

The Lord's Service

December 11, 2022

**Standing together is our ordinary practice,
but you are welcome to remain seated.*

Lighting of the Advent Candle - The Brian Turner Family

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation for Worship *Wake! Awake, for Night is Flying*
Words: adapted from Matthew 25.6, Philipp Nicolai, 1599
Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai, 1591;
arranged by Johann Sebastian Bach, 1731
Sanctuary Choir

“Wake, awake, for night is flying,” the watchmen on the heights are crying,
“awake, Jerusalem, at last!”
Midnight hears the welcome voices, and at the thrilling cry rejoices;
“Come forth, ye virgins, night is past!”
The Bridegroom comes; awake, your lamps with gladness take; alleluia!
And for his marriage feast prepare, for you must go to meet him there.”

God Calls Us

Call to Worship

Only God Himself can call
us into worship. He sets
the terms for worship
because, through His Son,
He makes worship possible.

*Call to Worship 2 Corinthians 13.11-14

LEADER: ... brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration,
comfort one another, agree with one another,
live in peace; and the God of love and peace
will be with you. Greet one another with a
holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

PEOPLE: **The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the
love of God and the fellowship of the Holy
Spirit be with you all.**

*Hymn of Adoration *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!*
Words: Georg Weissel, 1642
Music: TRURO, Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789
Hymnal No. 198

*Invocation

by Elder Ken Henry

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession

Isaiah 53.6

LEADER: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned - every one - to his own way;

PEOPLE: **And the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

Private Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

adapted from Acts 17.28, Martin Bucer

Heavenly Father, hear the prayer we make before you. Drive from our heart and soul all those things that displease you. Enable us to understand that we live and move and have our being in you; and that our sins are so great and so offensive before you, that neither your grace nor your life ever could have been restored to us except through the death of your only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 5.6-8

LEADER: Lift up your heads and hear the Good News: "For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person -- though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die -- but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

The peace of the Lord be with you!

PEOPLE: **And also with you!**

Invocation

This prayer addresses God in three persons, asking Him to be present with us in worship to help us worship Him according to His will.

Call to Confession

As we see God in His invitation and our praise, we cannot help but see how we have fallen short. God's Holy Scripture has the authority to reveal us to ourselves and transition our hearts to confession.

Corporate Confession of Sin

We sin in thought, word, and deed every week. This prayer begins with silent confession, followed by corporate confession as people equally in need of God's grace.

Assurance of Pardon

Holy Scripture assures Christians, sinners saved by grace, that they are united to Jesus in His death and resurrection.

*Hymn of Assurance

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Words: Latin antiphons, 12th century.; Latin hymn, 1710;
translated by John Mason Neale, 1851*

*Music: VENI EMMANUEL, 13th century; arranged by Thomas Helmore, 1856
Hymnal No. 194*

God Consecrates Us

Scripture Lesson

We hear and read Holy Scripture throughout the service. Listen to this reading (lesson) to prepare for the sermon.

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 42.1-4 (p. 602)
read by Elder Ernie Brown

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

Baptism

In baptism, ordinary water represents God's work in the covenant of grace to forgive sins through spiritual washing and the blood of Jesus. It cannot save. It symbolizes that we belong to Jesus and is commanded of every Christian. A child of Christian parents may be baptized because "household" baptism of the New Testament is similar to circumcision of the Old Testament.

Sacrament of Baptism

by Pastor John Jones

*Zach and Sara Southard present Abigail Kate
and Elsie Grace for baptism.*

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Zion Hears the Watchmen Singing
Jeremy Gaines, soloist*

Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her heart with joy is springing;
she wakes, she rises from her gloom:
For her Lord comes down all glorious, the strong in grace, in truth victorious;
her Star is ris'n, her Light is come!
Ah, come, thou blessed Lord, O Jesus, Son of God, alleluia!
We follow till the halls we see where thou hast bid us up with thee.

(J. S. Bach, Cantata BWV 140)

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

We set aside a tithe and additional offering of our resources for the purposes of God, for His glory. Both are a display of our joyful dependence upon God rather than ourselves.

*Doxology

Now Let All the Heavens Adore Thee

Words: Philipp Nicolai, 1599
Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai, 1591;
arranged by Johann Sebastian Bach, 1731



Now let all the heav'ns a - dore thee, and men and an - gels
of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, where we are with_ the



sing be - fore_ thee, with harp and cym-bal's clear - est tone;
choir im - mor - tal of an - gels round thy daz - zling throne;



nor eye hath seen, nor ear hath yet at-tained to hear what there is



ours; but we re-joyce, and_ sing to thee our hymn of joy e - ter - nal - ly.

Prayer of the Church

by Pastor Jake Bennett

Scripture Lesson

Hebrews 4.15-16 (p. 1003)

¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Sermon

by Pastor John Jones

WONDERFUL SYMPATHY

Doxology

A doxology is a hymn or word of praise to God for His goodness and glory. The *Gloria Patri* is another example of a doxology.

Prayer of the Church

We share in our health and sickness, happiness and sorrow, assurance and doubt, as we bring our prayers to God, together. Holy Scripture commands elders to pray with and for God's people, not just publicly, but privately.

Scripture Lesson

We hear and read Holy Scripture throughout the service. Follow along with this text (lesson) that directs the sermon.

Sermon

A preacher is commanded to faithfully steward God's Word by submitting to it, studying it, and expositing it (holding it forth), bearing witness to Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

***Hymn of Response**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Words: vs. 1, 4 by Charles Wesley, 1744; vs. 2-3 by Mark E. Hunt, 1978

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855

Hymnal No. 196

Confession of Faith

By confessing our faith together using statements believed by Christians over the ages, we join in the sweep of Christian history even as we await the return of Jesus.

***Confession of Faith**

Westminster Larger Catechism, 39
(1647)

LEADER: Christian, why was it necessary that our Mediator should be a man?

PEOPLE: **That he might advance our nature, perform obedience to the law, suffer and make intercession for us in our nature, and have a fellow-feeling of our infirmities; that we might receive the adoption of sons and have comfort and access with boldness unto the throne of grace.**

***Gloria Patri**

GREATOREX

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

God Commissions Us

Benediction

Just as God calls us to worship at the beginning of the service, He graciously sends us into our week with a blessing (good word) founded on the redeeming work of Jesus.

***Benediction**

by Pastor John Jones

Postlude

SERMON NOTES

Mission Statement of CPC

Covenant Presbyterian Church exists to love God and our neighbors by making Christ known in all of life.

Vision Statement of CPC

Covenant Presbyterian Church exists to love God and our neighbors by reverently and winsomely proclaiming the salvation we have received from Christ, the union we enjoy with Him, and the restoration He brings to all things.

WELCOME

We are glad you joined us this morning! If this is your first visit with us, please take a moment to fill out one of the Connection Cards located in each pew.

Join us in the lobby for coffee and fellowship before Sunday school. If you are visiting or are newer to Covenant, consider visiting the Essentials class designed for you that meets in the Sanctuary.

We invite you to join us next week, as Pastor Jake Bennett preaches from Philippians 2.3-11.

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For those with children:

Here at Covenant your children are welcome and wanted in worship! Understandably, little ones sometimes have a hard time sitting quietly through a service. We have a special bulletin designed for these Little Theologians. They are available in the narthex (don't forget the crayons!). A window-enclosed Family Worship Room (on the right side of the sanctuary) is also available for you to use. It is a place for children to be a little louder and more active. A family restroom and a nursing mothers' room are located in the back of this room. A nursery is also available for children 2 years-old and under. Any deacon can direct you there.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact the office at office@cpchatt.org to make an appointment.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, December 11 - *Third Sunday of Advent*
Worship Service - Sanctuary - 9:30 am
Sunday School
College & Career Brunch
Knotts Newlywed Shower - Pearce house - 2-4 pm

Wednesday, December 14
Last 2022 Midweek Meal - O-100 - 5:30 pm
Children's Ministry Christmas Party
Youth, & Adult Midweek Classes -
see website for class list

Friday, December 16
Men's Proverb Study - O-105 - 8:30 am
Five Love Languages of Teens Study - E-111 -
10 am
MS Christmas Party - O-100 - 6 pm

Saturday, December 17
HS Progressive Dinner - 5:30 pm

Sunday, December 18 - *Fourth Sunday of Advent*
Worship Service - Sanctuary - 9:30 am
Sunday School - Last 2022 Sunday School
Christmas Fellowship - O-100 - 12 pm
Choir Christmas Program - Sanctuary - 7 pm

MORE INFORMATION

Our church website and calendar are updated daily. Visit cpchatt.org for resources, activities, and information about the life of our church.

Contact the church office to request access to our online directory.

All music is printed under CCLI No. 447727.

COVENANT LIFE

COLLEGE & CAREER CLASS BRUNCH TODAY!

Tim and Bonnie Schoap invite all college students and young adults to a Christmas brunch during Sunday School today. They will meet in O-207. Come ready for food and fellowship!

KNOTTS NEWLYWED SHOWER

You are invited to a Newlywed Shower in honor of Michael and Katie Knotts. The drop-in shower is at Becky Pearce's home this afternoon from 2-4 pm. They are registered on theknot.com. Go to that website and click on couple finder and enter *Michael Knotts*, the month: *October*, and year: *2022*.



*Katie & Michael
Knotts*

CLOTHES CLOSET UPDATE

The Clothes Closet is not "officially" open this year, but it will open again Fall 2023. You may leave bagged clothing in the bins located the stairwell just off the lobby. Those items will be stored until next fall. Other items, such as socks, caps, gloves, etc. are welcome for this year. If you have any questions, please call Joan or Rich Denkinger at 423-605-9677 or 423-605-9676.

CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP

Join us as we recognize and give thanks for the Jones Family at our Christmas Fellowship Lunch on December 18. This will be a time of churchwide fellowship as we spend time with Pastor John and Karen. A designated basket will be available for cards or encouraging notes you would like to share with the Jones family.

Please use the emailed link to volunteer to bring food. Please bring all food sliced and ready to serve. Refrigeration and warmers will be available Sunday morning for your food. Disposable dishes are preferable, but if you bring your own dish, please mark it with your name and take it home with you afterwards. Email Nicky Lewin at nlewin@cpcchatt.org with any questions.

LORD'S SUPPER ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Christmas falls on Sunday this year. We will meet together for regular worship that morning and will also celebrate the Lord's Supper together. Join us for this time together in worship as we rejoice that our Savior came and dwelled among us.

BUDGET REPORT

Through December 4:	
Giving To Date:	\$1,214,500
Annual Budget Need:	\$1,984,930
Needed By Year-end:	\$ 770,430

COVENANT LIFE

CHRISTMAS CARD STAMPS

Please remember to save your Christmas Card stamps. Bring them to the church office. Used stamps are trimmed and sent to be processed and re-sold with proceeds going to finance Spanish language Sunday School curriculum in Latin America.

CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED

The church offices will be closed on Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26 in observance of Christmas. They will also be closed on Monday, January 2 for New Year's.

LESSONS & CAROLS

Join us on Christmas Eve at 5:30 pm for a special community service of Scripture and songs as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ! Everyone is welcome!

END-OF-YEAR GIVING

All end-of-the-year contributions need to be in the offering or locked offering box in the Lobby by noon on Friday, December 30 (or postmarked by December 31) to be counted as tax-deductible for 2022 contributions.

Like last year, all giving statements will be sent digitally to the e-mail address we have on record in ShelbyNext. If you would like your giving statement to be mailed or have any questions, please contact Becky Pearce at bpearce@cpchatt.org.

THANK YOU

“I want to express my sincere gratitude to my church family for the loving support during a very difficult time. I am thankful and grateful for the food, cards, calls, emails, and text messages. I appreciate the thoughts, prayers, and visits that strengthened and encouraged us. Thank you for your sympathy and kindness.”

-- Peggy Blevins and family.

THANK YOU

“Dear beloved brothers and sisters in the Lord, I want to thank you so much for all your prayers, many beautiful cards, and your encouraging messages when my sister passed away.”

-- Bev Mealor

MIDWEEK

SUGGESTED DONATION

Our Midweek Meal is a great way to connect during the week. The cost per meal is suggested only. If you don't have the full amount, don't worry. Pay what you can. If you are able to donate more as a blessing to others, it is appreciated. Visitors enjoy a free meal.

- Adult: \$6 / Child (5-11): \$4
- Family Max: \$20
- Cash or Check (Put in Cash Box)
- Pay Online (cpcchatt.org/give or scan QR code)



MIDWEEK MEAL INGREDIENTS

In an effort to simplify Wednesday evening meal prep for our kitchen staff and avoid possible allergic reactions, we are asking those with allergy issues or dietary restrictions who wish to know the ingredients of meals beforehand to sign up for a weekly email. This email will include the ingredients used in preparing the meal and if any adaptations are available (gluten free, dairy free, etc.).

Even if a particular meal doesn't work for you, please feel free to bring a meal that does and join us for fellowship. If you wish to be added to this list, please email Nicky Lewin, our Kitchen Services Coordinator, at NLewin@cpcchatt.org.

December Midweek Menu



December 14: Beef Burgundy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Chocolate Candy Cane Cake

MIDWEEK IN THE NEW YEAR

The last Midweek of 2022 is Wednesday, December 14. All regular Midweek activities and classes will pause until the new year.

Choir rehearsal will resume Wednesday, January 11 at 6:45 pm.

Midweek will begin again on Wednesday, January 18 at 5:30 pm with our regular meal.

Be watching for details about the upcoming activities and classes that will be offered.

CPC'S FESTIVAL CHOIR & ORCHESTRA PRESENT



Vivaldi's Gloria & Other Selections

IN CELEBRATION OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD



DECEMBER 18, 2022 ♦ 7 PM

The Covenant Presbyterian Church Festival Choir and Orchestra, with the Chancel Choir and Covenant Choristers, are delighted to present Vivaldi's masterpiece, *Gloria in D Major*. The concert will also include carols and other festive and comforting Christmas treasures. It is offered in celebration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Please invite your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers to this evening of worship, beauty, and celebration.

CHILDREN

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DECEMBER SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 14: Christmas Party
Sunday, December 18: Last Sunday School Class
of 2022

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

Consider volunteering for nursery duty. Contact Bekah Gernhard at nursery@cpccchatt.org and let her know when you are available to serve.

Advent Calendars for Children

Families of children age 2 through 5th grade are invited to pick up an Advent Calendar to share as a family. They are located in the Welcome Center in a large basket. Let's count down together!

NURSERY - TODAY	NURSERY - DECEMBER 18
Front Desk: Lauren Warren	Front Desk: John Pearce
Worship Volunteers / 9:15 - 10:45 am	
Sarah Wade (Infant Room) Sylvia Wade (Infant Room) Fiona Wade (Toddler Room) Tim Warren (Toddler Room)	Judy Foster (Infant Room) Esther McEachern (Infant Room) Shirley Jones (Toddler Room) Emily Pearce (Toddler Room)
Sunday School Volunteers / 10:45 - 12:15 pm	
Diane Lazor (Infant Room) Donna Schreiner (Infant Room)	Amy Creamer (Infant Room) Bev Roop (Infant Room)

YOUTH

YOUTH LASTS OF 2022

Wednesday, December 14: Last Midweek
Sunday, December 18: Last Sunday School Class
of 2022

MS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Help us end a great semester by joining us for the Middle school Christmas Party! We will celebrate in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, December 16 starting at 6 pm. Wear your best funny Christmas sweater!

HS PROGRESSIVE DINNER

The Progressive Dinner will be returning this year for our High School students on Saturday, December 17. We will gather at the church at 5:30 pm. Different church members' homes are hosting the various courses of the meal, ending with a white elephant gift exchange. RSVP to Heather Morrison (hmorrison@cpcchatt.org) if you will be attending. We have 30 spots available. We hope to see you there!

JANUARY GET TOGETHERS

Before students head back to school in the New Year, we want you to be able to fellowship and laugh together. On Tuesday, January 3 at 11 am, Youth girls will get an opportunity to meet together for lunch and games. The Youth guys are invited to come for lunch and games on Friday, January 4 at 11 am.

CPC YOUTH FIRST FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP

All Youth homeschool students are invited to join us for a time of fellowship. We will plan to meet the first Friday of each month and get lunch. Parents are welcome! We will meet at Panda Express (2260 Gunbarrel Road) on Friday, January 6 from 11:30 am - 1 pm.

OUTREACH

CPC MISSIONARY IN EAST AFRICA



Christine

Due to the sensitive areas in which this missionary serves, her picture and last name are withheld.

Christine serves with Wycliffe Bible Translators in East Africa. Spending much of her time working with tribes in South Sudan and Kenya, Christine is currently partnering with Jesus Film and Faith Comes By Hearing to assist oral-based cultures in translating Scripture and Scripture materials into their mother tongue through visual and audio means. Seventy percent of the remaining languages that need the Bible translated into their language are orality based. The tools and methods for reaching these tribes and people groups require Christian organizations to work together to share strengths and offer unique innovative solutions that cater to the needs of these challenging languages. They are now being called “The Last Languages.”

Please pray for her and her expanding ministry in these particular ways:

- For health and safety during travels
- For continued provision and support.
- For protection from spiritual warfare as the Word of God is sent out.
- For guidance from Holy Spirit and all glory to be given to God

CPC MISSIONARIES WITH THIRDMILL



**Gary & Phyllis
Waldecker**

Gary and Phyllis serve with Third Millennium Ministries. They create and help provide seminary-level education in many different languages for free. Thirdmill realizes that just because millions of people are using their materials, it doesn't necessarily mean they are benefitting from them as they should. Gary's role in Thirdmill is to help people who are studying the courses make the appropriate application connections to ministry and life in their area of the world. This involves various responsibilities including communication with people all over the world, writing application guides and short trips all over the world.

Please pray for them and their ministry in these particular ways:

- For full levels of support
- For Gary's websites and productive interaction with Thirdmill users globally
- For new opportunities in South Africa, Nicaragua, Colombia and India
- For the millions of people using Thirdmill materials. Pray that these people would, as a result, be increasingly effective in their ministry.

