



*Christ
Presbyterian
Church*



ORDER OF WORSHIP

A Service of Word and Prayer

December 15, 2024 | 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

The Third Sunday of Advent

***Angels, from the Realms of Glory**

Hymn No. 218

Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry Smart, 1867; Lyrics: James Montgomery, 1816, 1825

Welcome & Announcements

Les Newsom

***Call to Worship¹**

Isaiah 52:7-10

Elder: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,

People: who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

Elder: The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy;

People: for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion.

Elder: Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.

All: The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

***Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

Advent Reading

"Jesus, The Savior of His People"

Matthew 1:18-25

Bailey & Emily Lipscomb

***O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

Hymn No. 194

Music: VENI EMMANUEL; Lyrics: Latin antiphons, 12th cent, tr. John Mason Neale

Call to Confession

John 5:39-44

³⁹You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, ⁴⁰yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life. ⁴¹I do not receive glory from people. ⁴²But I know that you do not have the love of God within you. ⁴³I have come in my Father’s name, and you do not receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him. ⁴⁴How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?

Silent Confession

Confession of Sin

All: Almighty God, you have surprised us with your presence in unexpected ways. In the expectations of our routine, we have missed the treasure that you place before us. We come to worship you in community often expecting nothing more than the usual. We begin our days, our weeks, assuming all will run as it always has. We do not look for the unexpected, for your active presence in our daily lives and for that we confess our sorrow. Forgive us for not allowing our eyes to catch the unexpected, to glimpse your glory in the ordinary. During this season, may we see the presence of your Son by the power of your Spirit in ways that would capture our wonder and would cause us to worship. Amen.

^{*}Please stand, if able.

¹We believe that God always initiates with sinners, so we begin worship with His invitation and command to us to gather in His name.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

John 5:21-24

²¹For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. ²²For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, ²³that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. ²⁴Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

***Advent Hymn (Song of Isaiah)**

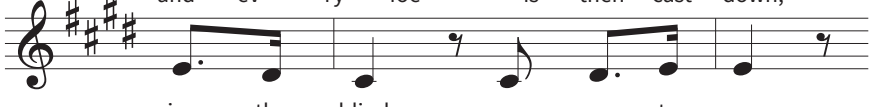
Music: Aaron Keyes, Ben Smith, Chris Moerman, Graham Kendrick, and Joseph Barrett
Lyrics: Eric Priest, 2011



1. In the dark - ness of our night
2. When the cho - sen time ar - rived
3. When the fi - nal trum - pet sounds



the Lord will come and shine His light,
God sent His Son and the Sac - ri - fice.
and ev - 'ry foe is then cast down,



give the blind new eyes to see,
Born a man, our sins to end,
Christ, our Lord, will take the throne,



throw off their chains, and set them free.
to die, to rise, and to as - cend.
and reign for - ev - er with His own.



Chorus: He will come, our Wond - 'rous Coun - se - lor.
(has)



He will come, our Migh - ty God,
(has)



Prince of Peace, our King E - ter - nal.



He will come, our God with us.
(has)



Bridge: And He shall reign for - ev - er, and ev - er.



And He shall reign for - ev - er and ev - er. And

Life Together

Intentional Prayer, Les Newsom & Errol Castens

Offertory Prayer

Deacon Gray Tollison

Offertory

"Huron Carol"

UNE JEUNE PUCELLE, French folk melody, c. 16th cent., arr. Luther Henderson

Visitors, please fill out a visitor card located in the chair backs in front of you and drop it in the offering plate.

***Children's Church Dismissal: During the 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. service three- & four-year-olds may be dropped off & picked up at the sanctuary door to the left of the piano to attend Children's Church.*

Pastoral Prayer

Elder Steve Redding

Members of the Week:

Robert & Anne Traylor

Larry & Charlotte Tyner

Missionaries of the Week:

Streets Ministries: Youth Outreach - Memphis, TN

Sunday School Teachers of the Week:

3rd & 4th Grade: Fowler & Billy Staines; Sarah & Sumner Abraham

Christ Pres Leadership & Staff:

Doug & Terri Sanford

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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 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.

Scripture Reading

Revelation 19, 21-22

Page 1039

Elder: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"It's All Worth It"

Brian Sorgenfrei

Revelation: Things Are Not as They Seem

Children's Church pickup by the sanctuary door to the left of the piano after sermon.

**Please stand, if able.*

***Children's Church is provided to help families make the transition from nursery to the worship service. Volunteers will take them upstairs for a time of singing, praying, playing and listening to a Bible story. Please note that Children's Church is optional for families and we also fully support keeping your child in the service as well!*

*Joy Has Dawned

Music & Lyrics: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend



1. Joy has dawned up - on the world,
2. Sounds of won - der fill the sky
3. Shep - herds bow be - fore the Lamb,
4. Son of A - dam, Son of heav'n,



prom - ised from cre - a - tion;
with the songs of an - gels,
ga - zing at the glo - ry;
gi - ven as a ran - som;



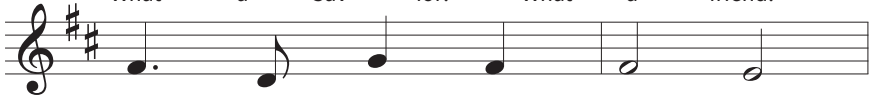
God's sal - va - tion now un - furled,
as the might - y Prince of Life
gifts of men from dis - tant lands
re - con - cil - ing God and man,



hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.
shel - ters in a sta - ble.
pro - phe - sy the sto - ry.
Christ, our might - y champ - ion!



Not with fan - fares from a - bove.
Hands that set each star in place,
Gold, a king is born to - day,
What a Sav - ior! What a friend!



Not with scenes of glo - ry,
shaped the earth in dark - ness,
In - cense, God is with us,
What a glo - rious mys - t'ry!



but a hum - ble gift of love:
cling now to a moth - er's breast,
Myrrh, His death will make a way,
Once a babe in Beth - le - hem,



Je - sus born of Ma - ry.
vul - nera - ble and help - less.
by His blood He'll win us.
now the Lord of his - t'ry.

***Angels We Have Heard on High**

Hymn No. 214

Music: GLORIA, Traditional French melody; Lyrics: French carol, tr. by James Chadwick

***Benediction²**

Postlude "And the Glory of the Lord" from Messiah, HWV 56

George Frideric Handel, 1741, transc. Kenneth Abeling

**Please stand, if able.*

²Just as God has the first word in worship, He also has the last word. For those who are in Christ Jesus, these are always words of blessing. We look up and extend our hands out in a posture of receiving the blessing of God.

"It's All Worth It"

Your future self says "Come" because...

1. The joy will never end (19:6-9, 21:4 & 8, 22:15)
2. All things are made new (21:5)
3. God is there (21:3, 22:3-4)

"In God's home, there is an everlasting party" – St. Augustine

Musicians & AVL Team

Thomas Ardrey, piano; Denease Bishop, vocals; Randall Bryant, keyboard & vocals;
Noel Childress, guitar; Amanda Fliflet, sound engineer; Jesse Gibens, trumpet;
Erik Hom, violin; Slade Lewis, bass; Chris Quick, trumpet; Anna Sayre, lights & projections;
Molly Singletary, vocals; Daniel Spears, percussion; Vasilios Tidwell, tuba;
Charlie Torrent, horn; Tatton Waldon, trombone

Lyrics printed by permission. CCLI license #1098613
Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version
© 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.
Used by permission. All rights reserved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

join us for a time of

INTENTIONAL PRAYER

December 15th at 5:30pm

2024 has been an encouraging year for our church family. We believe that God has set before us significant challenges to accommodate the growth in membership and attendance while staying faithful to our mission to pastor each other well. Before we take the next steps, we'd like to gather in the sanctuary for a time of intentional prayer **today** at 5:30pm.

NO ADULT,
YOUTH OR CHILDREN
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND NO 8:30AM
WORSHIP SERVICE ON
DEC 22ND & 29TH!
WE WILL HAVE OUR 10:45AM WORSHIP
SERVICE & LIVESTREAM WILL BE
AVAILABLE

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24TH AT 4PM & 5:30PM

ICU
HOLIDAY
FOOD

CHRISTMAS EVE


contact Lisa Gathright at
lisagath@gmail.com

CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

662.234.3399 | office@cpcoxford.org

 @cpcoxfordms

 @cpcoxford

 @cpcoxfordms

 www.cpcoxford.org