

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The United Methodist Church has an open Communion Table. This means that all are welcome to come and participate in the sacrament. We will be receiving Communion in the pews. The Ushers will bring each element to your pew in a tray. Take a piece of bread and a cup of juice and then pass the tray to your neighbor. We will pause after the disbursement of each element to give thanks and take each element together as a congregation. Those joining in at home via Livestream are invited to join in Communion by gathering simple elements of bread and juice and following Pastor Andrea's instructions during the service.

**Choir Anthem** "Once in Royal David's City" by Henry J Gauntlett arr. by Robert J. Powell

Yejin Lee Pianist  
Malik Halce Organist

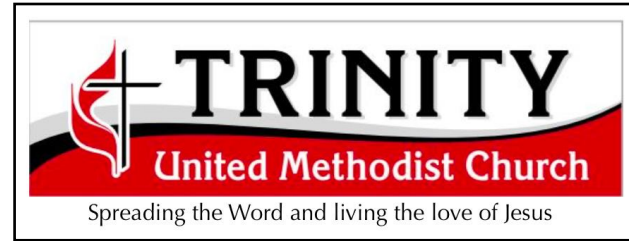
**Closing Hymn**      **UMH #206**      **I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**

**Postlude**                      "Great is the Lord"                      Michael and Deborah Smith  
   "God the Omnipotent"                      Alexis F Lvov  
   Yejin Lee                      Pianist  
   Malik Halce                      Organist

\* indicates "please rise in body or in spirit"

### Assisting in our worship service today

Rev. Andrea Curry - Lead Pastor  
Marie Rittenberry - Dir. of Discipleship & Outreach  
Jonathan Kroeger - Vocalist  
Yejin Lee -Pianist  
Malik Halce - Organist  
Ushers - Acolytes  
Marie Rittenberry - Liturgist  
Jerry Milnor & John Rutter - Ushers



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Welcome to Trinity! We are so glad you are here today. If you are new here, please be sure to fill out a '1st Time Visitor' card and place it in the offering plate before you leave. You are also invited to visit the info station to receive your first time visitor gift. If you have a prayer request that you would like included on our email prayer chain, you can submit your prayer request via email to [bgtrinityumc@yahoo.com](mailto:bgtrinityumc@yahoo.com) or fill out an orange prayer request card today and hand it to an usher. Your prayer card will be shared during the worship service.

December 3, 2023 First Sunday of Advent

**Prelude**                      **"Christmas Medley"**                      **AcousChicks**

### Welcome and Announcements

#### *We Turn Our Hearts to Worship*

#### **\*Lighting of the Advent Wreath** (Psalm 122:1, Isaiah 2:3)

Pastor: "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'"

**People: We are glad. Whether we drove in, walked over, or logged on. We are glad to be here in this community. It is a place of joyful hope, of radical welcome. It is a place where, together, we can wait in wondrous anticipation of the kingdom to come.**

*Liturgist: "Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in Gods paths'"*

Pastor: We light this candle as a sign of our hope, our joyous hope that we can be restored – our faith restored, our strength restored, our confidence restored, our joy restored as we watch and wait with all God's people for the promise to be fulfilled.

\*Opening Hymn      UMH #234      O Come, All Ye Faithful (Vs. 1-2)

\*Passing of the Peace

*Children's Message* (All children are invited to the front for a time of teaching.)

### ***Prayers of the People***

Song of Prayer      #124      Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Pastoral 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, the power, and the glory forever, Amen.***

### ***Offering Our Gifts***

**Offering**

The ushers will pass the offering plates through the aisles to collect our gifts and tithes. You may also give electronically at [bgtrinity.org](http://bgtrinity.org) by clicking on the [tithe.ly](http://tithe.ly) link.

**Offertory**

"What a Friend we have in Jesus" by Charles Converse

Yejin Lee      Pianist

Jonathan Kroeger      Vocalist

\*Doxology #123      O Come, O Come Emmanuel Vs. 1

\*Prayer of Dedication

### ***Proclamation of the Word***

**Scripture**

**John 14:8-14 (NRSVUE)**

**-Marie Rittenberry, Liturgist**

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." **9** Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? **10** Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. **11** Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. **12** Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. **13** I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14** If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

### ***Response to the Word***

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

*"Because of Bethlehem - God Has a Face"*

*-Rev. Andrea Curry*



## *This Week at Trinity!*

**12/3/2023:**

### **First Sunday of Advent**

Coffee Hour 8:45am

Sunday School 9:00am

Worship 10:00am

UMSO @ Union Rm 309 7:00pm

**12/4/2023:**

Connections 2:00pm

**12/7/2023:**

Bell Choir 5:30pm

Chancel Choir 6:30pm

Al-anon 7:00pm

**12/10/2023:**

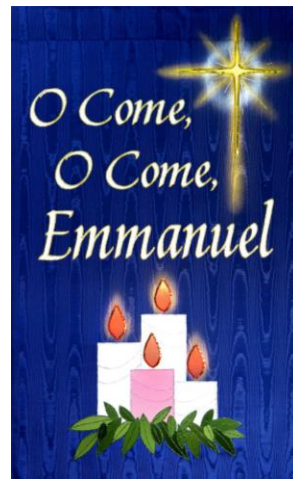
### **Second Sunday of Advent**

Coffee Hour 8:45am

Sunday School 9:00am

Worship 10:00am

**Live Nativity 6:00pm-7:30pm**



## *Prayer Concerns*

### **Congregational Concerns:**

- For Beth, Kay Hartman's daughter-in-law, who is in need of prayer after a recent liver transplant.
  - For Janet Markin as she recovers from a recent medical procedure and health issues.
  - For Bev Robie's brother, Tom, who is recovering from a recent surgery for cancer.
  - For Marie's aunt who is struggling with health problems and searching for answers.
  - For Susan's friends Nina and Jasen who ask for prayers for Jasen's father, David Barabash, as he battles kidney disease in the hospital.
  - For our members who are homebound and in nursing care centers.
- ### **World Concerns:**
- For the people of Israel and Gaza as the war between Israel and Hamas continues.
  - For our military personnel around the world as they serve this holiday season. Especially those who have been injured recently in attacks in the Middle East.
  - For the people of Ukraine as they endure the war with Russia.
  - For those who have lost loved ones to violence this year.
  - For those without adequate shelter and those who are hungry.



**Love Offering:** We would like to show our appreciation for Pastor Andrea and the staff and the hard work they do to keep the church operating and a welcoming place for us. We are collecting a love offering and ask that you have it turned in by Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your envelope/gift with "LOVE OFFERING". We plan to present the gift to the Pastor and staff at the December 17<sup>th</sup> church service. We hope that you will be there for the presentation of the Love Offering from the Trinity congregation.

**Christmas Cookie Exchange:** December 17th after church. We have included the rules below.

- Sign up for the cookie exchange.
- Please bring at least 2 dozen cookies (or more if you'd like!).
- Print out copies of the recipe to share.
- Arrange cookies in a basket or platter (be creative!).
- Bring a large container to carry away your cookies.
- Christmas attire is encouraged. Pull out those jingle bell earrings.
- Homemade cookies are encouraged.
- If you encounter a baking mishap or don't have time to bake, please bring 2 dozen cookies from your local bakery, or simply grab a box of cookies from the store.
- Have fun and eat delicious cookies with friends!



**Relay for Life News:** The Trinity Relay For Life Team is continuing to raise funds for the American Cancer Society with the **25 Days to Christmas** fundraiser. Ticket prices are \$5 for 1 ticket or \$20 for five tickets. To make a donation and receive tickets for the drawings see Bev Robie. If you would like to see the prizes, there is a calendar posted on the bulletin board in the hall next to the office or on the Relay For Life of Wood County Facebook page.



Checks should be made out to the American Cancer Society. Bev will also accept cash donations or credit card donations using the ACS App. Tickets will be available throughout the month of November. The drawings will begin on December 1st and continue daily through December 25<sup>th</sup>. The drawings will be broadcast live at the Relay For Life of Wood County Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/rflswc>); make sure you "LIKE" it so you can see who our daily winners are.

**Live Nativity:** Our Live Nativity will be next Sunday from 6pm to 7:30pm. We still need many volunteers so please see the sign-up sheet at the Info Station. We will need actors to read from scripts, townspeople, greeters, parking lot attendants, and cookie and cocoa helpers. We will also need some cookies baked for the event. Thank you for helping with this important event for our community.



**Merry Mail Box:** We will be spreading love this Christmas season one card at a time. The congregation mailbox will be transformed throughout the month of December as a place to exchange Christmas cards with one another. We hope you enjoy exchanging cards and spreading cheer!

**Help Needed ASAP:** We are in desperate need of volunteers to assist with delivering bulletins and sermons to our members in nursing homes and those who are at home and not able to make it on Sunday. You do not have to make a large time commitment. Even if you can help deliver to only one or two, that would greatly lighten the load on those currently volunteering. Please contact the church office at 419-353-9031 if you are able to help. Thank you!

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[www.bgtrinity.org](http://www.bgtrinity.org)



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