

# Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church

*On a journey with God to Reach, Grow, and Serve*

TLPC is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). We welcome you to worship and grow with us as we live in God's amazing grace! Please join us for fellowship and refreshments after the service downstairs in the fellowship hall and let us know how we may serve you.

**Supervised childcare** for infants is available in the nursery room at the rear of the sanctuary. **Worship Bags** for young children are available at the welcome table in the Narthex, the welcome space at the top of the stairs.

**Sunday School** is offered downstairs in the classroom off the fellowship hall for children age 3 through grade 8 following the opening liturgy. They will re-join us in worship for communion.

**Sheet music, large print bulletins, and assistive listening devices** are available for your use. Please ask an usher for assistance. **Prayer Slips** are in the worship bulletins; written requests may be placed in the offering plate.

**Please consume food and beverages** in the fellowship hall only.

## Wednesday

8:00-9:00am

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study at Coffee And.

## Friday

The Hiking Group will not meet the day after Thanksgiving, but will resume next week. For more information, email [fridayhiking@googlegroups.com](mailto:fridayhiking@googlegroups.com).

**Lead Pastor**, Rev. Scott Trevithick

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**Worship and Music Planner**, LorelleBanzettbanzett@sbcbglobal.net

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**Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church**

**Meeting at 11662 Hope Court**

**(530) 582-4243    [info@tlpc.org](mailto:info@tlpc.org)    [www.tlpc.org](http://www.tlpc.org)**

**Like us on Facebook at Truckee Church and Tahoe Truckee Youth Collective**

## SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 6, 2015

The pastor or worship leader will read the regular print text.

The congregation will read/sing the **bold** text.

Please stand, as you are able, for sections marked with an asterisk \*.

### PREPARING TO ENCOUNTER GOD IN WORSHIP

*We invite you to sing or pray as we quiet our minds to hear God's voice  
and open our hearts to feel God's presence.*

♪ **Surely the Presence**

♪ **Everlasting God**

### WELCOME

#### \*GATHERING SONG, ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

♪ **Light One Candle** - vs. 1-2

\* **ADVENT PRAYER** – Catherine Hammond

#### \* **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Invitation to confession*

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

You witness the sorts of lives we lead, Approaching God.

**Asked to share the gospel of hope,  
we place it on our to-do list instead.**

**Given the chance to cry out for justice for others,  
we fall strangely silent.**

**Invited to pray with joy in every moment,  
we prefer to grumble about every insignificant thing in our lives.**

**Have mercy on us, God of grace,  
and prepare our hearts for Your forgiveness to have its way in them.**

**Fill us with Your hope  
so we might lighten the shadows of others.**

**Help us to join the choirs of children in singing of Your joy.**

**Transform us with that tender mercy  
who is our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

\* **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

## **\* SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*All are invited to share a handshake or a hug as a sign of reconciliation and peace, saying "Peace be with you." We do so in the name of Jesus, who offered peace to his disciples when they were gathered in fear [John 20] and who extended his life to the point of death to make peace with humankind.*

*Children age 3 through grade 8 may go to Sunday School.*

### **FIRST READING**

Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **\* PREPARING TO HEAR THE GOOD NEWS**

♪ **He Came Down**

### **\*GOSPEL READING**

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** – “Who is in Charge?”

*Spiritual reflection*

**SONG IN RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD**

♪ **Blessed Be the God of Israel**

**\* GATHERING OF GIFTS**

*Our finest offering is our attention, moment by moment and day by day, to God’s purposes for our world. We join our constant efforts to be faithful with these weekly moments of giving that celebrate the love with which God surrounds us. We are God’s children, committed to caring for all of God’s creation.*

**\* PRESENTATION OF GIFTS, SONG OF THANKS**

♪ **Thanks Be to You**

**\* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*When a worshiper concludes a petition with “Lord, in your mercy.”  
Let all respond, “Hear our prayer.”*

**\* INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The pastor continues with the Eucharistic prayer . . .*

With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit  
who makes your Word live in us.  
Awaken us as your people to be filled with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth to all people.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Our loving Father, we give you all praise and glory,  
Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

*The prayer concludes with the Lord's Prayer.*

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now  
and forever. Amen.**

**DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

*We invite all to share in Holy Communion, also known as the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist. We believe that Jesus Christ is present in and with the elements. We receive this sacrament in remembrance of what God has done for us through the death and resurrection of Jesus.*

*You may either eat the bread and drink from the common cup of wine (first chalice) or hold the bread and dip it in the grape juice (second chalice). Gluten-free wafers are available; just give Pastor the "OK" sign as you come forward to receive the bread.*

*Children who do not yet receive communion are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

*Some people wish to receive communion every week, others less often. Please do what is meaningful and comfortable for you. If you prefer to receive communion while seated, indicate this to an usher.*

## **COMMUNION SONGS**

♪ **What Child Is This?**

♪ **In the Bleak Midwinter**

## **\* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Our everlasting God,

we gratefully receive these gifts of bread and cup  
and pray you will use them

to enlarge our capacity to love and trust you.

Help us receive your mysterious grace anew this Advent season,  
so that we may become people who live more and more like Jesus  
for our own joy, for your glory and  
to bring your love and care to our world.

Amen.

## **\* SENDING SONG**

♪ **Days of Elijah**

## **PREPARING FOR OUR MISSION IN THE WORLD**

*We are called to make Christ known by our words and actions - in our church family,  
in our local community and throughout the world.*

## **\* BENEDICTION**

## **\* SENDING**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **\* POSTLUDE**

## TLPC Worship and Community Notes:

### The Season of Advent

“Advent”, which means *coming*, begins the Church liturgical year and is the four-week season of preparation for Christmas and the coming of Jesus. Christians prepare for celebrating the birth of Jesus by remembering the longing of the Jews for a Messiah. In Advent, we’re reminded of how much we ourselves also need a Savior, and we look forward to our Savior’s second coming even as we prepare to celebrate his first coming at Christmas. We keep in mind both “advents” of Christ, the first in Bethlehem and the second yet to come. The **colors** associated with the season of Advent are dark blue, which symbolizes *hope*, or purple, which symbolizes a reflective time of yearning as well as royalty. During Advent, various TLPC folks will light the Advent wreath candles (one for each week of the season) and open our worship with prayer. The white Christ Candle will be lit on Christmas Eve.

### Christmas Eve at Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church

We will celebrate Christmas Eve Thursday, December 24 with two distinct services. Flyers will be available to use to invite friends or neighbors to worship with us.

**The Family Service at 5:00 p.m.** is especially for those with children. We will sing carols and hear the story of Jesus’ birth as we worship together.

**The Candlelight Service at 7:30 p.m.** will include carols, scripture reading and brief reflection, hand bells, and singing with members of the Community Chorus.

**Pastors’ Attire:** In the earliest times of the Christian Church, pastors and priests wore regular clothing. As the Catholic Church took on a more formal structure, priests often wore black as a symbol of formality and seriousness. During the Protestant Reformation, some groups continued the practice of wearing specific religious attire (*vestments*) while others wore the same clothing as everyone else. In recent years, TLPC pastors have worn a robe called an *alb* (*white* in Latin), a white full-length garment with a rope-like *cincture* belted around the waist and a *stole* around the neck corresponding to the symbolic colors of the church seasons. The TLPC Worship Team decided our pastors may wear clothing more familiar in our culture for most church services, but will continue to wear the stole, a symbolic yoke signifying the ordained pastor’s special role as servant of God’s people. They may wear the alb as well during special services like Christmas or Easter. We welcome your thoughts on this new practice.

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