, and love. We pray that the anticipation we felt during Advent will bring to light the glorious fruition of your peace. The peace that you bestowed upon us that blessed night so long ago in Bethlehem. May we shine your light brightly, and walk in newness of the life that we now have in your Son, our Lord. In Jesus Name We Pray. Amen



<i>Jim & Betsy Allwein</i>	<i>Dean Berger</i>
<i>Brossman family</i>	<i>Penny Brown</i>
<i>Judy Derr</i>	<i>Gail Emerich</i>
<i>Kim Hollich</i>	<i>Wilson Justiniano</i>
<i>Caroline Jacobs & family</i>	<i>Joshua Mullins</i>
<i>Steve Miller & family</i>	<i>Linda Perini</i>
<i>Family of Marian Mitchell</i>	<i>Alissa Plant</i>
<i>Karen & Bob Neblock</i>	<i>Mike Querry</i>
<i>Marilyn Smith</i>	<i>Snyder family</i>
<i>Pat Swartz</i>	<i>Joyce Twigg</i>
<i>Reba Sterner family</i>	<i>Brandi Tamayo</i>
<i>Wire family</i>	<i>Carol Yeagley</i>
<i>Dave Wallett Jr.</i>	<i>Judith Wentzel</i>
<i>Dave Wease & family</i>	<i>Walt & Kathy Zehring</i>
<i>George Wilkins family</i>	<i>Jill Brickley</i>

*Traveling mercies for Holiday Travelers
Our Church, Community, Country, and World
Families & recovering victims of crime & abuse
All who are sick & shut in & their caretakers
All those devastated by natural disasters
Issues surrounding Ukraine
Our men and women in uniform
A Safe and Joyous Holiday Season!*

Our Church Prayer

*Dear Lord,
We love you and we praise your Holy Name.
Help us to be an obedient church. Help us to love one another, reach out with love to the needy and oppressed. We pray for strength to continue the work you have called us to do. Help us to reach out as we reach up to you.
By your mercy grant us healing, compassion, and strength to do your blessed will for ourselves, our families, our community, our conference, & our world.
In the Name of Jesus our Lord and Savior we pray.
Amen.*



PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

On Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 at the Church I am planning to lead a Bible Study. The following are some ideas for study along with approximately how long each would take. Please place a 1, 2, and 3 next to the study in which you are interested. A target date for us to start would be Jan 11, 2023...

- **Book of James - 5 week study**
- **Book of Revelation- 20 week study**
- **Book of Genesis - 25 week study**
- **Book of Romans. - 15 week study**
- **Harmony of the Gospels - 4 week**
- **Bible Word Study - Greek & Hebrew**
- **Christ in the Old Testament**

I am so looking forward to beginning a Bible Study with you. If there is any other topic, study, or Book of the Bible you are interested in please let me know.

My first choice to study is...

My other choices to study are...

My contact information is...

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes - December 13, 2021 via ZOOM

Facilitator - George Hollich

Minutes - Carol Hollich

Attendance - Gloria Clark, Deb Forry, Sally DeJesus, Joyce Dissinger, Elmer Fair, Kitty Fair, Carol Hollich, George Hollich, Dea Kishpaugh, Jack Kishpaugh, Barb Querry, Pastor Jessica Ross, Dave Walleth, & Barb Walleth

Housekeeping – Attendance, Approval of Past Minutes & Agenda

Devotions – Becoming a “Friendly” Church — Philippians 2:4

Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

Calendar Dates that Reflect our Ministry - other than the 9:15 In-Person Worship - the 9:15 Streamed Worship Service & Committee meetings will be held via ZOOM, unless other arrangements are announced.

December 12 – Ad Board (7 pm via zoom)

December 15 – Willow Terrace (6:00)

December 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24 - Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service (In-person & on Zoom)
6:45 – Organ Recital 7:00 pm Worship

December 25 - Christmas Worship Service (9:15)

December 31 - Owlah Worship Service (6:00 pm in-person only)

January 1 – Celebration of Epiphany with Communion (9:15)

January 8 - Worship (9:15)

January 8 - Fellowship Planning Meeting with Pizza (11:30)

January 15 – Installation of Trinity’s team members during 9:15 service

January 17 - Ladies’ (& Men’s) Luncheon (12 noon) Hoss’s in Annville

January 17 – Willow Terrace (6:00)

February 1 - Staff Parish Meeting (7:00 pm via Zoom)

February 2 - Worship Team (7:00 pm via Zoom)

February 5 - Communion

February 13 - Ad Board (7:00 p.m. via Zoom)



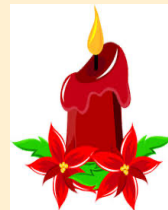
Discussion - Current or Emerging Projects that Clarify Our Ministry

- **Bible Studies** – Rev. Rick Clark is leading an Advent study on Angels. In January the group will return to finish their fall book, *Sacred Pathways* by Gary Thomas. The Adult Sunday School led by George Hollich meets every Sunday at 10:30 in the Adult Sunday School Room and is also available on Zoom. (However, on Christmas Day, December 25 and New Year’s Day, January 1 there will be no class.) Pastor Jessica will begin another Bible Study early in the new year.
- **Communications** – The *Trinity Times* comes out the end of each month. Gloria Clark shared information on the visits and views we get on our Church Website and Facebook page. We have about 14 people viewing our information each week. There were 47 different visitors on our website last month. Gloria asks people to send her information on calendar events and projects we are working on. Gloria also hosts the Zoom services when George is not available.
- **Clothes-to-Go** – Most of the clothes have been relocated to the 8th street Sunday School classroom and are available for those in the community in need of clothing items. LCCM has a list of clothes they need for the winter and we plan in January to pack up some of our clothes for LCCM. The crafts and clothing tables still in the nursery should be covered for services and events that might need to use the nursery as a nursery!
- **Flood Buckets** – We filled & sent 4 flood buckets to Mission Central in Mechanicsburg. Each bucket contained about \$125 of supplies. We are working on filling 2 more!
- **Ladies’ (& Men’s) Luncheon** – We will start this fellowship time again in January. Our first meeting will be Tuesday, January 17th at 12:00 noon.
- **LINKS** – There have been no meetings since the Thanksgiving Eve service. They will meet in January to plan combined UMC services for Lent.
- **Use of Church Spaces** – Narcotics Anonymous is still meeting at Trinity on Tuesdays and Saturdays.
- **New ideas & programs** – The ice cream social was a success. We will have another one in the spring. Pastor Jessica is currently conducting a confirmation class for 2 of Trinity’s youth.



Highlights from Reports that Support Our Ministry

- **Trustees – Jack Kishpaugh** – The trustees are continuing to work with the new plumber on the heating system. A part has been ordered to fix the pump. The Secretary and Preacher must remember to inform the trustees and the custodian about special events at the church. The pastor wants a list of who has the new keys to the church. The list should be in the office.
- **Worship Team – Carol Hollich** – The organ was tuned on Saturday. Christmas Eve service has been arranged. Mike Query will be the greeter, and Keith, Dave, and Mike will be the ushers and light the candelabras before the 6:45 service that begins with the organ recital. Dave will light the Advent Wreath and Christ Candle during the first hymn. Jack will work the Zoom camera. The small candles will be handed to people as they enter the sanctuary. The poinsettias have been ordered with the Hollichs getting extras if needed. Jack & Dave will block off the parking lot at the Eagles for the Christmas Eve service. We are still working out the Christmas Day and New Year's Day services, as well as the December 31, 6:00 Watch Night Service. Epiphany will be celebrated on January 1st and the baptism of Jesus will be celebrated on January 8th. On January 15 there will be an installation of our leadership teams for 2023. Also discussed at the most recent worship committee meeting was the cost of the fresh flowers for the altar. The plan is to purchase several artificial arrangements for the times when we do not have a person purchasing live altar flowers. Currently we purchase our altar flowers from Grumbine's because they deliver. There will be more discussion on this topic at our next meeting.
- **Education – Sally DeJesus** – Pastor Jessica has started a confirmation class that meets after the church service each week. She has several helpers. Sally also has a craft class going at the same time. The *crafters* made 100 Thanksgiving favors for Willow terrace in November and are working on ornaments for the Christmas Eve service. In January they will begin to make 1400 favors for the Lebanon School District teachers and workers.



- **Finance – Barb Query** – Our November deposits were \$3000 less than the expenses. The cost of maintaining the church has risen. One of the examples given was the doubling of the cost of natural gas (which we use for heating the church) that was experienced in the signing of our latest natural gas contract. Our treasurer, Keith Earle had to transfer money from other accounts into the general fund to pay bills. We will try to offset some of these rising expenses by looking at different investment strategies.

- **Missions – Dea Kishpaugh** – In November, we signed cards for inmates, sent 200 pounds of food to LCCM, filled four flood buckets for UMCOR, and sent 34 Christmas stockings to Church Women United. In January, we will collect hats, gloves, and scarves for the Lebanon school children or LCCM. You just might see a January Christmas tree in the parlor where we can hang our donated items!
- **Staff Parish – Keith Earle** – The December meeting focused on asking Pastor Jessica about her impressions of Trinity and if she had any problems that needed to be discussed. The Pastor expressed how friendly and nice everyone at Trinity has been and how much they made her feel welcome. She also indicated that she wanted to coordinate visitations with the Parish Visitor, Rick Clark so that there are no duplications and more people can be visited. The yearly evaluations of the staff will begin in January.
- **Parish Visitor - Rick Clark** – Rev. Rick Clark visited 8 people in October and 9 people in November. He hopes to take communion to the home bound and include more folk in his December and the New Year's visitation schedule. He and Pastor Jessica had fun trying to find Mike Query in the Med Center because Mike was put into the system with his "other" name, Larry 😊
- **Pastor Jessica** – Pastor Jessica reported on what she sees happening at Trinity now and in the future. Some of the highlights from her report include her plans to begin a Bible study on January 11th at 6:30 p.m. She, also mentioned the preparation of a monthly prayer bulletin and a Funeral Guidelines booklet. She looks forward to updating the prayer chain and being involved in the planning meeting to create a calendar of events for 2023 on January 8th. Looking to the future, she hopes to reinstitute some of the projects that were halted due to Covid and hopes to see a Christmas Concert in December 2023. She is considering the purchase of guideline books for each team leader, so they know their duties and responsibilities. A complete copy of her report is on file in the Church Office.



The meeting was adjourned at 8:50.

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: Monday, February 13 – 7pm via Zoom
(Ad Board Meeting Schedule – February, April, June, August, October, December)



You know how I always dread the whole year?
Well this year I'm only going to dread one day at a time!
--Charlie Brown

Adult Sunday School – January



God's Promises are the focus of our lessons in January as we continue the winter theme of **From Darkness to Light**. This unit of lessons to start the New Year comes from the Old Testament historical books and prophets and describes God's promises to His people. The Old Testament writers reminded the people that God's promises were reliable and trustworthy. At the dedication of the temple in Jerusalem, God promised to be a present help for Solomon. *But... God's promises of presence and deliverance would apply as long as the people acted justly and worshipped God purely.* God's promises addressed the people during their moments of need and the prophets offered a way for the people to hear and

understand God's promises. However, the people would be required to change their behavior. They were to consider how they might serve others and avoid acting oppressively to those around them. In January, we are reminded that God's promises bring hope, but also responsible living...

January 1
January 8
January 15
January 22
January 29

God Promises to Hear and Forgive
God Promises to Restore
God Promises to Guide
God Promises Light
God Promises His Presence

2 Chronicles 7:12–22
Isaiah 43:1–4, 10–12
Isaiah 48:3–8a, 17
Isaiah 58:6–10
Joel 2:21–27:21

It isn't easy to wait. It demands persistence when common sense says "give up." It says "believe" when there is no present evidence to back it up. As gold is purified and shaped in the white-hot heat of a forge, so we and our faith are purified and shaped in waiting. This was the message of the prophets to the people of Israel who were experiencing exile. The people's situation came as a result of their failure to live faithfully and justly as God's called people.



In Thornton Wilder's play *The Skin of Our Teeth* the character Mrs. Antrobus says to her spouse, 'I didn't marry you because you were perfect. I married you because you gave me a promise.' She takes off her ring and looks at it. 'That promise made up for your faults and the promise I gave you made up for mine. Two imperfect people got married, and it was the promise that made the marriage.'



One of the exciting moments as a young child is when parents promise something special. The moment the promise is made everything is different. Even though the actual fulfillment of the promise may be a long way off... it has the power of changing the entire atmosphere for the moment! Can you remember when mom or dad said, "I promise ... if you are good."

The interesting thing about a promise is the power it has to change us long before any of the promise is even realized. Because a promise gives something to look forward to, to hope for, to anticipate, it actually holds great power in the present without even being realized until much later.

Join us this month as we discuss **God's Promises...**

January 1

1. Who did the Lord make a covenant with to establish the throne? (Saul, David, Solomon) *2 Chronicles 7:18*
2. The people would remain in the land, regardless of their actions. T/F. *2 Chronicles 7:20*

January 8

1. The Lord promised to give Egypt, Seba, and _____ for His people. *Isaiah 43:3*
2. The people were chosen as what? (Choose two: warriors, priest, witnesses, servant) *Isaiah 43:10*

January 15

1. Israel's stubbornness was described as what? (burning nose, iron neck, twisted tongue) *Isaiah 48:4*
2. The Lord praised Israel for having open ears. T/F. *Isaiah 48:8a*

January 22

1. Included as a part of Isaiah's chosen fast was to "break every _____." *Isaiah 58:6*
2. When God's people provide & care for others, what goes before them? (righteousness, honor, joy) *Isaiah 58:8*

January 29

1. The land itself is told to "be glad and rejoice." T/F. *Joel 2:21*
2. God's provision for His people meant that they would no longer be _____. *Joel 2:26*

InterLink

(Thoughts to consider in the upcoming week.)

God Promises to Hear and Forgive Sunday School Handout – January 1, 2023

Study Text: 2 Chronicles 7:1–22

KEY VERSE: *If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. —2 Chronicles 7:14*



Forgiveness as a Lifestyle

Brian and Candy’s 40th wedding anniversary was a hard-won victory. As their children, grandchildren, in-laws, and friends gathered, some people remembered another time, years earlier, when that marriage had almost ended. The family’s spending had become so extravagant that Brian had involved himself in illegal business practices to cover the costs. When he was found out, he had faced possible jail time. As a result, Brian and Candy spent time talking through the issues that had led the family to such overspending. They changed the spending habits that had led Brian to search for money in unethical ways. And over time, Brian and Candy rebuilt their marriage—they chose forgiveness as a lifestyle. Divine forgiveness is also a choice, requiring action from both God and His people.

Uprooted

A few minutes after midnight on March 3, 2020, a tornado ripped through my neighborhood in Nashville, Tennessee. The tornado stayed on the ground for over an hour and traveled more than 60 miles. According to estimates, it was the sixth most destructive tornado in US history. More than a year later, most of the devastation was no longer visible, with one glaring exception: the utter lack of trees. On multiple occasions in the first few months after the tornado, I found myself wondering if I had gotten lost in my own neighborhood. Uprooting the trees changed everything. This image comes to mind when I read that God warned the Israelites that He would uproot them from the land if they were unfaithful. This happened in an act that left the land and the people forever changed. How will God respond if we turn away and forsake Him?

Temple Turmoil

In his book *Jerusalem Besieged*, archaeologist Eric H. Cline notes that Jerusalem has been “destroyed at least twice, besieged 23 times, attacked an additional 52 times, and captured and recaptured 44 times.” That’s a lot of turmoil over 3,000 years! Instead of focusing on Jerusalem in general, it is more insightful to focus on the first two temples in particular. Solomon’s temple stood for nearly 400 years until 586 BC. The second temple, dedicated by Zerubbabel, stood for several centuries more, until it was destroyed by the Romans in AD 70. By promising His presence in the temple, God offered the people protection and stability if they were willing to follow Him. But God also made promises about what would happen if the rulers and people failed to follow Him. While sin has consequences, often dire, neither sin nor its consequences can utter the final word about the relationship between chosen people and their God. The loss of David’s kingdom led to the greatest gift of all: salvation through Jesus’ blood, bringing us out of our exile in sin and into God’s kingdom. Are we on high alert as we follow God? Or are we a bit too casual about our “temples”?

Thoughts to Consider

1. **What circumstances cause you to wonder whether God has heard your prayers?**
2. **In the new year how will you take care of God’s temple—both your body and the church—as acts of dedication to God?**
3. **What are you doing now in hopes that God will bring it to fruition later?**

Trinity United Methodist Church

757 Willow Street, Lebanon, Pa. 17046

Where "Faith, Hope and Love abide to encourage all to respond to the call of Christ."

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD SUNDAY -- January 1, 2023

(The service begins at 9:15 with the fellowship area opening at 9:00.)

To be a part of worship on the computer go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85102765184>

or join by phone by dialing 1-646-876-9923 and entering 851 0276 5184 when prompted.)

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are presented for the beginning of a blessed year
by Gail & Henry Emrich and Carol Yeagley*

Gathering Music

Organist: Caroline Jacobs

Prelude

The Three Kings

Young

Welcome & Announcements

Liturgist: Barb Querry

Call to Worship

Psalm 72: 1-8, 15-17

Liturgist: Barb Querry

L: Give the king your justice, O God,

P: and your righteousness to the royal son.

L: May he judge your people with righteousness

P: and your poor with justice!

L: Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

P: May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.

L: May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

P: May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!

L: In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, til the moon be no more!

P: May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth...

L: Long may he live, may gold of Sheba be given to him! May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all the day!

P. May there be abundance of grain in the land; may it wave on the tops of the mountains; may its fruit be like Lebanon;

L: and may they blossom forth in the cities like the grass of the field!

P: May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun! May people bless themselves by him, all nations call him blessed!

Hymn #254

We Three Kings

1. We three kings of Orient are bearing gifts we traverse afar

Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star

(Chorus) Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright

Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

2. Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown Him again

King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign **(Chorus)**

3. Frankincense to offer have I, incense owns a Deity nigh

Prayer and praising, voices raising, worshiping God on high **(Chorus)**

4. Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume, breathes a life of gathering gloom

Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed
in the stone-cold tomb **(Chorus)**

5. Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice:

Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies. **(Chorus)**



Opening Prayer

Maren C. Tirabassi

Creative God, you make all things new in heaven and on earth. We come to you in a new year with new desires and old fears, new decisions and old controversies, new dreams and old weaknesses. Because you are a God of hope, we know that you create all the possibilities of the future. Because you are a God of love, we know that you accept all the mistakes of the past. Because you are the God of our faith, we enter your gates with thanksgiving and praise, we come into your presence with gladness and a joyful noise, and we serve and bless you. **Amen.**

Special Music

Child of the Poor/What Child Is This?

Trinity Choir

Doxology

Celebration of Gifts

Hymn #251

Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.*

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a Holy light. **(Refrain)**
The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! above the Earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth **(Refrain)**
Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. **(Refrain)**



Go tell it
on the
mountain
that Jesus
Christ
is born

Old Testament

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Liturgist: Barb Query

New Testament

Matthew 2: 1-12

Sermon

Proclaim & Celebrate

Pastor Jessica Ross

Communion

Hymn #245

The First Noel

English Carol

The first noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
(Chorus) Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. **(Chorus)**

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. **(Chorus)**

This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay. **(Chorus)**

Then entered in those wise men three full reverently upon the knee,
and offered there in his presence their gold and myrrh and frankincense. **(Chorus)**

Benediction

Benediction Response:

Go tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

Postlude

March of the Kings - Young

