

**Welcome to**  
**Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ**  
**An Open and Affirming Congregation**  
450 West Main Street, Mountville, PA 17554  
[www.mountvilletrinityucc.org](http://www.mountvilletrinityucc.org)  
[www.facebook.com/MountvilleTRUCC](https://www.facebook.com/MountvilleTRUCC)  
(717) 285-5593

December 18, 2016  
Fourth Sunday of Advent



**GOD IS STILL SPEAKING**

PRELUDE/GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION OFFERING: HELPING HANDS

\*INVOCATION IN SONG

“Gentle Joseph, Joseph Dear” New Century Hymnal #105

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SPECIAL MUSIC “Just another Christmas” (Story, Pardo/Arr. Wise)

*[At this time children who are interested in attending Sunday School may go to the classroom downstairs]*

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

One: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love: according to your great compassion take away our transgressions. Let us confess our sin in silence before God and one another.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVING PARDON

The prophet Isaiah wrote: "Shout for joy, O heavens; rejoice, O earth; burst into song, O mountains! For our God comforts the people and will have compassion on the afflicted ones." Hear the good news: In the name of Jesus, Savior-from-our-sin, our compassionate God forgives us, and gives us the grace to begin anew.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE (remain seated)

“My Heart Sings Out with Joyful Praise” NCH #106

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Joanne Duke, Lay Reader

God who blessed Elizabeth and Mary, you visit your servants with news of the world's redemption in the coming of the Savior. Make our hearts leap with joy, and fill our mouths with songs of praise, that we may announce glad tidings of peace, and welcome the Christ in our midst. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Joanne Duke, Lay Reader

**Hebrew scripture**

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

**Gospel lesson**

Matthew 1:18-25

REFLECTION ON THE SCRIPTURE: Pastor Don

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us)

PRAYER RESPONSE

**Hear our prayer O God; hear our prayer O God;  
Incline your ear to us and grant us your peace.**

CALL TO OFFERING: Joanne Duke, Lay Reader

Let us give praise and thanks to God for the miracles and blessings in our lives by offering gifts of our time, talents and resources.

OFFERTORY

\*THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**All: We offer to you, O God, these gifts of our lives and service. Keep us close Lord, to all who need your love, justice, compassion, and healing; help us to show them that you are known in Jesus Christ, whose compassion lives in all of us. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

“Mary did You Know” Blue Song Book p. 76

\*BENEDICTION

**Let us go forth with the desire to be compassionate as our Creator is compassionate. Let us go forth joyfully awaiting the birth of Jesus, in whose love, justice and mercy we will walk with our sisters and brothers each day as we wait. Amen.**

\*SUNG BENEDICTION “The Trees of the Field” See Insert

\*GO TO LOVE AND SERVE GOD AND ALL PEOPLE

\*indicates an invitation to stand either in body or in spirit

If you use social media we invite and encourage you to check in online as you attend today’s service. Portions of this week’s service were excerpted and adapted from **Fourth Sunday of Advent: Jesus, the Compassion of God** by Judith Andrews



## WELCOME TO TRINITY!

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here - to explore your faith, to meet new people, and to strengthen your personal relationship with God. If you are a guest here today, please sign our guest book. If you would like to be included on our mailing list, please fill out the Welcome Card in the pews and put it in the offering plate.

**Sunday Bulletins** - Trinity offers a Children's Bulletin and a Large Print Bulletin along with the Regular Sunday Bulletin. We also have adjustable audio devices for better hearing. Each can be found in the narthex.

**Columbia Food Bank** – Please place all monetary donations in the marked bucket in the Narthex. Donations can be made in cash or by check. Checks should be made out to the Columbia Food Bank. All food donations can be placed in the baskets. Thanks!

**Today's Bible Discussion at 1:00 pm** we will have our third session of **UCC 101**. I would encourage anyone in the congregation who can attend to do so. Betsy Bruaw from Penn Central Conference will give a presentation on ways that UCC congregations use the UCC value of “unity in diversity” to manage and respond to conflict. The session will last 2 hours. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

### **Bible Discussion Schedule – All sessions run from 1:00 – 2:30 pm**

- **December 18: Beginners Guide to UCC**, Session 3 -The national organization: leading by envisioning, not by coercing
- December 25: Christmas Day - NO BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP
- January 1: New Year's Day - NO BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP
- **January 8: Beginners Guide to the UCC** - Session 4- The local congregation (in its many forms): how are WE UCC?

**Broken Angels Welcomed** – As you decorate for Christmas bring any broken angels that you would otherwise discard to TRUCC and leave them outside of Pastor Don's study. Thanks!



***Come Celebrate the Christ Child:***  
*Saturday, December 24, 2016 at 7:00 pm, Christmas Eve  
Candle Lighting Service with communion.*

*Sunday, December 25, 2016 at 9:00 am, Christmas Day  
Service including a carol and hymn sing.  
Plan to invite family and friends!*

**January Guild Meeting** - We are starting the New Year off right with a Guild Business Meeting. Please join us on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We need and welcome your ideas and help. The year 2016 was a good one for the Guild. With your help, we can make the year 2017 even better.

**Annual Reports** — Reports are due Monday January 6, 2017 from all Church Leaders, Committee chairs, Ministry Leaders and Staff, but are gratefully accepted any time before the due date. Reports can be emailed to Eileen Littell at [trucc@mountvilletrinityucc.org](mailto:trucc@mountvilletrinityucc.org) or dropped in the church office mailbox.

Today is Sunday, December 18, 2016

- 10:00 am Trinity Café
- 10:30 am Worship Helping Hands Offering
- 1:00 pm **Beginners Guide to UCC,**  
(more information on page 5)
- 3:00 pm LIC Group Meeting

Monday, December 19

- 8:00 pm AA

Tuesday, December 20

- 6:30 pm Consistory Meeting
- 8:00 pm AA

Wednesday, December 21

- 6:30 pm Bell Choir
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 22

No Activities Scheduled

Friday, December 23

No Activities Scheduled

Saturday, December 24

- 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 25

- 9:00 am Christmas Day Service - Come spend the morning at Trinity celebrating with carols and hymns.

**Sunday mornings couldn't happen without the many disciples here at TRUCC. Volunteers are appreciated and needed. If you're interested in serving please see the volunteer sign-up sheets in the narthex.**

**January 1<sup>st</sup> Volunteers**

Trinity Café: Gladys Drybred

Greeters:

Head Usher:

Lay Reader: Tom Duke

Children's Christian Education:

Nursery:

Counter:

Altar Flowers:

Attendance

December 13, 2015.....73  
 December 11, 2016.....60

## **Worship Leadership**

Preacher: Don Fenestre-Marek

Lay Reader: Joanne Duke

## **Ministry of Music**

Music Director, Chancel Choir Shannon Edwards

Bell Choir Director: Daniel Molkenthin

## **Sound Technician**

Mark Cote and Charlie Miller

## **Ministry of Service**

Trinity Café:

Head Usher: Esther Markey

Greeters: Adella Houck & Wendy Mckelvy

Counter:

Nursery:

## **Children's Christian Education**

### **Floral Arrangement donated by:**

Nancy Henry in honor of her Grandson Colton's Birthday

December Greeting Cards: Bridgette Hancock

***Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ exists to render loving service toward humanity with Jesus as our example. We preach love, teach compassion and social justice, and welcome all into the full life and ministry of the church.***