

Trinity Praise April 2019 - November 2020

In April 2019 Trinity Praise was continuing to offer an active and involved family orientated service to our younger members of the congregation. Held once a month at 10.45 it offered a chance for some families who didn't attend church on a regular basis to bring their children, or grandchildren, to a service dedicated to them. It was also attended by some members of our regular congregation who also enjoyed the interaction with the children.

Trinity Praise has a regular format which enables the youngest members to take part as they can anticipate what is going to happen. It includes a game, puppets, story telling and crafts, alongside regular songs and prayers.

Our December service, Nativity Praise, was, as usual, very well attended and made use of a 'pop up nativity' script from the Bible Society. We work on the basis of "why reinvent the wheel" when we can access ready made resources! Usually the children are happy to dress up as characters from the story however they were less so this year but this did give some of the adults the chance to be shepherds and kings instead.

Sadly in March 2020 this all had to come to an abrupt end due to coronavirus. Like everyone we hoped this wouldn't be for long but as things became clearer we began to look at how we could re connect with our Trinity Praise families so we planned Trinity Praise in a bag with zoom. Each month the children receive a bag with everything they need to take part in the service. This began in October and we have a total of 21 children who want to receive a resource bag and, although they don't all attend the zoom session, keep connected to Trinity Praise.

We have had 2 zoom Trinity Praise so far and are all thrilled with how the children engage with what is happening. We have stuck to our regular format of a game, puppets, story telling (with PowerPoint slides) and a craft and this is working well. Parents have been fantastic and where they can they have put the service onto their television screens so the children can watch themselves and their friends playing and dancing around. A number of the older ones even send messages over the chat line, sometimes commenting on the story or simply saying hello to us all.

We are currently planning our Nativity Praise for this year and then will look to 2021. Zoom will continue as long as we need it to but we are all praying for the day that Trinity Praise, and all our young ones, can come together in person and worship again in Holy Trinity Church.