

**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 14th 2025 ~ Third Sunday in Advent

"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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

Jeannie Klemt - December 14

GATHERING SONG: NO. 82 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" v.1

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jeremiah said, "I am only a boy."

Moses said, "Who am I to do this work?"

Mary said, "How can this be?"

We often say, "But God, I am afraid."

Even when we are afraid, God invites us closer.

So may we trust the Inviter.

May we heed God's invitation.

May we summon our courage and sing God's praise.

Let us worship our courageous, inviting, calling God. Amen!

*OPENING HYMN: "Do Not Be Afraid to Follow the Call"

Gather round the lighted candles,

Flames of hope and peace and joy.

Listen as the angel proclaims,

Mary will conceive a boy!

Do not be afraid to follow the call;

*Invitation to stand

Obstacles God will destroy.

God has called us here together.

As we watch the candles blaze,

Ponder Mary's deep distressing,

Facing truth that still dismays.

Do not be afraid to follow the call;

Our fears don't constrain God's ways.

Here we gather seeking shelter

from a weary world of pain.

Holy Spirit, come, inspire us.

Show to us the paths you ordain.

Do not be afraid to follow the call;

God's work will not be in vain.

ADMITTING THE BROKENNESS OF LIFE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Courageous God,

you invite us to live into our call.

You invite us to act, to serve, and to trust.

Instead of responding with a resounding "yes,"

we often hide our face. We dig our heels in.

We look for someone else to volunteer.

Spark courage in us.

Remind us that every person is capable of making a difference.

Remind us that even when we're scared, we are not alone.

You invite us forward. With baby steps we hope,

we pray,

Time for Silent Confession

Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Family of faith,
no matter where your path has led you in the past, today is a new day. So join me in declaring this good news:
We are known. We are forgiven! We are sent to serve.
May we step forward in faith, always moving closer to God’s call. Amen.

*SONG OF RESPONSE: NO. 125 “Before the Marvel of This Night” v.2

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHOIR: “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD IN OUR MIDST

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 1:4-10 & Luke 1:26-39

SERMON: “Rejoice”

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: “O Come, Take Heart”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: from *A Sancitized 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: “There’s Still My Joy”

*DOXOLOGY: NO. 481 “I Believe in God the Father” v.1

*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. 765 “May the God of Hope Go With Us”

*BENEDICTION

*SUNG BENEDICTION: NO. 100 “My Soul Cries Out With a Joyful Shout ” v.3

Worship Leadership

Stephanie Sorge, Pastor
Janet Dewey, Liturgist
Bryce Hayes, Pianist
Amy Lemmons, House Steward

*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

Christmas Flowers: If you haven’t ordered Christmas flowers yet, now is the time to do so! Please fill out the form online or fill out a physical copy of this form in the office, or send the information for memorial or honorary gifts to Christabell in the church office. The deadline is this Wednesday, December 17th.

Longest Night Service: On Sunday, December 21, we will join with other congregations at Trinity for the Longest Night service. Because in this “most wonderful time of the year” not everything is “merry and bright,” we gather in honest emotional space to name the burdens, stresses, and grief we carry, as well as the losses we’ve sustained. It is always a very meaningful service. It will also be live-streamed for those who cannot attend in person.

Christmas Eve Service: Wednesday, December 24th, all are invited for our Christmas Eve service at 5 pm. We will celebrate communion and end with candlelight, and while children are always welcome in worship, we find this gathering time to be particularly age-inclusive in the midst of other celebrations.

For more details and announcements: Visit the “What’s Happening Now” page on our website.



This Week at Trinity

December 14 - December 20

Sunday, December 14	
7:30 am - Book Study	Zoom
10:00 am - Hybrid Worship	Church House & Online
11:30 am - Elder Training	Church House
Monday, December 15	
7:00 pm - Hearts & Hands	Zoom
Tuesday, December 16	
4:00 pm - Centering Space Meeting	Centering Space
5:00 pm - Yoga	Sanctuary
Wednesday, December 17	
5:45 am - Lectio Divina	Zoom
9:00 am - Clothes Closet Set Up	Commons
12:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting	Yoke Room
6:30 pm - Clothes Closet Open	Commons
Thursday, December 18	
1:00 pm - Finance Team Meeting	Commons
7:00 pm - Chess Club	Commons
Friday, December 19	
5:45 am - Lectio Divina	Zoom
8:30 am - Rocktown Wellness	Commons
2:00 pm - Story Corps	Tech Room



**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