

### *Trinity Calendar, cont'd*

**December 17, 10:30 am: Children's Nativity!** ALL the children are invited to be part of our live nativity! We have costumes for older kids. Parents of infants should provide any animal costume for their child. After the service, we may have live animals on the lawn!

**December 17, 3 pm: Handel's Messiah.** Presented by the Prentice Concert Chorale with chamber orchestra and soloists. Tickets are not required, but a \$20 donation per adult and \$5 per student is requested to offset orchestra costs.

**December 21 (Thursday): Blue Christmas/Longest Night Service, 6 pm.** Christmas can be a difficult time of the year for many people. On the longest night of the year, bring your doubts, tears, fears and even anger into a safe and holy space. Through songs, prayers, scripture and quiet reflection, we look for God who brings light in our darkness, hope in our difficulties, and strength for our struggles. You are not alone.

**December 24: Morning Christmas Eve Service, 10:30 am!** Christmas carols and games, Holy Communion and lighting candles. Come in your Christmas pajamas or your favorite holiday clothes as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!

### **MISSIONS MOMENT**

Thank you to everyone who brought toys for Tuscaloosa's One Place and items for the Adult Protective Services program at DHR. Your gifts will be distributed this month by social workers and Santa's helpers. If you have items to donate, please take them directly to Tuscaloosa's One Place at 810 27th Avenue, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401.

Trinity United Methodist Church  
729 Paul Bryant Drive  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401  
(205) 759-4206

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 am-2 pm

Senior Pastor - Rev. Penny Ford - revpennyford@gmail.com

Associate Pastor - Rev. Savannah Gross - savannahgross.417@gmail.com

Music Director - Dr. Kevin Chance - k.t.chance@gmail.com

Assistant Music Director - Anthony Zamora

Children's Coordinator - Jessica Wyatt - childrenscoordinatorumc@gmail.com

Youth Director - Dr. Clay Nelson - clayted12@gmail.com

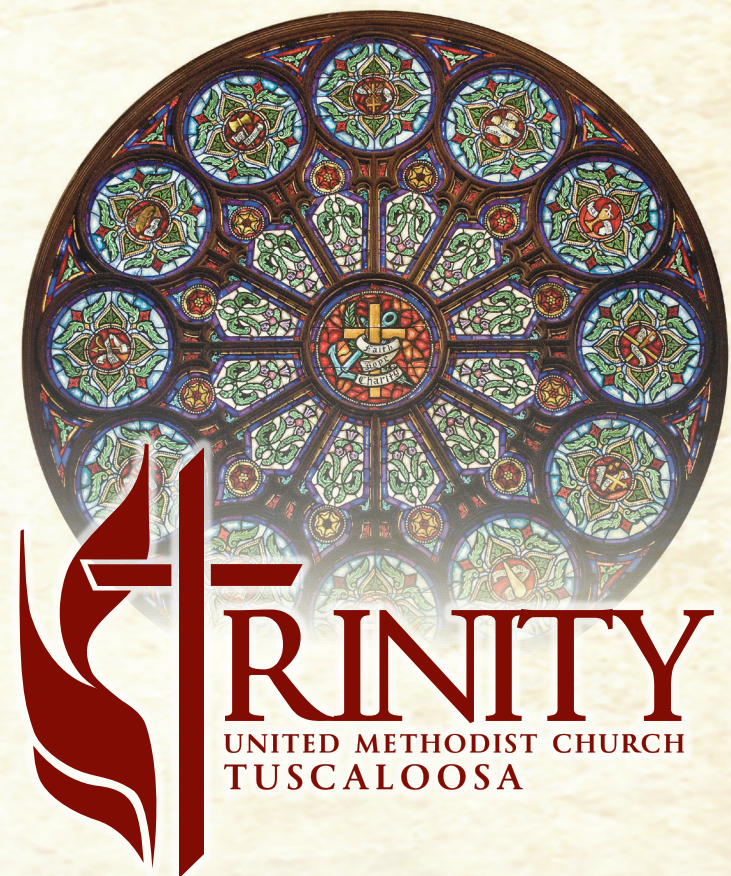
Church Secretary - Kathryn Venable - office@trinityumc.info

Financial Secretary - Beth Davis - finance@trinityumc.info

Interns - Ja'Kaylah Blackmon and Zachary Cole

Web page: [www.trinity-umc-tuscaloosa.org](http://www.trinity-umc-tuscaloosa.org)

Facebook: Trinity UMC in Tuscaloosa



*A Festival of Seven Lessons and Carols  
December 10, 2023*

***Trinity United Methodist Church  
is a congregation united by the love of Christ.***

*Because we are rooted in and guided by the grace of God,  
we share the love of Christ in our community and in our world.*

*Because we embrace our ever-changing community,  
we are open and respectful of what makes you who you are,  
and glad you are part of our church family.*

*Because we cherish our multigenerational congregation,  
we are caring and nurturing of all ages.*

*Because we value traditional worship,  
we feel familiar and welcoming.*



**A FESTIVAL OF SEVEN LESSONS AND CAROLS**  
**DECEMBER 10, 2023**  
**TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**PRELUDE** Anthony Zamora

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Rev. Penny Ford

**\*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE** Gambrell Family  
Last week we lit the candle of hope. Today we light the candle of peace.

**\*HYMN** *Once in Royal David's City* #250

**FIRST LESSON** Genesis 3:8-15; 17-19  
God announces in the Garden of Eden Adam and Eve's punishment for their rebellion and that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

**CAROL** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* Natalie Sleeth  
Trinity Choir

**SECOND LESSON** Isaiah 9:2,6-7  
The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.

**CAROL** *Candle Carol* K. Lee Scott  
Trinity Choir

Advent candle, softly glowing; warmth and light diffusing 'round;  
Symbol of our Savior's presence, Love from heav'n to earth come down.  
Shedding glory, wondrous story of Christ Jesus' humble birth,  
He from starry realms of heaven Deigned to visit us on earth.

In this blessed, glorious season, time of beauty, joy, and peace,  
Time of mercy, time of sharing, in our hearts our light increase.  
Kindle loving, kindle sharing, pierce our gloomy, selfish night.  
Lift our eyes on high to see you, Jesus Christ, true Light of light.

Advent candle, softly glowing, shining, glimmering on our sight;  
Symbol of our Savior's presence, Jesus Christ, true Light of light.

**THIRD LESSON** Isaiah 11:1-4a,6-9  
The king is coming and will usher in a reign of justice for the poor and peace for all of God's creation.

**CAROL** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* #230

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** Rev. Savannah Gross  
*At this time, children ages 4-2nd grade may follow  
Jessica Wyatt to Children's Church, or they may stay in worship  
with a parent. Nursery is available for newborns through age 3.*

**OFFERTORY** *Still* Kathleen M. Basi  
Trinity Choir

**\*DOXOLOGY** (To the tune of *Infant Holy*)  
Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to Christ the Son,  
Glory to the Holy Spirit, Glory to the Three-in-One.

Here we offer to you gladly all the gifts that you impart,  
As we glory in your Presence, Giving from a grateful heart.

**FOURTH LESSON** Luke 1:26-35, 38  
The angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will give birth to God's promised Son, whose kingdom shall never end.

**CAROL** *Hallelu* Stephen Paulus  
Trinity Choir

**FIFTH LESSON** Luke 2:1-7  
Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.

**CAROL** *Still, Still, Still* Mack Wilberg  
Trinity Choir

**SIXTH LESSON** Luke 2:8-16  
The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world, lying in a manger.

**CAROL** *Were You There on That Christmas Night?* Elaine Hagenberg  
Trinity Choir

*Away in a Manger* Mack Wilberg  
Trinity Choir

**SEVENTH LESSON** John 1:1-14  
John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

**CAROL** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* Arr. Dan Forrest  
Trinity Choir  
*\*Joy to the World* #246

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** Anthony Zamora

This afternoon there will be a service to celebrate the life of Rusty Ward at 2 pm here in the sanctuary. Our prayers are with Donna and all of Rusty's family in this tender time.

**TRINITY CALENDAR**

**December 15 (Friday), 5:30-7 pm: Little Elves Workshop/Parents' Night Out** for children ages 0-5<sup>th</sup> grade. Christmas crafts and movies, pizza and a visit from a very special guest! Kids will also try on their costumes and practice for the Children's Nativity the following Sunday. Registration required.

**December 16 (Saturday): Christmas Caroling and Cookies, 3:30-5:30 pm.** Please meet at the church at 3pm to caravan or get a ride. Or you can meet us in front of the home of Bob and Yvonne Schwartz at 3:30 pm: 8710 Inverness Circle, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401. Wear your most festive Christmas clothes as we serenade a few of our homebound members. We'll end the night with cookies and milk at Rev. Penny's house. All ages welcome!