

First Trinitarian Congregational Church of Scituate, UCC



DECEMBER 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent,
Joy Sunday

**Whoever You Are,
And Wherever You Are
On Life's Journey,
You Are Welcome Here.**

The Altar Flowers today are provided by
Ann and Rudi Gerhard
Given in honor of family and friends

Following Worship, everyone is invited to Rice Hall for
Fellowship and Refreshments.
Serving you this morning are
Diane Weydt, Mary Wagner, and Diane Roder.

Thank you for your continued support of our church.

Your generosity is very much appreciated.
Lots of vital ministry and mission work
is still being done each week.



Ministers to the World, The Congregation;

Rev. Dr. Stan G. Duncan, Interim Pastor

William Richter, Director of Music; Zandy Shepherd, Music Assistant

Jody DeCoursey, Admin; Scott Holmes, Sexton

* Invites those who are able to stand / **Bold** indicates that the congregation speaks

TIME FOR REVERENT REFLECTION

Upon entering, you are encouraged to sit quietly and enjoy the prelude

PRELUDE

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Stan Duncan

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP *based on Psalm 146:5-10* Carolyn DeBrusk, Liturgist

Liturgist: Rejoice and put your trust in God, creator of heaven and earth,

People: whose faithfulness and justice extends through all time.

Liturgist: God compassionately lifts up those who are bowed down and oppressed, imprisoned and hungry;

People: upholding the defenseless and casting down the oppressors.

Liturgist: Let us rejoice and praise God who will reign forever - for all generations.

* OPENING HYMN *Come Christians, Join to Sing* #108 v.v

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT WREATH CANDLE

Gail: Today we re-light the candle we lit on the first Sun day of Advent: the candle of *hope*. Gail Verrasso & David Horton

David: This candle proclaims that God's light is coming into the world.

A purple candle is lit

Gail: And also today we re-light the candle of the second Sunday of Advent, the candle of *peace*.

David: This candle proclaims that the Prince of *peace* is coming to us heralded by the angels' message of peace and goodwill to all.

A second purple candle is lit

Gail: Join us now in the singing of the third verse of our Advent hymn.

ADVENT HYMN *O Come, O Come, Immanuel* # 123, Verse 3

Gail: And finally, the candle of the third Sunday of Advent is the candle of *joy*

David: This candle proclaims that *Joy* came into the world in the birth of the Christ Child in the manger, and in the hearts and minds of all of humanity who come to follow him.

The pink candle is lit.

Gail: In the midst of snow and in the midst of cold, we gather together in the warmth of God's love to celebrate once again the Advent of God's "Coming" in Christ Jesus.

**People: God of joy,
we find delight in the way you chose to share our humanity: a child born of a woman who glorified you.
Strengthen us so that we can also glorify you in faith and peace and joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

David: We pray these things in the name of your Son who taught his disciples to pray,

All: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in 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.

ANTHEM

My Dancing Day

Arr. by Robert Shaw and
Alice Parker

CHILDREN ARE INVITED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Carolyn DeBrusk, Liturgist

One Body with Many Members

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less

honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect: ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

The Advent of Joy

Rev. Stan Duncan

*** SERMON HYMN**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

#259

JOYS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

CALL TO GIVING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

by Gustav Holst

*** SONG OF PRAISE**

Doxology

Unison

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

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Rev. Stan Duncan

*** CLOSING HYMN**

Spirit of the Living God

#247 all verses

*** BENEDICTION**

*** BENEDICTION RESPONSE**