

Holy Trinity United Methodist Church

December 24, 2023

10:00pm

Christmas Eve

Prelude

Welcome and Introduction

*Songs of Praise

Sing the 1st verse of each

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Hymnal #234

“Angels From the Realms of Glory”

Hymnal #220

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Hymnal #238

*Call to Worship

Leader: There is room for you here. If you're weary and worn, or hopeful and patient.

People: If you're tired and lost, or wrapped up in hope.

Leader: If you're new to this place, or have been here before.

People: Come in, come in. There is room for you here.

Leader: The angels are singing,

People: “Be not afraid.”

Leader: The angels are singing,

People: “Good news and great joy!”

Leader: So come in, come in!

ALL: THERE IS ROOM FOR ALL HERE.

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Chant Family

Leader: How does a weary world hold onto hope, practice peace, spread joy, or know love?

Congregation: How does a weary world combat cruelty?

Leader: How does a weary world shine a light into our bleakest night?

Congregation: We do all these things with God's help. For tonight, a child is born in Bethlehem.

Leader: Tonight, Christ draws near.

Congregation: Tonight, we light the Christ Candle.

Leader: Tonight, we are not alone.

ALL: God is near. Love has drawn close. Rejoice! For God loves this weary world.

Amen.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Loving Christ, Scripture tells us that you were born in a stable because there was no room in the inn. There was no room in the inn for a woman in need, no room in the inn for an innocent baby. Forgive us. We should have learned our lesson by now, but just as others turned their backs on you, we continue to turn our backs on one another. Teach us how to make room for one another. Teach us how to make room for you. Carve out space in our hearts to love as you love, for we do not want to build hostility here. We want to build your promised day. Guide us forward. With hope and honesty we pray, amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, the angels say, “Be not afraid,” but they also say, “Unto you a child is born.” Christ is born for you. Christ walked this earth for you. Christ forgives you. That's what love does. It makes room. It offers grace. It learns your name. So repeat these words of hope after me: Unto us a child is born.

People: Unto us a child is born.

Leader: Unto us grace is given.

People: Unto us grace is given.

Leader: May this good news change the very fabric of our lives.

ALL: Christ has made room for all of us. Amen.

Prayers of the People/Our Lord's Prayer

Scripture

Luke 2:1-7

*Song

“Away in a Manger”

Hymnal #217

Scripture

Luke 2:8-14

*Song

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Hymnal #240

Scripture

Luke 2:15-20

*Song

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Hymnal #229

Sermon

“We Make Room”

Pastor Chad Gilbertson

Holy Communion

(please bring your offering forward as you come to receive Communion)

*Song

“Joy to the World” (verses 1-2)

Hymnal #246

The Lighting of Candles “Silent Night” Hymnal #239
(We will light our candles during this song, passing the light from the inside aisle to the outside. Please keep lit candles upright.)

Affirmation of Faith/Benediction

Leader: We believe in a God who makes room for us— who opens the door, pulls up a seat, puts the kettle on, and says, “Tell me everything.”

People: We believe that God not only treats us this way but also makes room for our neighbors, for strangers, and for our enemies.

Leader: Jesus modeled this kind of room-making love when he said, “Let the children come to me,” and, “Let me wash your feet,” so we try to follow suit.

ALL: IN A WORLD OF CLOSED DOORS, WE BELIEVE IN SAYING, “THERE IS ROOM FOR YOU HERE.”

Postlude

Worship Leaders


Pastor: Chad Gilbertson
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Church Admin: Tina Chant
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 (952) 447-2990

Children, Youth & Family Coordinator:
 Lynnette Dobberpuhl
 kidsandfamilies@htumc.org
 (651) 492-8188

Choir Director: Randi Erlandson
Pianist/Organist: Randi Erlandson
Liturgist:
Ushers: Todd and Kelly Loose

This Week:

Monday, Dec. 25	Church Office Closed 9:30am AA (Parsonage) 7:00pm Al-Anon (Parsonage)	
Tuesday, Dec. 26	Church Office Closed 7:00pm Co-Dependents Anonymous (Parsonage)	
Wednesday, Dec. 27	8:30am Moment of Prayer for Holy Trinity 1-3:30pm Come and Play with Color Open House	
Thursday, Dec. 28	6:00pm Veterans AA (Parsonage)	
Sunday, Dec. 31	9:30am Worship/Live-Stream	

Holy Trinity United Methodist Church



**December 24, 2023
 10:00pm**

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Website: www.htumc.org

Pastor Chad Gilbertson