

### TRINITY CALENDAR

December 31: New Year's Morning, 10:30 am! Today we let go of the past and embrace the future with a New Year's morning service. Rev. Savannah Gross brings a message of hope and new beginnings.

January 7: Epiphany, 10:30 am! Today we celebrate the Magi (kings) who came to see the newborn Jesus. After the service is the UN-Hanging of the Greens as the Christmas season officially (liturgically) ends.

### MISSIONS MOMENT

Thank you to all who brought items or contributed to help children and elderly people in need. Items will be distributed through Tuscaloosa One Place and DHR. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ this Christmas season!

### MEMORIAL

Trinity received a gift in memory of

**Peggy Reed**

from

Ed and Wynell Schamel

Trinity United Methodist Church  
729 Paul Bryant Drive  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401  
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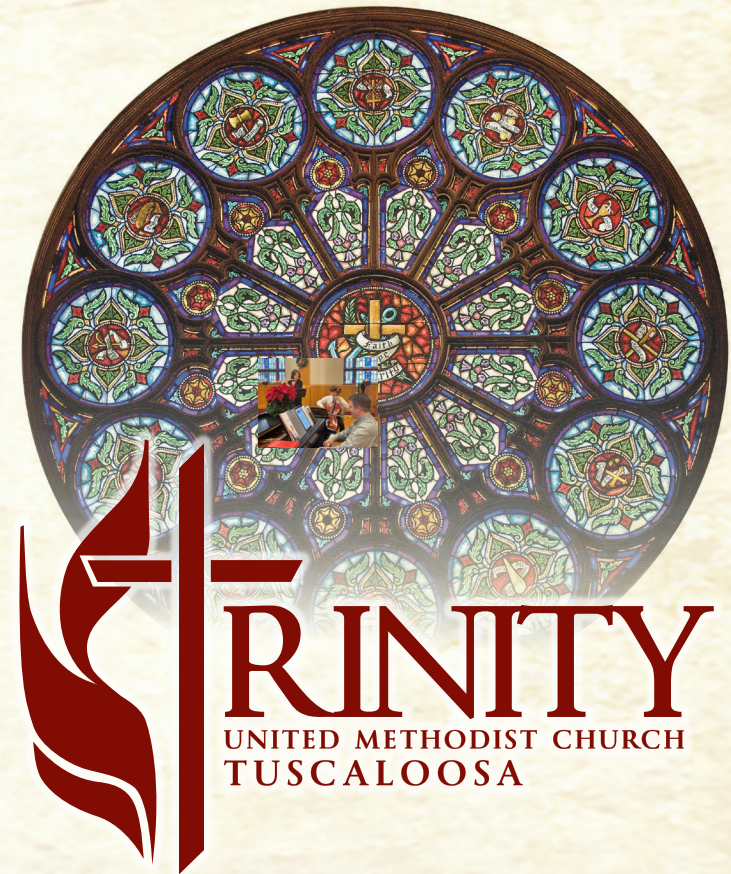
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Facebook: Trinity UMC in Tuscaloosa



**Christmas Eve**  
**December 24, 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.*



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
CHRISTMAS EVE  
DECEMBER 24, 2023**

**PRELUDE**

Victoria Paulino

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Penny Ford

**\*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

The Bearden Family

It's Christmas Eve! How quickly this time has come upon us!

**We are breathless. Still so much to be done.**

Calm your spirits. Take time to hear the wondrous news.

**Open our ears to hear Mary's Story**

Remind us that, like Mary, each one of us is a bearer of your Good News.

**We are called to share hope, peace, joy, and love in your name.**

Trust that Christ is coming! Believe the good news!

**We believe and rejoice! Christ is born. Hallelujah! Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Joy to the World*

#246

**\*GREETING ONE ANOTHER**

*You're invited to greet those around you and move about as you wish!*

*Please be sensitive to the fact that some in worship may not feel comfortable welcoming a hug or a handshake, and adjust as needed.*

**CHRISTMAS HYMN MEDLEY**

*At the conclusion of our hymns, the children may go to Children's Church for a birthday party for Jesus.*

***God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen***

God rest you merry, gentlemen,

Let nothing you dismay,

Remember Christ our Savior

Was born upon this day,

To save us all from Satan's power

When we were gone astray:

O tidings of comfort and joy,

comfort and joy,

O tidings of comfort and joy.

***Away in a Manger***

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,

The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,

The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

***It Came upon the Midnight Clear***

It came upon the midnight clear,

That glorious song of old,

From angels bending near the earth,

To touch their harps of gold:

"Peace on the earth, good will to men

From heaven's all-gracious King."

The world in solemn stillness lay,  
To hear the angels sing.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / LORD'S PRAYER**

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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

**OFFERTORY**

*The offering plate will be passed in the open seating areas of the sanctuary only. Baskets for offerings will remain available at entrances into the sanctuary.*

**\*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.

**SCRIPTURE**

Luke 2:1-20

**\*SERMON**

*Strong Like Mary, Strong Like Joseph* Rev. Penny Ford

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (COMMUNION)**

#13

*Everyone is welcome at the table! This includes children, youth, adults and people of any denomination or no denomination. May we know the grace and love of Jesus Christ in the breaking of the bread and sharing of the cup.*

*As you come forward to receive communion, please take a candle.*

*Battery-operated ones are available for small children.*

**\*HYMN**

*Silent Night*

#239

*As we sing together, please make a circle in the front. We will light a candle as we celebrate the light of Christ being born into our world!*

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright

round yon virgin mother and child.

Holy infant, so tender and mild,

sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight;

Glories stream from heaven afar,

heavenly hosts sing, Alleluia!

Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light;

radiant beams from thy holy face

with the dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Victoria Paulino