



Trinity United Methodist Church

Sunday, December 1, 2024

10:00 am



Gathering Music

"Sing to the Lord"

Celebration Praise Band

Welcome

Rev. Erica Munoz

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: The time of waiting and watching is here! Are you ready?

People: We are waiting for the Lord of Hope to open our hearts.

Leader: The Lord of Hope comes to you this day to free you from your sins.

People: We are ready to receive the precious blessings of God.

Leader: Come, let us worship God who loves us dearly.

Leader: Let us praise God for God's blessings in our lives. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Mahoney Family

*** Praise Singing**

"Lord I Need You"

*** Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Dr. Deb De Vos

Ministry Opportunities

Children's Time

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 7:14, Psalm 31:24, Romans 15:13

Hymn of Preparation

"Blessed Assurance"

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The Message

"The Star: A Journey of Hope"

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Ministry of Music Anthem

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

Chancel Choir

Holy Communion

*** Closing Hymn**

"Away In A Manger"

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Benediction

Closing Music

"Sing to the Lord"



*Please stand if you are able

Our acolyte this morning is Sophie Mahoney

The flowers on the altar are given by the Vondette Family in honor of Leah Vondette's birthday.

Join us next weekend as we continue our Advent Sermon Series "The Star: A Journey to Christmas" with "A Journey of Love" using the scripture readings James 1:17, 1 John 4:9-11, and Ephesians 3:17-18.

Prayer Concerns

Sana Ouattara, Yvonne, Ann Marie Schulte, Audrey Morelli, Scott Savokinas, Laureen and Phil Timbrell, Jerry Vinella, Roxanne Murray, Bryan Arcomano, Connie Brodine, Stan Jakubowski, Patricia Anderson, Lorelai Morrison, Freda Zakar, Aunt Sandy, Aunt Kathy, Candace, David Izatt, Arthur & Jean Koenig, Brett Nicholas, Annette Munley, Anita Gizzo, Jack Bozzuffi, Kristel Kirk, Darlene Meeh, Candice, Sarah Hergert, Paul Wells, Joe & Pat Bristow, Mike, Brian, Sarah, Linda, Colleen, Stewart, Susan & Doug Manhire, George & Ellen Layton, Erica H., Nathan, Marie Savokinas, Claude & Nancy Buchman, Matthew Lott, Sue Bernard, Ted Ziegert, Tom & Ginny Thorp, Terry & Donald Perrine, Gary Valentine, Anthony Pami, Meghan MacDonald, Matthew McKinnon, Abigail Brown, Linda Blazier, Bradley, Meghan W., Clark Tesh, Danny

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 7:14 (NRSVue)

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel.

Psalms 31:24 (NRSVue)

Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD.

Romans 15:13 (NRSVue)

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Pastoral Team

Rev. Erica Munoz – Lead Pastor

Rev. Dr. Deb De Vos – Associate Pastor, Spiritual Formation & Discipleship

Rev. Donald Gebhard – Pastor of Community Engagement

213 Main Street, Hackettstown, NJ 07840 | 908-852-3020 | kanzel@catchthespirit.org | catchthespirit.org

Lord I Need You

Christy Nockels | Daniel C arson | Jesse Reeves | Kristian Stanfill | Matt Maher

Lord I come I confess
Bowling here I find my rest
And without You I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart

Lord I need You oh I need You
Ev'ry hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me
Where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay

Lord I need You oh I need You
Ev'ry hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You

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Away in a Manger

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask thee to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes;
 close by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray;

The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus, look down from the sky
 bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

Blessed Assurance

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine!
 2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light,
 3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest;

O what a fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine!
 vi - sions of rap - ture now burst on my sight;
 I in my Sav - ior am hap - py and blest,

Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God,
 an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a - bove
 watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove,

born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
 ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto - ry, this is my song,

prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long;

this is my sto - ry, this is my song,

prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

Announcements

Worship Attendance

November 9/10	In Person	Facebook Peak Views
5:00	43	1
10:00	189	43

Please note that online numbers represent devices.

-Estimate of Giving Cards- Thank you to all who have submitted Estimate of Giving cards. If you have not done so, please submit your card as soon as possible. Extra cards can be found in all worship spaces as well as the church office. Online cards are available on our website. Please prayerfully participate to help us in developing our 2025 ministry.

-Special Communion Offering –A special offering will be taken today in support of the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund. The pastors are aware of many needs within our church family, especially at this time of year. The Pastor’s Discretionary Fund is a way we can support them.

- Christmas Jubilee –On **Sunday, December 1st** participate in the town Victorian Christmas Celebration culminating with the lighting of the Christmas Star at 5:00pm. We will then Christmas Carol our way from Franklin and High St. to Trinity House where there will be cookies and cocoa at 5:45pm. (Trinity House will open at 5:15pm for those not wishing to Christmas Carol). We will then gather outside around the Trinity Christmas Tree for our 3rd Annual Tree Lighting at 6:00pm.

-Worship with the Bishop - Join us in worship at 7:00pm on **Wednesday, December 11th** with Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi our new Episcopal Leader. We are looking for volunteers to bake cookies for refreshments after the service. Use Just Say Yes #4.

-Christmas Cantata Rehearsal Dates-

Wednesday, December 4th – 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Saturday, December 7th - 10:00 am – 12:00 pm – NOTE TIME CHANGE

Saturday, December 14th - 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

-Shhhhh....It’s A Christmas Surprise- We have been especially blessed by the ministry of our wonderful pastors. As in past years, the Pastor Parish Relations Ministry Team is coordinating a collection for a money gift to be given to each of our pastors for Christmas. We respectfully invite you to contribute. If you wish to give toward this year’s Christmas gifts, please use one of the following methods: 1- Mail in your donation directly to the church office. (On the memo line of the check write: “Pastor’s Gift”) or 2- Put your donation in one of the white envelopes in the pew marked “PPR Gift Collection for Pastors” and put the envelope in the offering plate. Collections will be taking place throughout December.

-Annual Truck Stop Christmas Cookie Bags – It’s time to check your baking supplies and schedule some time to bake Christmas cookies! On **Sunday, December 15th** we will be packaging cookies in Starr Hall after church to deliver to truck drivers at the Columbia Truck Stop to spread some Christmas cheer while they are on the road and away from their families over the holidays. We need 500+ dozen cookies – with no nuts or peanut butter (and people to help with the packaging on the 15th). Cookies shouldn’t be too “delicate” and can be simply decorated. Use Just Say Yes #3 to let us know how you can help.

-UMM Breakfast – At our **Saturday, December 14th** breakfast, Justin Stephenson will be leading us in singing Christmas Carols. Please plan to come, it promises to be a fun breakfast. We will continue to collect new underwear and socks, and gently used shirts, pants, and jackets for Midnight Run. Breakfast begins at 8:00am with coffee at 7:45am for early arrivals and ends at 9:30. Everyone is invited to UMM breakfasts. Use Just Say Yes #5 to let us know you will attend.

-Senior Social – Join us for fellowship and activities with other seniors. Bill Blaskopf will entertain us with a new version of Christmas Jeopardy. Coffee and a snack will be provided. Bring your friends. **Please bring** a \$5 gift card in an envelope for a special game. There is always lots of time for conversation, fun and games. We will meet in Trinity House on **Thursday, December 12th** from 1:15 - 2:45pm.

-Special Coffee Fellowship - Please join the United Women In Faith in Starr Hall after worship on December 8th for some delicious treats, coffee and fellowship! UWF is a faithful group of women that work very hard to meet people where they are and support all they come in contact with! They have created an after-school program, English Conversation program, worked for the Safe Parking initiative, Summer Backpack program and collected flip flops for Liberia! Come and meet the team, get to know them and ask about the wonderful work that they do!

-Blue Christmas: When Christmas Hurts - Sunday, December 22nd at 5:00 pm. So many of us have struggled this year with unrelenting sadness, hurt and longing. The expectations of the Christmas season is that we be cheerful and merry yet we may be feeling only pain. This service is an opportunity to experience the hope, comfort, and love of our compassionate God. You are invited to bring your burdens to this sacred space and join us in a service of prayer, candles, music, and meditation. Come if you are grieving, lonely, worried, struggling, fearful, experiencing a loss (job, health, financial, independence, relationships, etc.) or just need a time of comfort. All are welcome and you are encouraged to invite friends, neighbors, and love ones from the community. As a gift of love, offer to attend with people you invite.

-Hands to Hearts - As the weather is getting colder, Hands to Hearts is preparing to again provide hats, scarves, mittens and gloves to those in need. Through your generous donations, our Trinity family was able to provide over 375 pieces of winter outerwear to our community last winter. In conjunction with the Prayer Shawl ministry, we are accepting donations of hats, scarves, mittens, and gloves. (Hand-made or purchased) We are also very happy to accept yarn and gift cards to purchase materials. Donations can be dropped off at the church office.

-Youth MidWinter Advance 2025 – will be held January 24-26. Registration forms are available in the foyer or from the church office. The cost is \$125 per youth. Registration must be received by December 15th.

This Week at Trinity December 1- 8

Monday	12:30 pm	Heath Village	Trinity's Friendship Circle Christmas Luncheon
	6:00 pm	Music Room	Littlest Angels
Tuesday	6:00 pm	Room 105	On Bended Knee
	10:00 am	Room 104	Sister Share
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Zoom	Tuesday Evening Bible Study
	9:00 am	TH Room 401	Wednesday Bible Study
	10:00 am	TH Room 400	Wiseman's Journey
	4:00 pm	Lower Level	After School Program/English Conversation
	5:30 pm	Starr Hall	Community Dinner
	6:00 pm	Upper Room	Youth Ministry
	7:00 pm	Room 104	Pastor Parish Relations
Thursday	7:00 pm	Music Room	Cantata Rehearsal
	10:00 pm	Zoom	Centering Prayer
	6:00 pm	KidZone	Safe Parking
	7:00 pm	KidZone	Missions
Saturday	7:00 pm	Music Room	Agape Ringers
	8:00 am	Upper Room	Men's Bible Study
	10:00 am	Music Room	Cantata Rehearsal
Sunday	8:45 am	KidZone	Experiencing the Heart of Jesus
	9:00 am	Lower Level	KidVenture
	9:00 am	Upper Room	Church School
	11:00am	Starr Hall	Special Fellowship Time – United Women in Faith
	7:00 pm	Starr Hall	Pickleball

Just Say Yes - Opportunities To Serve

1. **Christmas Assistance Program** - We will be providing Christmas assistance for families who could use some help during the Christmas season this year.

_____ Yes, I would like to sponsor a family for Christmas assistance. Please contact me with more information.

2. **Christmas Hope Bag Help Needed** - The Christmas Hope Bags will be put together on Sunday, December 8th in Starr Hall after worship. We need people to help deliver the bags.

_____ Yes, I will deliver some Christmas Hope Bags.

3. **Truck Stop Cookies** – Homemade cookies and bags of holiday candies are needed for the cookie bags that are being assembled for truckers who pass through the TA on I-80 in Columbia the week before Christmas. Both cookies and candies should not contain nuts or peanut butter; cookies should not be thin/fragile. Packers are needed to assemble the bags (1 dozen cookies, candy, & a Christmas message) in Starr Hall on Sunday, December 15th after worship.

_____ Yes, I will bring _____ dozen cookies for the Truck Stop Ministry.

_____ Yes, I can donate wrapped candy to be added to the cookie bags.

_____ Yes, I would like to help pack cookies on December 15th after worship.

4. **Cookies Needed for Worship with the Bishop** - Join us in worship at 7:00pm on Wednesday, December 11th with Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi our new Episcopal Leader. We are looking for volunteers to bake cookies for refreshments after the service.

_____ Yes, I will provide cookies for after worship on Wednesday, December 11th.

5. **UMM Breakfast** - At our **Saturday, December 14th** breakfast, Justin Stephenson will be leading us in singing Christmas Carols. Please plan to come, it promises to be a fun breakfast. Breakfast begins at 8:00am with coffee at 7:45am for the early arrivals. Everyone is invited to UMM breakfasts.

_____ Yes, I would like to attend the UMM breakfast on Saturday, December 14th.

6. **Poinsettias** – During the Christmas season members and friends of the congregation may honor or memorialize a loved one by placing a poinsettia on the altar. The cost of each poinsettia is \$17.00.

_____ Yes, I would like to order _____ Poinsettias

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Jubilee Light Order Form

Please return this order form to Trinity UMC
213 Main St, Hackettstown, NJ 07840 by 11/26.

Donor Information:

Given by: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____



(please write names as they should be read at tree lighting celebration)

Name 1: _____ In Honor of _____ In Memory of _____
(please check one)

Single Light: \$10 String of Lights: \$25 Star Light: \$50 Event Sponsor: \$150
(please circle one)

Name 2: _____ In Honor of _____ In Memory of _____
(please check one)

Single Light: \$10 String of Lights: \$25 Star Light: \$50 Event Sponsor: \$150
(please circle one)

Name 3: _____ In Honor of _____ In Memory of _____
(please check one)

Single Light: \$10 String of Lights: \$25 Star Light: \$50 Event Sponsor: \$150
(please circle one)

Total Amount included: \$ _____ Checks made payable to Trinity UMC

Your tax-deductible donation will contribute to the many Ministries of
Trinity United Methodist Church. Thank you!