

*Trinity Reformed*

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS  
DECEMBER 29, 2019—10:30 A.M.**

*\*Designates "Those who are able may stand"*

**COMING BEFORE GOD**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Peggy Stout

**PRELUDE** "Christmas Reflections" arr by Sarah Douglas/Marty Light, Organist

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Responsively*)

Rev. Peggy Stout

For many in our world, the observance of Christmas is over, but the Christ of Christmas lives on.

*Let us offer our praises to God, who in Jesus came among us.*

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

"Joy to the World"

#171 Blue Book

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION** (*Responsively*)

Shuford Abernethy, Liturgist

Holy God and Perfect light of revelation, as you have shone in the light of Jesus, *so shine in us and through us, that we may become beacons of truth and compassion, enlightening all creation with deeds of justice and mercy. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.*

**\*ORGAN INTERLUDE**

Marty Light

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*Responsively*)

Shuford Abernethy, Liturgist

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!*

In our homes and our churches, we often neglect the quiet, withdrawn ones, and the children, those who have much to offer were they given a listening ear and encouragement to speak.

*We forget that wisdom does not equate necessarily with age.*

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.*

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

**IN THE LORD'S SERVICE**

**Acolyte(s)**: Jakob Lackey

**Cross Bearer**: Eric Misenheimer

**Elder(s)**: Tony Wells & Dawn Kilby

**Nursery Attendant**: Sonya Starnes

**Treasurer Assistant today**:

Natalie Inman

**Ushers for December**: Consistory

**REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK:**

**Liturgist**: Joye Lane

**Lay Reader**: Shuford Abernethy

**Treasurer Assistant**:

**Flower Calendar**:

**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**

217 Second Avenue NE

Conover, NC 28613

Office Telephone: (828) 464-8226; Fax: (828) 464-1622

Office Hours: 8:30am - 3:30pm

Web site: [www.trinitytoday.org](http://www.trinitytoday.org)

E-mail address: [trinityucc@trucc.net](mailto:trinityucc@trucc.net)

The Children's School Telephone: (828) 464-0057

*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 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 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (vs 1) #184 Blue Book  
*Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."*

(Please be seated.)

### LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME (special piano music) Jaiden Seechang?

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison) Ted Setzer, Lay Reader  
*Lord God, may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 143:7-12 Ted Setzer, Lay Reader  
The Word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God!*

CHOIR ANTHEM "I Wonder As I Wander" by John Jacob Niles/Chancel Choir

\*GOSPEL READING Matthew 2:13-23 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

PIANO INTERLUDE Marty Light

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostle's Creed) Rev. Peggy Stout  
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*

We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas Holiday!! We wanted to say **THANK YOU** for all the gifts that were brought or sent to us—but most especially, the generous financial gifts from our church family and the Brotherhood. It is a tremendous privilege to serve at this church! Thanks again!  
- Rev. Peggy Stout & the Trinity Church Staff

*There will be NO Faith Alive! Services Tonight.*



The Church Office will be CLOSED on Wednesday, January 1st.

Next Sunday, January 5:

- 10:30am—Installation of Deacons & Elders—and Communion
- 11:45am—Consistory Meeting in the Chapel
- 5:00pm—"Faith Alive!" Worship & Refreshments

Singles:

The Singles will be having a planning meeting at Boxcar Grille in Claremont on **Saturday, January 11th at 6pm.** We will be discussing events for the coming year and decide what we want to do. *Due to the smallish turn-outs, we will not be taking the van, but recommend meeting there.*



### Upcoming Events for January 2020:

- January 12: Church Staff Meeting; 11:45am
- January 13: Board of Worship to take down the Christmas Tree; 5:30pm
- January 14: Snack Supper Planning Meeting for Chairpersons' of ALL Program & Administrative Boards; 6:00pm
- January 15: Conover Community Blood Drive; 2:30-7:00pm
- January 26: Child Baptism (Riley Steller); 10:30am



**OLD TESTAMENT READING**      *Psalm 143:7-12*

<sup>7</sup> Answer me quickly, O LORD; my spirit fails. Do not hide your face from me, or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit. <sup>8</sup> Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning, for in you I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul. <sup>9</sup> Save me, O LORD, from my enemies; I have fled to you for refuge. <sup>10</sup> Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Let your good spirit lead me on a level path. <sup>11</sup> For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life. In your righteousness bring me out of trouble. <sup>12</sup> In your steadfast love cut off my enemies, and destroy all my adversaries, for I am your servant.

The Word of the Lord.  
***Thanks be to God!***

**\*GOSPEL READING**      *Matthew 2:13-23*

<sup>13</sup> Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' <sup>14</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, <sup>15</sup> and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.' <sup>16</sup> When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. <sup>17</sup> Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: <sup>18</sup> 'A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.' <sup>19</sup> When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, <sup>20</sup> 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead.' <sup>21</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup> But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup> There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, 'He will be called a Nazarene.'

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**

**RECUPERATING AT HOME**

Charles Gantt  
Mabel Lawing  
Mike Kilby  
Sarah Hoffman  
Garland & Darlene Whittaker

**HOMEBOUND**

Paul & Lula Towery  
Martha Sigmon

**IN ASSISTED-LIVING FACILITIES**

**ABERNETHY LAURELS**

Joan Williamson—Room 240  
Mary Tuttle—Memory Care  
Peggy Hollis—Apt 219  
Joe Schell—Apt 205

**BRIAN CENTER REHAB (Tate Blvd)**

Wanda Sue Ammerman—Rm 503

**CONOVER NURSING & REHAB**

Bobbie Whisenant—Room 402

**TRINITY RIDGE**

Odessa Whitmire—Room 807

**CAROLINA REHAB CENTER**

Peggy Miller—Room 110

**CV ASSISTED LIVING**

Mary Crump—Room 114

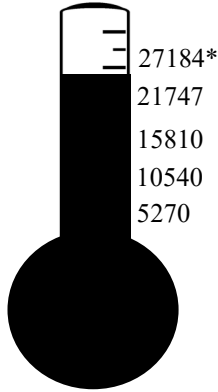
**ALSO PLEASE REMEMBER:**

Lawrence Warf  
Diane Loftin  
Peggy Wright  
Jasmine Badeaux  
Debbie Spencer-Ahrens & mother,  
Gloria DiSanto  
7000 E. Ben White Blvd, #2103  
Austin, TX 78741  
Will Hill & Samantha Berry

Trinity Church Family,  
I just wanted to say **THANK YOU** for your beautiful Christmas cards, carolers, visits, calls, cards, and prayers! Every day is getting better and better—and your gifts are making it so much easier! Bless you all and I can't wait to get back home!  
- Love, Wanda Sue Ammerman



**CONGRATULATIONS!! ...**  
... to Matthew Wilson who graduated from UNC-Asheville on December 19th with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in New Media.



<u>ATTENDANCE FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER</u>							
	Lahu	10:30am	5:00pm	Total	SS	Envelope Giving	
December 01	14	139	55	208	51	\$ 3,972.00	
December 08	16	129	—	145	—	\$ 4,055.00	
December 15	14	154	—	168	61	\$ 7,123.00	
December 22	7	167	47	221	36	\$ 10,204.68	
December 29							
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>\$ 25,354.68</b>	

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

## This Week

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

First Sunday after Christmas

\*Ministry of Intercessory Prayer

9:15am—S.S. Assembly

9:30am—Sunday School (all ages)

10:30am—Traditional & Lahu Worship

\*NO "Faith Alive!" Services Tonight!

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

Preschool CLOSED

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

New Year's Eve

Preschool CLOSED

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

New Year's Day

Preschool & Church Office CLOSED

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

6:00pm—Sweet Adelines'

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

9:00am—Sweet Adelines'

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

Second Sunday after Christmas

\*Installation of Deacons/Elders

9:15am—S.S. Assembly

9:30am—Sunday School (all ages)

10:30am—Traditional & Lahu Worship

11:45am—Consistory Meeting

5:00pm— "Faith Alive!" Worship

*Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, 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 "We Three Kings of Orient Are" (vs 1, 3, & 5) #206 Blue Book

### OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

Invitation

Rev. Peggy Stout

Ministry of Intercessory Prayer

Offertory

"Now the Green Blade Riseth"

arr by Michael McCabe

\*Doxology

"Praise God From 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" #205 Blue Book

\*BENEDICTION (Responsively)

Rev. Peggy Stout

Go forth from this place an awakened people, aware of the world's darkness, yet reaching for the light.

*We see God at work in our world, and that makes all the difference.*

Go forth from this place an expectant people, conscious of judgment in our midst, yet welcoming God's new order and justice.

*We welcome God's new day, believing that Christ will set us free.*

Go forth from this place a serving people, sensing anew the pain so many bear, yet confident God will bring healing, even through you.

*We open ourselves as channels of God's grace, for we have heard good news and have been empowered to share it.*

May you go now in the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the peace of the Holy Spirit! **Amen.**

\*CHIMES

\*POSTLUDE "Celebration of Christmas" arr by James Mansfield/Marty Light



Just a reminder... A Memorial Service for **Mary Ruth Lane Steelmon Schell** will be held on Saturday, January 11th at 1:00pm here at Trinity. Receiving will be prior to the service (from 12:00-12:45pm).



**THE FLOWERS** on the altar today are given in Love and to the Glory of God.

