

**Today's liturgical color is white which symbolizes "Joy and Festivities."**

**To help promote the happenings in our church, you can share our services and events to the community on your Facebook page.**

**Prelude:** Do You Hear What I Hear? - arranged by Craig Curry

### Lighting of the Candles

Jesus said: "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12). The presence of the light reminds us of Jesus' coming into our world and into our lives. The light is carried into the worship service as a symbol of Jesus' coming into the presence of the worshipping community.

### Chiming of the Hour

### Call to Worship

Musical selection by Trinity's Sanctuary Choir

### Announcements (\*noted within the bulletin)

### A Time for Prayer:

**Pastoral Prayer:** Pastor Tim

### Opening Hymn: The First Noel

No. 245

### Responsive Reading: Psalm 103 ESV

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,  
bless his holy name!

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits:

Who redeems your life from the pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;

The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west,  
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

As a father shows compassion to his children,  
so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.  
But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to

everlasting on those who fear him,  
and his righteousness to children's children.

Bless the Lord, all his works,  
in all places of his dominion.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul!

### Gloria Patri

No. 70

Glory be to the Father  
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
A-men. A-men

### Children's Moment: led by Tim

At this time, children come forward or you can bring your child to the front pew to hear and participate in the children's reflection.

### Scripture about the importance of having childlike faith in Jesus: Matthew 18:1-3 CEB

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

<sup>2</sup>Then he called a little child over to sit among the disciples, <sup>3</sup>and said, "I assure you that if you don't turn your lives around and become like this little child, you will definitely not enter the kingdom of heaven.

### The Presentation of Tithes and Offering (Thank you for your generosity!)

**Ushers:** Women's Team (Susan H., Alberta M., Pat B., & Angela T.)

**In the Bleak Midwinter** by Christina G. Rossetti No. 221 (4)

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; yet  
what I can I give, give me heart.

### Offertory Prayer

Generous Father,  
thank you that all things were created through you and for you, you are before all things, and in you, all things exist. The Bible says that we should bring our tithes and offerings into your storehouse and that you will respond by opening the windows of heaven and sending down blessing upon blessing. Accept the gifts we place before you now. May the peace of God reign in our lives, the love of God surround us, the Spirit of God empower us, and the joy of God

uphold us. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

**Offertory Music:** In the Bleak Midwinter arranged by Greg Howlett

### Doxology

No. 95

**Anthem:** Seven Joys of Mary

**Sermon:** "God has a plan for the Church!" Ephesians 3:1-12

**Response to the Service:** Apostles' Creed

No. 881

**Closing Hymn:** Precious Name

No. 536

### Benediction

**May the Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent one from another. AMEN!**

**Postlude:** We Three King arranged by Craig Curry

**Sending Forth/Extinguishing of the Candles:** At the end of the service, the light is carried out into the world to show that Jesus Christ is for all people everywhere. The acolyte leaves the worship service at the pastor's direction, carrying out the lighted candle lighter. This symbolizes the light of Jesus Christ going out into the world where believers are to serve.

**\*Offering stewards for January** (5th Sunday will have a mixed team)  
15th—Fred H., Chris S., Spencer Q., and Daniel W.  
22nd—Cindy A., Susie W., Joyce P., and Amy G.  
29th—Lana P., Dana B., Amy G., and Ruben A.

**\*Children's Moment for January**  
15th—Diane B.  
22nd—Cindy A.  
29th—Kim P.

**\*Communion Stewards for February 5th**  
Cindy A., Dennis A., Paul C., and Kim P.



## Announcements

**Adult Sunday School** is on Sunday at 10 am.

**Choir Practice** is Wednesday at 7 pm.

**Trinity Book Club** is on Monday at 6 pm. The book discussion is based on the text "Enemies of the Heart" by Andy Stanley. The ISBN is 9781601421456 and you can find the book new for around \$10-15.

**UPS Christmas Box Packing Party**—On Sunday, December 18th, Phil Robbins led a group of 27 people in packing food and goodie Christmas boxes for the students at Union Primary School. 105 boxes with 18 items in each were packed in 1 hour. Many from our church and the community volunteered their time to make this possible.

**Christmas in the Gap**—It was great to see this gathering and it was a huge success! Thank you all for participating and let's continue to build and prepare for next year!

**New Members Sunday**—Praise the Lord for sending us such wonderful people to our church! Trinity UMC, we are "moving on up" for the glory of God. If you are interested in learning more about membership, please contact Pastor Tim.

**Blessing Box**—If you want to bring food or other items for the blessing box, you can place your donated items in the labeled plastic bin located in the church fellowship hall.

**Children's Moment**—If you are interested in being in the rotation for leading the children's lesson during the worship service, contact Tim or notify the church office staff.

**Trinity Church Greeter Team**—We are seeking volunteers to come in a little early on Sunday mornings about once or twice a month to serve as church greeters. Church greeters will welcome those who attend church service by handing them a bulletin and by helping guests get familiar with the church building. If you are willing to help us out, please contact Joyce Palmer or Amy Garcia.

**New Church Secretary**—Please congratulate Amy Garcia on joining Tiffany in becoming our new part-time secretary. Amy will be in the office 3 days a week assisting the pastor and the needs of the congregation by answering phones and completing other office and church tasks. Tiffany will still be responsible for the video and web. Amy will be starting the first week of January.

**New Year and Holiday Fellowship Potluck Meal**—Today, after the worship service, we will have a fellowship meal. If you leave hungry, it is your own fault.

**United Methodist Men**—The next meeting is Monday, January 9th, at 6 pm. Nomination for office holders will be discussed and voted upon at this meeting.

**21-Days of fasting, prayer, and healthy living**—Beginning on Monday, January 9th and ending on Sunday, January 29th, Trinity UMC will be entering into a season of fasting, prayer, and healthy living such as diet and exercise for 21-days to bring in the new year with positivity, power, and motivation. During

this time, we ask that you spend extra time focusing on and praying for your family, friends, church, and your well-being so that you can better understand God's will for your life. We hope that ideas and plans will be made known to us by God during this season so that we can have reachable goals created and accomplished in the year of 2023. We are excited to see what God has in store for us and after our season of fasting, praying, and healthier living we hope to have the zeal needed to put our ideas into action.

**Epiphany Service 2023**—This traditional service is scheduled to take place here (Trinity UMC) on Sunday, January 15th at 5 pm. After the service, there will be finger foods available for those who attend. Please bring your favorite dish to be added to the fellowship meal.

**Removing the Greens**—On Saturday, January 21st, at 10 am, we will be removing the Christmas decorations in the church. If you can help us, please come.

**Administrative Board Meeting**—Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 22nd, immediately after the worship service.

**Pop 'n' for Jesus**—Our next popcorn and sweets giveaway at Mountain Empire Community College will take place on Wednesday, January 25th. This serves as a great opportunity to bring joy and encouragement to both the students and staff members at the school. If you are interested in helping us, please meet at the college (2nd floor of the Godwin building) at 9 am. If you have any question, contact Betty Fleenor.

**Laity Sunday**—Our next Laity Sunday will be Sunday, January 29th. Our lay leaders Kim Parsons and Rob Moore will oversee the service on that day. If you have any suggestions or requests for the service, please contact one of our lay leaders..

**Appalachian District Clergy Meeting**—We (TUMC) will be hosting the monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 10th at 6:30 pm.

### UPS Back Pack Program

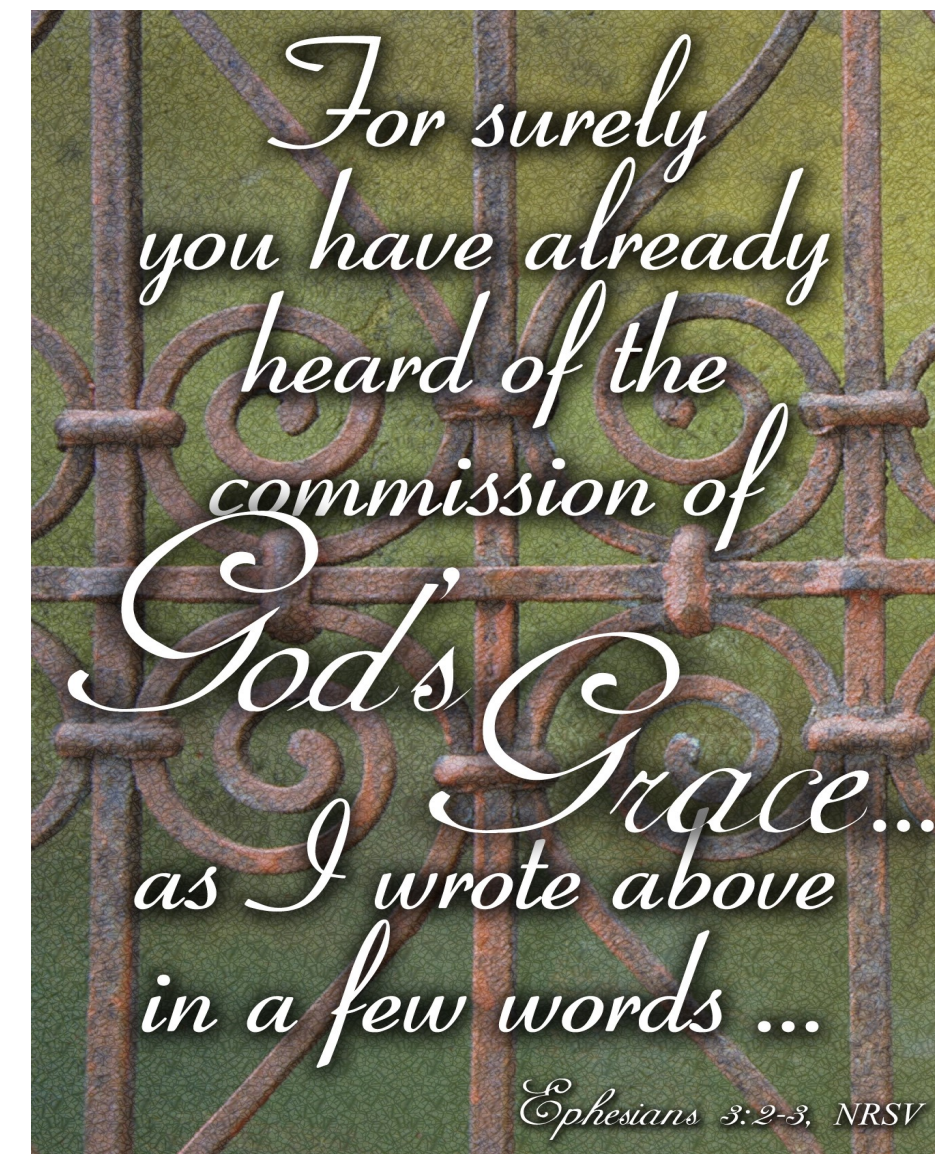
Don't forget that each month we are going to Restock the Shelves for the Union Primary School. During the month of January, the requested item is Breakfast Cereal.

The food item for January is Breakfast Cereal. Bulk bags of 7-9 servings are requested.



## The Trinity Companion

January 8, 2023



### Trinity United Methodist Church

203 E 1st St, South  
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

Worship begins at 11:00 am

Pastor—Rev. Timothy Robinson

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