

Trinity Reformed
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 27, 2020—10:30 A.M.**

REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Liturgist: Stephanie Anderson

Lay Reader: Jennifer Lingle

Flower Calendar: Becky Setzer

**Designates "Those who are able, please stand."*

COMING BEFORE GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Peggy Stout

HYMN

"As With Gladness Men of Old"

Choral Ensemble

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

Kelly Barringer, Liturgist

God, you have made yourself known, but in a most amazing way, coming in weakness, in a tiny baby; you covered your glory and hid your greatness.

God of mystery and surprise, we praise you.

God, you have made yourself known, but in a most amazing way, in a dirty poor stable no one else wanted; you hid your wealth and infinite riches.

God of mystery and surprise, we praise you.

God, you have made yourself known, but in a most amazing way, born to humble working people, hidden in a simple life, and yet announced in the stars of heaven and visited by kings.

God of mystery and surprise, we praise you. Amen.

PIANO INTERLUDE

Marty Light (*recording*)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Peggy Stout

Merciful God, your Son Jesus came to this earth to be on the side of the powerless, to show partiality to the "little ones" and to advocate on behalf of the vulnerable.

Our advocacy is more often for ourselves than for others. Forgive us, O Lord!

We forget that wisdom does not necessarily equate with age, and we confess that we often lack the courage to speak when we ought, and to challenge and oppose injustices when we see them.

Forgive us, O God, and cleanse us from the guilt of our sin. Give us the strength and courage to do the right thing for others and to let

THE WORSHIP MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

All Church Members, Ministers

Rev. Peggy Stout, Pastor

Rev. Jaha Seechang, Lahu Worship Leader

Martha Caldwell, Director of Adult Traditional Choir

Marty Light, Organist

Joe Hart, Financial Secretary

Tamara McCarter, Church Secretary

TRINITY REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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the light of Christ shine in us.

We ask all these things in the name of Christ, who taught us to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAISE RESPONSE "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (vs 4) Choral Ensemble
*O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!*

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Cole Reitzel, Lay Reader
Make us to know your ways, O Lord; teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING 1 John 1:5-7 Cole Reitzel, Lay Reader
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC "Go Light Your World" Choral Ensemble

GOSPEL READING Matthew 2:1-12 Rev. Peggy Stout
The Gospel of the Risen Christ.
All praise to you, Christ our Lord!

SERMON Rev. Peggy Stout

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*The Apostle's Creed*) Kelly Barringer
Let us confess the faith of our baptism:
*I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was
conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he*



The Preschool will be CLOSED from December 21st—January 4th.

The Church Office will be CLOSED TOMORROW, December 28th and FRIDAY, January 1st!

[A Prayer for the New Year](#)—Lord, Whether I leave behind a year of joy or of trials and difficulties, I pause to give thanks. Thank you for being with me every day of every year. Thank you for making all things new and for giving me the grace of fresh starts and new beginnings. Remind me of your presence in the days to come, even when I feel pushed and rushed by busyness. Be glorified in my life this year. Amen.

NEXT Sunday, January 3rd, we will meet BACK IN THE LEC. After worship, the Consistory will meet again for discussion.

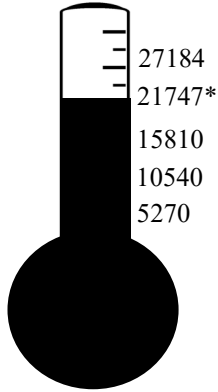
As a reminder, 90.5FM station will work in the parking lot on Sunday mornings as well as a video will be added to the church website and Facebook page. Stay Safe!

[OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2021](#) are available for pick-up at the Church Office any time during regular office hours! (If you would like them to be picked-up outside the church, please call and let Tamara know when you are coming!)

Reminders for the month of January:

	<u>Flower Calendar</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Lay Reader</u>
January 03:	Becky Setzer	Stephanie Anderson	Jennifer Lingle
January 10:		Tim Lail	Gloria Hill
January 17:		John Houston	Deb Hill
January 24:	Deb Hill	Pat Bowers	Kelsey Wise
January 31:		David Eckard	Tera Rockett

If you would like to fill-in on an open date, please contact the church office as soon as possible!



<u>ATTENDANCE FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER</u>						
	Lahu	10:30am	5:00pm	Total	SS	Envelope Giving
December 06	—	70	—	70	—	\$ 6,392.42
December 13	—	72	—	72	—	\$ 9,936.50
December 20	—	71	—	71	—	\$ 4,930.50
December 27	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	—	213	—	213	—	\$ 21,259.42

Goal for a four week month is \$21,747* and for a five week month is \$27,184.

This Week

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

First Sunday after Christmas

10:30am—Traditional Worship (in the LEC)

10:30am—Radio Broadcast (90.5FM—in the parking lot)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28

Preschool & Church Office CLOSED

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29

Preschool CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

Preschool CLOSED

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

New Year's Eve

Preschool CLOSED

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

New Year's Day

Preschool & Church Office CLOSED

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

Second Sunday after Christmas

10:30am—Traditional Worship (in the LEC)

10:30am—Radio Broadcast (90.5FM—in the parking lot)

11:30am—Consistory Meeting

MONDAY, JANUARY 4

Preschool CLOSED

descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heave, he is at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

Choral Ensemble

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

Invitation

Rev. Peggy Stout

Ministry of Intercessory Prayer

Offertory

*Doxology “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Offertory Prayer

*HYMN

“Go, Tell It on the Mountains”

Choral Ensemble

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Peggy Stout

*POSTLUDE

Marty Light (*recording*)



THE FLOWER on the table today is given in Loving Honor of Hunter Ray Jorgensen's 5th Birthday this week.

- Given by Gina Setzer

We want to **THANK** you, Rev. Peggy, for your concerns, prayers, and support this year. The prayers and concerns of the church has been a help and have been answered for Vae's health—We thank the whole congregation. May everyone have a Merry Christmas!
- Gene & Vae Hamilton

CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY to Ruth Little and Family in the loss of her brother, Gene Dennis Wright on December 17th. A celebration of life will be held at a later time. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Catawba County Humane Society—PO Box 63, Hickory, NC 28603 or the Hickory Soup Kitchen—PO Box 1431, Hickory, NC 28603.



OLD TESTAMENT READING *1 John 1:5-7*

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

***GOSPEL READING** *Matthew 2:1-12*

² After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi^[a] from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: ⁶ “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”^[b] ⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” ⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

The Gospel of the Risen Christ.
All praise to you, Christ our Lord!

Congregational CARE NOTES today! There are notebooks provided at the end of each pew. Please take a moment to write a note of care, thought, or appreciation to someone on the church prayer list. *Please write their name on the top of the paper.* We will take the notes up after the service and mail them directly to the person’s home.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER & with your cards, calls, visits

<p>RECUPERATING AT HOME</p> <p>Linda Hill Sarah Hoffman Garland Whittaker Check Mills Marjorie Reaves Virginia Brown Wanda Sue Ammerman</p> <p>HOMEBOUND</p> <p>Martha Sigmon Joyce Potts Peggy Wright Bobbie Whisenant</p> <p>IN ASSISTED-LIVING FACILITIES</p> <p>ABERNETHY LAURELS</p> <p>Joan Williamson—Room 240 Mary Tuttle—Memory Care Peggy Hollis—Apt 219 Joe Schell—Apt 205</p> <p>TRINITY RIDGE</p> <p>Odessa Whitmire—Room 807</p> <p>CAROLINA REHAB CENTER</p> <p>Peggy Miller—Room 110</p>	<p>CV ASSISTED LIVING</p> <p>Mary Crump—Room 114</p> <p>ALSO PLEASE REMEMBER:</p> <p>Homer Laube Wally Davis Jo Ann Simmons Vae Hamilton Diane Loftin Paul & Lula Towery</p> <p>*Michael Webb (Kathleen Shuford’s brother)</p> <p>*Larry Riffle (coworker of Amanda Houston, dealing with complications of COVID-19)</p> <p>*Roger Bowman (close friend of Hamp & Kathleen Shuford, at Frye Hospital)</p> <p>*Janet (Debbie Spencer-Ahrens’ sister, lives in Texas)</p>
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We would like to send a special **THANK YOU** to Trey Little, Ruth Little’s son who made a donation to the church this week in honor of his mother.

We also would like to say **THANK YOU** to all people who donated their money for Christmas Poinsettias this year to Carolina Caring in Newton. *(Please see insert for dedications.)*