*“Trinity UMC exists to* ***ENGAGE*** *people in joyful relationships with God and with each other, that we will* ***GROW*** *in Christ-like compassion and* ***SHARE*** *the blessings of the Holy Spirit.”*

December 8th, 2024 10:30 a.m. DIGITAL BULLETIN

Rev. David S. Vallelunga, Pastor; Stephanie McMillan, Liturgist;

Christina Wong, Zoomlogist



PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Dave

GREETING ONE ANOTHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE

ADVENT CALL TO WORSHIP (sung to SLANE)

**We light two candles and pray for the day**

**when justice and mercy and kindness hold sway;**

**off’ring compassion, to all, everywhere,**

**known for the actions and love that we dare!**

**Advent is time for reflection on life, for**

**righting of wrongs and for healing of strife,**

**brothers and sisters, united by love,**

**seeking the wholeness that comes from above.**

HYMN # 202 “People, Look East”

**People, look east, the time is near**

**of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,**

**trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:**

**Love the Guest, is on the way.**

**Furrows, be glad, though earth is bare,**

**one more seed is planted there.  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,**

**that in course and flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today:**

**Love, the Rose, is on the way.**

**Stars, keep the watch, when night is dim,**

**one more light the bowl shall brim,  
shining beyond the frosty weather,**

**bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today:**

**Love, the Star, is on the way.**

**Angels, announce with shouts of mirth**

**him who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today:**

**Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US Pastor Dave

OUR LORD’S PRAYER

WE GATHER OUR PRAYERS BEFORE SINGING

SONG #209 “Blest Be the God of Israel”

**Blest be the God of Israel,**

**who comes to set us free;  
who visits and redeems us, and grants us liberty.  
The prophets spoke of mercy,**

**of freedom and release;  
God shall fulfill the promise**

**to bring his people peace.**

*Silent Prayers*

**Now from the house of David**

**a child of grace is given;  
a Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.  
Before him goes the herald,**

**forerunner in the way,  
the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.**

*Pastoral Prayer*

**On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise,  
the dawning of forgiveness**

**upon the sinner’s eyes.  
To guide the feet of pilgrims**

**along the paths of peace;  
O bless our God and Savior,**

**with songs that never cease!**

SCRIPTURE Baruch 5:1-9 Liturgist

MUSICAL INSPIRATION

HOMILY “On the Level” Pastor Dave

OFFERTORY

ADVENT DOXOLOGY and PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,**

**praise God, all creatures here on earth below;**

**praise God above, ye heavenly host,**

**Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel**

**shall come to thee, O Israel!**

CLOSING HYMN # 210 “All Earth is Waiting”

**All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,  
and open furrows, the sowing of the Lord!  
All the world, bound and struggling,**

**seeks true liberty;  
it cries out for justice, and searches for the truth.**

**Thus says the prophet to those of Israel:  
'A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel,'  
for his name is 'God with us', our brother shall be;  
with him hope will blossom**

**once more within our hearts.**

**Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain;  
open new highways, new highways for the Lord.  
He is now coming closer, so come all, and see,  
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.**

**In lowly stable the Promised One appeared;  
yet feel his presence throughout the earth today,  
for he lives in all Christians and is with us now;  
again, with his coming he brings us liberty.**

BLESSING *O God, may we find and praise your goodness dwelling within every human being. May we each be a living sign of your generous love, a living demonstration of how to live more intimately with you. May we respect the evolving nature of all Creation, and grow into fullness of life. Guide our ongoing search into our human nature, that we may bring balance and fairness into our crooked world. Amen!*

POSTLUDE