

Welcome to Trinity's latest updates on Wednesday, December 1, 2021.

Greetings Trinity,

Welcome to Advent. As we wait and watch and prepare for the coming of the birth of Christ, I hope you are feeling connected to your family of faith at Trinity. You can join us in person for worship on Saturdays at 5pm, Sundays at 8am and 10:45 and Wednesday evenings at 7pm for Advent Vespers.

Sunday at 8am and Advent Vespers are also livestreamed on Facebook.

Our Advent Devotional went out last week and we have been hearing reflections on how Trinity folks prepare their hearts and homes during the Advent season. Today was the first day to begin the paper chain that is part of this year's devotional. If you need extra slips or additional devotionals, they are available at church.

Our December newsletter is on its way to you today.

If you receive it via email, it will be in your inbox today! If you receive a copy by mail, watch your mailboxes or go over to our website to read it online today.

Contained in this month's newsletter are the links to sign up for our Christmas Eve services. Because we are keeping social distancing in place for Christmas Eve, we are requiring reservations. If you are able to sign up online, please do. If you are not able to sign up online, or have additional questions, please call the church office. This is the same sign up that we used last year for Christmas Eve and as we returned to worship in the sanctuary back in July.

Thanks for your patience and understanding as we continue to work to keep us all safe.

A reminder that as we continue to gather together inside, we have these guidelines in place:

Masks are required in the building, based on the CDC's Community Transmission level in Berks County still being graded as "high." We are still a community that is a mix of young and old, at risk and not yet able to be

vaccinated. We will promote masks as a visible sign of our love and care for neighbor.

Some pews are still marked off to allow social distancing, as an additional level of safety for all who are in our building. Please do not remove the tape, these pews are marked off for your safety and comfort as well as the safety and comfort of those around you. This helps keep our space safe for all who enter.

Thank you for following these guidelines and helping Trinity to be a safe space for all who wish to worship inside. Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we continue to make changes.

Today, December 1 is World AIDS day.

Let us pray,

God of all compassion, Comfort your family members who live with HIV. Spread over us all your quilt of mercy, love and peace. Open our eyes to your presence reflected in their faces. Open our ears to your truth echoing in their hearts. Give us the strength to weep with the grieving, to walk with the lonely, to stand with the depressed. May our love mirror your love for those who live in fear, who live under stress and who suffer rejection. Comforting, healing God grant rest to those who have died and hope to all who live with HIV. God of life, help us to find the cure now and help us to build a world in which no one dies alone and where everyone lives accepted, wanted and loved. We pray in your name. Amen.

See you tonight in person or online for Advent Vespers.

Blessings and peace.