

**TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA**



TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN VISION STATEMENT

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we seek to BE Christ's faithful disciples, living – intentionally – the inward/outward journey as a community of the concerned, a fellowship of the forgiven, and a company of the committed – reaching out to make Christ's presence known in society through face-to-face servant ministry.

December 28th 2025 ~ First Sunday after Christmas

"The ringing of the bells moves us from a spirit of getting here to a spirit of being here."

GATHERED BY GOD IN WONDER

PRELUDE: The First Noel - traditional, arr. Zack Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

Bob Schminkey - December 28

GATHERING SONG: NO. 130 "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light"

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

In worship, we hear God's story and we ask,
"What did God do long ago?"

In worship, we hear God's story, so we ask,
"What is God doing, here and now?"

In worship, we hear God's story, then we ask,
"What can I do to respond to it all?"

Listen, God is speaking.
Listen, it may be time to act.

Let us worship our moving, inspiring, with-us God.
Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: NO. 147 "The First Nowell"

ADMITTING THE BROKENNESS OF LIFE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Emmanuel, God with us,
scripture tells us that you were a refugee,**

*Invitation to stand

**but we love to forget that information.
We love to forget every act of gun violence.
We love to forget how many people go hungry,
or how many students do not have access to good education.
We love to forget the injustices in our world that feel too big
for us to face.**

**But you are a God who refuses to forget.
So today we pray: make it impossible for us to overlook the
stories of those in need.**

**Make it impossible for us to sweep injustice under the rug.
Open our eyes along with our hearts, so that the anger we
feel around injustice
might fuel a fire for action.
With hope for a better tomorrow we pray,
amen.**

Time for a silent confession
Amen

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Church family,
even when we fail to do justice,
even when we fail to love kindness,
even when we allow fear to override action, freezing us in place,
God still loves us.

So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:
**On our best days and on our worst days, we belong to God.
We are invited into community. We are held in God's grace.
We are forgiven. And we are sent to serve.**

Thanks be to God for a love like that.
Amen.

*SONG OF RESPONSE: NO. 136 "Go, Tell It On The Mountain" v.1

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD IN OUR MIDST

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 2:1-23

CAROL SING

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: from *A Sanctified Art*

**We have seen the valley.
We have seen a sky without stars.
We have seen the longest night,
and still we believe.
We believe in God with-us.
We believe in the hope of tomorrow.
We believe that good news is louder than fear.
We believe this good news is for all people.
So even when our knees shake,
even when our voice trembles,
even when fear is all around us,
we will hold onto that good news.
We will reach for each other.
We will look for God in our midst.
We will sing songs of joy.
We will proclaim:
Unto us, love is born.
We have seen the longest night,
and we have seen unimaginable love.
So still, we believe. Amen.**

RESPONDING IN GRATITUDE AND SERVICE

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY: *In the Bleak Midwinter* - Gustav Holst, arr. Seb Skelly

*DOXOLOGY: NO. 481 "I Believe in God the Father"

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

FINAL HYMN: NO. 127 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE: *The Holly and the Ivy* - traditional, arr. Seb Skelly

Worship Leadership

Mark Dewey, Preacher
David Carothers, Liturgist
Eric Ruple, Pianist
Stephanie Gardner, House Steward
Mason Street Brass Band, Special Music

We welcome all who are visiting with us today and encourage you to sign the guest book or to fill out the blue "Welcome to Trinity" slip.

Trinity Announcements

Nurture: Mark Dewey will lead a book study this season. The book will be announced soon. Centering Space will lead a Nurture series on neurodiversity in the church. That study will begin on Sunday, January 18, and will take place after worship in the sanctuary.

Clothes Closet: The Clothes Closet is in need of winter men's and children's clothes, warm gloves and scarves, and men's jeans. Donations can be brought in anytime during office hours. Thank you!

Office Hours: The Office will be closed this week (December 22-January 2.) Beginning the week of the 5th, the office will observe new hours: 9am-3pm Monday - Friday.

For more details and announcements: Visit the "What's Happening Now" page on our website.

This Week at Trinity

December 28 - January 2

Sunday, December 28

7:30 am - Book Study
10:00 am - Hybrid Worship
3:00 pm - Session meeting
7:00 pm - Longest Night Service

Zoom
Church House & Online
Commons
Church House

Wednesday, December 31 New Years Eve- office closed

5:45 am - Lectio Divina
12:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting

Zoom
Yoke Room

Thursday, January 1 New Years Day - office closed

Friday, January 2 office closed

5:45 am - Lectio Divina
8:30 am - Rocktown Wellness

Zoom
Commons



**More
Announcements**



**Online
Calendar**

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN MISSION STATEMENT

Confident of our identity as God's pilgrim people sent into the world to embody the gospel and serve God's people as prophets, we eagerly search – with eyes and ears wide open – for the newness of Christ's love and grace breaking into our lives each day. To ALL, we offer a receptive, safe space:

- to *worship* in creative and participatory ways,
- to *nurture and be nurtured* as we learn and grow together – fearless of the questions and challenges that faith stirs within us,
- to be in *fellowship* with one another – building together a loving, forgiving, caring community; and,
- to experience the *mission* and ministry that calls us out - beyond ourselves – to work with God for justice, peace, and love.

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN SESSION

Stephanie Sorge, *Moderator*

Linda Bradley, *Clerk of Session*

CLASS OF 2025

Yogi Gillette
Mark Dewey
Mary Lou McMillin
Susie Phend

CLASS OF 2026

David Carothers
Amy Lemmons
Ginnie Reinhold
Bob Schminkey

CLASS OF 2027

Karla Irving
Stephanie Gardner
Lauren Strawderman
Mary Colleen Knapp



Church Office Hours:
Mon-Fri 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Stephanie's Sabbath: Friday
Heather's Sabbath: Tuesday

Trinity Presbyterian Staff

Stephanie Sorge, *Pastor*
stephanie@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org

Heather Ma, *Pastoral Care Associate*
heather@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org

Christabell DeMichele, *Church Administrator*
office@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org

Victoria Riddle, *Communications Specialist*
communications@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org

725 South High Street (Rt. 42), Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Website: www.trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org

Phone number: 540-434-9556