

Welcome to Trinity United Methodist Church. God loves you and so do we! Due to the increased number of cases of the COVID-19 Delta variant, we ask that both vaccinated and unvaccinated attendees wear a mask during worship services. If you do not have a mask, we have masks available for you in the narthex. The Church Council is monitoring this situation closely and will inform you of any changes in the future. We appreciate your willingness to provide a safe worship environment for all during this challenging season that we are living in.

**Prelude:** Gather Us In by Marty Haugen

**Lighting of the Candles**

**Greeting:** Romans 13: 11-12

You know what time it is,  
**and how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep.**

For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers:

**the night is far gone, the day is near.**

Let us then lay aside the works of darkness  
**and put on the armor of light.**

**Announcements**

**Prayer:**

Enter God, in your providence you made all ages  
a preparation for the kingdom of your Son.  
Make ready our hearts for the brightness of your glory  
and the fullness of your blessing in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

**Choir:** Light the Advent Candle

**Lighting of the Advent Candle:** Beth and Erin Hagan

First Sunday in Advent: Hope (purple)

This year, the Advent Liturgy was written by Derek Weber. Derek will take us through a journey from being at home in Christ.

**Time To Go Home**

*Jeremiah 33:14-16 & Luke 21: 25-36*

**Reader One:** We have endured these past few years and know that there is more to face before us. We don't know if we have the strength to withstand what might be around the next corner. And we wonder who will stand with us, who will have our back,

who will occupy our corner.

**Reader Two:** Who is with us? That is what we begin to wonder these days. Who will light our way and chart our course? Who is on our side, who will welcome us home again?

**Reader One:** Home. The prophet Jeremiah speaks of a branch that will be raised. Jesus spoke of a Son of Man that will descend. Both point to hope. A hope that calls us home. Our true home, where we're welcomed and loved and included. Where there is justice and equality and peace. It's time, this Advent season, time to go home.

**Reader Two:** We light this candle, as a sign of hope, our strong hope that there is a way to go home. To the home in Christ, and it starts with us, and it starts here, and it starts now. It's time to go home.

*Light the first candle on the Advent wreath (purple)*

**Choir:** Refrain from "Light of the Candle"

**Opening Hymn:** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus **No. 196**

**Special Music:** Ten Thousand Joys (Calli Shell and Bob Horne)

**Sermon:** "We Have an Encouraging Report" 1 Thessalonians 3: 6-13

**Musical Interlude:** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, arranged by Michael Scott

**Response to the Word:** Apostles Creed (Traditional Version)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of the God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic\* church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.  
\*the body of Christ

**Closing Hymn:** I Am Thine, O Lord

**No. 419**

**Offertory:** Luke 6:38 (NRSV)

"...give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

**Benediction**

**Postlude:** I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light by Kathleen Thomerson, arranged by Mark Hayes

*1st Sunday  
in Advent*

**Announcements**

**Hanging of the Greens** is today at 1 pm.

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

**Book Study** will be in the Fellowship Hall on Monday at 6 pm. The book is "Live Like Jesus" by Putty Putnam.

**Bible Study** will be in the Fellowship Hall, Wednesday at 1 pm.

**Apprentice Book Study** is Wednesday at 6:30 pm.

**Dress Rehearsal Choir practice** will be on Wednesday at 7 pm. **The Christmas Cantata** is Sunday, December 5th during the worship service. This year's cantata is "The First Noel: Born is the King," by Jay Rouse.

Our next **Church Council Meeting** is Sunday, December 5th after the cantata.

Please take the opportunity to view **Trinity UMC's** display for the "**Greenbelt in Lights.**" The display is adjacent to the parking lot for the town soccer field (Proctor St. S) and is visible from a vehicle for those who may be unable to walk up to it.

Volunteers are needed to help create a **Christmas Float for the Big Stone Gap Christmas Parade**, which is Thursday, December 2nd at 6 pm. We need a trailer, generators, and decorations. If you can help, please contact Donna Mahan or leave a message for the church secretary. We will be working on the float on Monday November 29th through Wednesday December 1st beginning at 5 pm.

**Trinity UMC Hot Chocolate Giveaway** will be Thursday December 2nd at the Visitor Center during the Big Stone Gap Christmas Parade. The parade starts at 6 pm. If you can help in any way, please contact Christy Smith.

**Friends in Need Health Care** from Kingsport, TN, will be having a community health fair hosted by Trinity UMC on Friday, December 3rd. The health fair will be from 8 am until 1 pm. They will provide free COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, and boosters to all. Also, there will be a clothing giveaway and Curklin's will be catering the event.

**Upcoming Events**

- November 28—Advent Begins
- November 29—5 pm: Christmas Float Decorations
- November 30—5 pm: Christmas Float Decorations
- December 01—5 pm: Christmas Float Decorations
- December 02—6 pm: BSG Christmas Parade/TUMC Hot Chocolate Giveaway
- December 03—8 am to 1 pm: Friends in Need Health Fair
- December 05—11 am: The First Noel: Christmas Cantata  
12 pm: Church Council (following service)
- December 07—10 am: Tim's Consultation
- December 13—6 pm: Garden Club
- December 24—6 pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

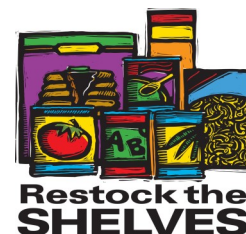
**Weekly Events**

- Sundays— Adult Sunday School 10:00 am
- Mondays—Book Study 6:00 pm
- Tuesdays—Apprentice Book Study 6:30 pm
- Wednesdays—Bible Study 1:00 pm  
Choir Practice 7:00 pm
- Fridays—MEOC 9:00 am

**UPS Back Pack Program**

Don't forget that each month we are going to Restock the Shelves for the Union Primary School Back Pack Program with a specific kind of food. The food item for November is Breakfast Bars. The requested flavors are Apple/Cinnamon or Strawberry.

The food item for December is Juice Boxes. The requested flavors are Apple and Grape.



**The Trinity Companion  
Sunday November 28, 2021**

**Advent Week 1**

*Hope*



**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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