

A few words about tonight's service...

The service tonight gives us an opportunity to affirm the meaning of this holy season. We will have a chance to sing parts of carols and to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This year, we will also have a special opportunity to reach out and help some of the children of Appalachia and Big Stone Gap through a special Christmas offering. You can place your gift in the plate on the altar table after you receive Holy Communion. As you are leaving, we have a special Christmas card from the church and we hope each family will take one as our way of saying thanks for worshiping with us. In addition, if you are a guest at this service, we would appreciate you completing the visitor registration form found in your bulletin. For each guest that is not already in our contact system, we will donate \$5 to the special Christmas offering. Simply complete the form and drop it in the offering plate.

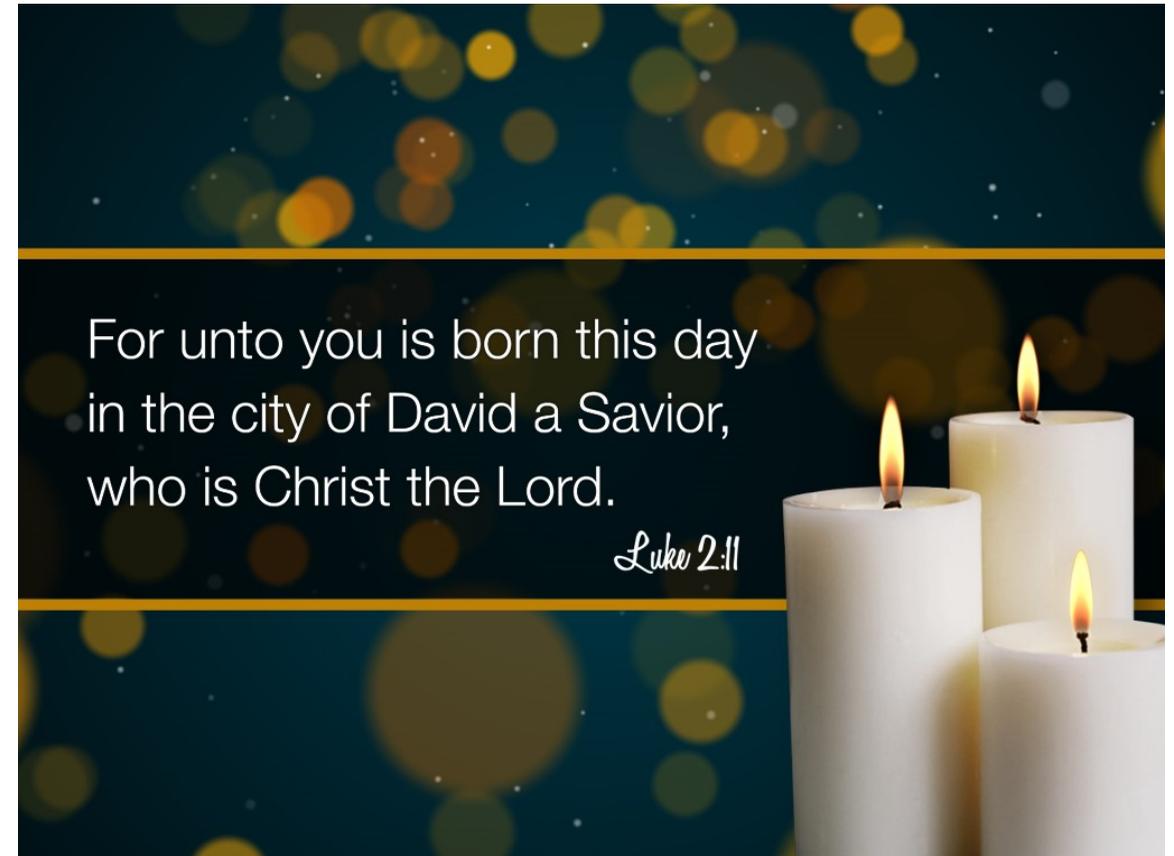
Words from the Pastor...

I want to welcome each of you to this very special service. It is now my third opportunity to plan and lead this service. It is my prayer that you will encounter the presence of the Christ Child and the presence of the Risen Christ in your heart tonight. If you do not have a church home, then I cordially invite you to come and worship with us on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. This Sunday, we have a special service planned. We will have a Christmas Carol Sing. Members of the congregation will call out Christmas Carols and we will sing a verse or two of each of them. Rick Galyean will be in charge, so come on out and join us. Last year we did this and had a really good time.

Visit us online at : <http://www.trinityumc-bsg.net>

To receive information from the church, email me at pastorterrygoodman@gmail.com

This Bulletin is Sponsored by Pastor Goodman and His Family.



Trinity United Methodist Church

203 E 1st. St, S, POB 217, Big Stone Gap, Virginia 24219

Reverend Terry Goodman, Pastor

Worship Team

Pastor	Rev Terry Goodman
Director of Music.....	Rick Galyean
Accompanist	Robert Holbrook
Advent Wreath Liturgists.....	Members of the Hagan Family
Acolyte.....	Daniel Goodman
Soloist	Barbara Polly
Soloist	Bella Clendenon
Communion Bread Baker	Dell Williams
Communion Assistant.....	Ship Skinner
Communion Assistant.....	Jan Zentmeyer
Communion Assistant.....	Anna Skinner
Communion Assistant.....	Sydney Skinner

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia.
Christ the Savior is born. Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus Lord at thy birth. Jesus Lord at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born. Christ the Savior is born.

BENEDICTION

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Let earth receive her king.
Let every heart prepare Him room and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

*** Indicates that you may stand as you are able**

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The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done. On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory. For ever and ever. Amen.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion Assistants: Skip Skinner, Jan Zentmeyer, Anna Skinner and Sydney Skinner

(The elements will be distributed from two stations via intinction. You will come down the outside aisles to the front of the church. You will be given a piece of bread. You should dip the bread into the cup and then eat the bread. If you want to do so, you may remain at the altar rail for a time of prayer or return to your seat while others are being served.)

THE PASSING OF THE LIGHT

(As we sing Silent Night, the lights in the sanctuary will be turned off. Someone will come down the center aisle and light the candles of those persons on the end of each pew. That person will then hold his or her candle in an upright position while the person next to him or her lights his or her candle. This will be repeated as each person lights his or her candle. At the end of the song, please extinguish your candle and place them in the boxes as you leave the sanctuary.)

Silent Night

Soloist: Bella Clendenon

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright.
Round yon virgin, mother and Child,
Holy Infant, so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

Words of Greeting and Explanation

Call to Worship

**ALL: Rejoice, for God is with us -- Emmanuel.
In the darkness of our world shines God's holy light.
Now there is reason to hope, to love, to laugh, to live.
God is truly with us. We are not alone.
Thanks be to God!**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath on Christmas Eve

Members of the Hagan Family

(We begin by lighting the four Advent Candles)

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered.

Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

We PAUSE as the Christ candle is lit.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly hosts, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth

peace among those whom he favors.”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. (Luke 2:1-20, NRSV)

ALL: COME, LORD JESUS. AMEN.

*** Our Opening Hymn: “O Come All Ye Faithful”**

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels,
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

True God of true God, Light from Light eternal.

Lo, He shuns not the virgin's womb.

Son of the Father, begotten, not created.

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation.

Sing all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Your life redeems us all.

We remember the night when Jesus gave himself to us....

We remember, we will never forget.

He took bread and gave thanks,

We remember, we will never forget.

He gave it to his friends:

This is my body.

Eat. Share. Remember.

We remember, we will never forget.

He took the cup and gave thanks,

We remember, we will never forget.

He gave it to his friends:

this is my blood.

Drink. Live. Remember.

Oh, how we remember!

Breathe, Holy Ghost!

Breathe, Holy Ghost!

Breathe on this bread and cup.

Breathe on us gathered here,

those who have had to leave,

and all in your keeping.

Breathe, Holy Ghost.

Breathe on scarred hilltops, black water, wounded earth.

Breathe on the beaten, broken and addicted,

those tortured by debt, tried by doubt, tempted by death.

Breathe peace, Jesus.

Breathe, Holy Ghost. And so we sing...(Text: *Old Hundredth*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Our hearts with rapture thrill.
Our hearts with rapture thrill.

Here in the midst of red bud and mayapple, in dogwood and poplar,
we assemble as your family --
mas and pas, grandfolk and kids,
cousins and neighbors, long lost kin...
We are your people and you are our God.
Your love makes us friends.
Your blood makes us kin.

And so we lift up our song:
(the pastor will sing the following)

Salvation glory and power to God
for Jesus our redeemer reigns
The mountains, hills, and valleys sing
As angels, saints, and heavens proclaim:
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Halle, Halle, Hallelujah.
Salvation glory and power to God
for Jesus our redeemer reigns.

Once you were a stranger who just wandered in;
you didn't mind to show up for supper
and sit a spell.

Jesus, Holy child,
you come and see us in mills and mines,
forests and factories,
fields and farms,
plants and pastures.
Gentle Jesus, meek and wild,
You share our load and bear our burdens,
You break our addictions and free us from sin.
You straighten us up and make us whole.
Your blood washes us clean.

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God,
With joy and thanksgiving we gather as your people.
We have come to hear again the timeless story of Christ's birth.
In the excitement of this night, quiet our hearts
that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time.
Shine, O Light, in the darkness of our world.
Sing, O angels, in the stillness of our hearts,
"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those God favors."
This we pray in the name of the Child of Bethlehem. **AMEN.**

A Christmas Eve Litany with Carols

As written by Randolph W. Sly and found in
The Services of the Christian Year, Robert E Webber, Editor.

Pastor: Christmas, a day of celebration...a day of remembrance.
God the Son became flesh and came to dwell among humans.

**People: Help me, Lord, to remember him this coming
Christmas Day. Amidst the presents and people, let me see
Him.**

Good Christian Friends Rejoice

Good Christian friends rejoice with heart and soul and voice.
Give you heed to what we say: News! News!
Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today, Christ is born today.

Good Christian friends rejoice With heart and soul and voice.
Now ye hear of endless bliss: News ! News!
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and ye are blest forever more.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

EXTENDING THE RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Dearly beloved, who do you belong to?
We belong to God.

Where are you from?

**We come from Hiawassee, Tupelo, Big Ugly, Charleston, Palestine, Purse
Glove, Catlettsburg, Red Bird, Berea, Greenville, White Sulphur Springs,
Cullmann, Dadeville, Asheville, Allentown, Cumberland, Portsmouth,
Nelsonville, Ashland, Mt. Airy, Blair Mountain, Cherokee etc...
(congregation calls out the places) and Wytheville.**

Pastor: His coming was prophesied in the Old Testament. For centuries
humankind had been eagerly awaiting the Messiah's arrival. They
prayed for it and talked about it endlessly. They anticipated this
glorious day as the beginning of their deliverance.

**People: Keep us from being disillusioned this Christmas. We sing
carols, decorate trees, shop for gifts, and eagerly await for the day
to arrive. It finally comes, only to be over too soon. Open our eyes,
Lord, to a deeper understanding of the Advent. May we remember
that the coming of the Christ child was not the end but the
beginning. To celebrate his coming is to look forward to his work
in the world.**

Where are you going?

**Heading for heaven.
We're on the Way.**

Then lift up your hearts!

Our hearts with rapture thrill!

The Heart beats

the Heart beats

The steadiness of God

the Heart beats

God is walking with us

the Heart beats

God is with us through everything

the Heart beats

Staying with us all the time

the Heart beats

And that beating heart

the Heart beats

Has never failed us yet

the Heart beats

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem how still we see thee lie;
above they deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

INVITATION

You who truly and earnestly repent of your sins,
and are in love and charity with your neighbors,
and intend to lead a new life following the commandments of God
and walking in God's holy ways:
draw near in faith, acknowledge your need,
and make your humble confession before God.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

When the world gets us wrong, **set us right.**
When we know what we've forgotten
but can't find what we've lost...
Calm our fear. Call us to mind.

We count less than we thought.
We're worth more than we imagine.
You are our maker, our savior, our friend.
You are the light, the truth, and Love's Way.

(silent prayers of confession)

This Source of light?
Can't use it up.
This Core of truth?
Can't wear it out.
This Force of love?
There's no making do; we can't do without.

By God's grace we're all forgiven.
God forgives us.
By Jesus' power we're all set free.
Jesus sets us free. Hallelujah!

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;
cast our our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, a bid with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

Leader: His birth took place in a stable, yet he was born a King.
He was wrapped in common cloth, yet acclaimed as one
uncommonly born. He was fragile, weak, a typically dependent
baby; yet his was the Son of God.

**People: Jesus is the Christ of Christmas and the cross. His
greatest gift was his own life, which he willingly laid down on
the cross. With each bow and box, ribbon and wrapping, may
we think of this greatest gift and be thankful. His common
birth is a sign of our common heritage in him. For there is no
one too great or too lowly that they cannot be touched by the
love of God found in him. He has become the meeting point
for all humankind.**

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes;
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me I pray,
bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with the there.

Pastor: Heaven touched earth in one great angelic chorus. The rejoicing of the heavenly host was displayed before some shepherds near the city. The Lord himself sent forth the word that his Son had been born.

People: Those who cared for the temple sheep were the first to see the true Lamb of God. They came and found him just as they were told. Heavenly Father, thank You that we have found Him. Just as you said we would. That is why we are here together as Christ's church.

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship
worship Christ the new born king.

Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship
worship Christ the new born king.

Pastor: Let us make a place for him this Christmas. He is not to be a casual observer of the festivities. He is the guest of honor! Let us give him the highest place! Let us ascribe all glory due his name!

People: For He, who was born of a virgin, is truly God the Son. He became fully human that his death might fully pay for sin. He rose from the dead and today we declare that the Christ of Christmas ascended to the right hand of God. He rules over his church. He sent the Spirit to baptize our hearts, and one day every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that he is Lord! To him we say, "Glory to God in the highest! For you have come to set us free."

O Holy Night -Barbara Polly, soloist with Choir

Meditation by Pastor Goodman