

LORD's Day Service – December 24, 2023 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Preparation for Worship: *John 3:16-17; 1 John 4:9-11*

Entrance – God Calls Us into His presence; we respond with praise

- * *Entrance Hymn* Trinity Hymnal, #165
Savior of the Nations, Come
- * *Call to Worship* Romans 4:21 – 5:8
(Note Advent themes: hope, peace, joy, love in suffering to maturity)
- Minister: Grace to you and peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
- Congregation: Amen!**
- Minister: Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which
will be to all people.
- Congregation: For there is born to us in the city of David a Savior, Who is Christ
the Lord.**
- Minister: Lord Jesus Christ, Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,
- Congregation: Have mercy upon us, for You alone are holy.**
- Minister: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;
- Congregation: His mercy endures forever.**
- Minister: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward
men!
- Congregation: And blessed be His kingdom, now and forever. Amen!**
- * *Hymn* Trinity Hymnal, #32
The God of Abraham Praise

Purification - God Cleanses Us; we confess our sins to Him

- Call to Confession* Hosea 11:1-7; 6:7
- Hymn of Confession Songbook, #98
The Lord at First Did Adam Make
- Let us kneel before the Lord our God and corporately confess our sins unto Him.
- God of love, it is Your will that we love You with all our heart, soul, mind and
strength, and our neighbor as ourselves; but we confess that our affections turn
away from You: from purity to lust, from freedom to slavery, from compassion to
indifference, from fulness to emptiness. Have mercy on us. Order our lives by Your
sacred Word. Holy Spirit, make Your commandments the joy of our hearts. Conform
us to the image of the beloved Son, Jesus, that we may shine before the world to
Your glory. Amen! (Silent prayer)**

Assurance of Pardon Hosea 13:9, 10, 14

Almighty and merciful Lord forgive you of all your sins, and grant you true repentance,
amendment of life, with grace and comfort of His Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God! Our sins are forgiven in Jesus' name. AMEN!

Ascension - God Consecrates us by His Word; we listen & offer ourselves to Him

- Minister: The Lord be with you.
- Congregation: And also with you.**
- Minister: Lift up your hearts!
- Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord!**
- Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!
- Congregation: It is proper and right to do so!**
- Minister: Truly it is proper, right and our bound duty, that we should at all times
and in all places give thanks unto You, holy Father, Almighty, everlasting God; because
You sent Your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in Him
of everlasting life; that when He shall come again in power and great glory to judge the
world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold His appearing. Therefore, with
angels and archangels and all the host of heaven and with Your Church on earth, we
praise and magnify Your glorious Name, singing:

- * *Sanctus* Songbook, #79
- * *Hymn* Songbook, #101
Of the Father's Love Begotten

Let us pray: **Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by Your daily visitation, that Your Son
Jesus Christ, at His coming, may find us faithfully working in love, and so find us a
mansion prepared for Himself; Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!**

Old Testament Lesson Genesis 21:33 – 22:19
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Epistle Lesson James 2:14-24; Hebrews 11:17-19
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

* *Gospel Lesson* John 8:39-59
The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon "Justified by Works: Father Abraham,
Friend of God, Obedient Faith"

* *Hymn* Trinity Hymnal, #158 (v 2, 5, 6)
See Amid the Winter's Snow

* *Dedication of Tithes & Offerings*

Prayers of the Church Petitions & the Lord's Prayer

Peace - God Communes with us; we eat with joy at His Table

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Luke 22:19-20; John 13:31-35

We Confess Our Faith in the Triune, Incarnate God

* Hymn

Trinity Hymnal, #168
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Dismissal - God Commissions & Blesses Us; we go out to serve Him

- * The Lord's Commission of Us 1 John 3:18; 4:7, 9 12
* We Receive God's Blessing, His Good Word to Us 2 Corinthians 13:13
* We bless the Lord, lifting hands and voices to Him Psalter, #72D

Announcements

LORD'S SUPPER

We observe Communion, or the Lord's Supper, weekly in our midst.

We believe it is worthily received by those who:

1. Have been baptized in the name of the Triune God (Matt 28:18-20);
2. Do profess faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel (Ro 10:9-10);
3. Do live in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit and endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Jesus Christ (Gal 5:16-26); and
4. Are communing members in good standing in an evangelical church (1 Cor 10:1-6)

If these things are all true, we rejoice with you and invite you to commune with us at the Lord's Supper. If any of these are not true of you, we ask that you refrain. We invite you to speak to one of the Elders if you have doubts or questions regarding any of these beliefs, or if you are interested in learning more about Trinity.

Though collections are not ordinarily taken during a service, giving is a vital element of worship. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the wood box on the rear wall of the sanctuary.
(2 Corinthians 9:6-11)



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Trinity Presbyterian Church CREC
Gathering in the Name of the Triune God

December 24, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Advent



The traditional monograms **IC** and **XC** are ancient Latin abbreviations for **Jesus** (*IHCOYC*, a Latinized form of his Greek name) and **Christ** (*XRICTOC*). **NIKA** means Victor or Conqueror. Jesus Christ was born to conquer sin, death, and the Devil. The cross in the center of the world reminds us that Jesus has conquered by means of his suffering, death, and resurrection. Jesus now reigns because he died for us.

White symbolizes the promise of the glorious transfiguration of our flesh because of the glorification of Jesus in his resurrection from the dead.