

The Lord's Service

December 18, 2022

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

Lighting of the Advent Candle - Rebecca Gildard,
Jean Marshall, and
Justin Martin

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation for Worship

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

Isaiah 12.5-6

LEADER: Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.

PEOPLE: Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

*Hymn of Adoration

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

*Words: Isaac Watts, 1719
Music: ANTIOCH, George Frederick Handel, 1742;
arranged by Lowell Mason, 1836
Hymnal No. 195*

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.

*Invocation

by Elder Ken Henry

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession

Isaiah 55.2

LEADER: Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

PEOPLE: Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Private Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

from *Form of Prayer*, Zwingli, Zürich (1525)

Almighty, eternal God! Forgive us our sin and lead us to eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Ephesians 2.4-5

LEADER: Lift up your heads and hear the Good News:
“But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ - by grace you have been saved.”

The peace of the Lord be with you!

PEOPLE: And also with you!

*Hymn of Assurance

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Words: German hymn, 16th century

Music: *ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN*, arranged by Michael Praetorius, 1609

Hymnal No. 221

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.

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

Psalm 89.24-28 (p. 496)

read by Elder Ernie Brown

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

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.

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day:
I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play,
To call my true love to my dance:
Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love;
This have I done for my true love.

Then was I born of a virgin pure,
Of her I took fleshly substance;
Thus was I knit to man's nature,
To call my true love to my dance:
Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love;
This have I done for my true love.

In a manger laid and wrapped I was,
So very poor this was my chance,
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass,
To call my true love to my dance:
Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love;
This have I done for my true love.

Then afterwards baptized I was;
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard from above,
To call my true love to my dance:
Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love;
This have I done for my true love.

(John Gardner, 1966)

*Doxology

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Words: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413
Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, Plainsong, 12th century
arranged by Charles Winfred Douglas, 1916

Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving,
and unwearied praises be,
honor, glory, and dominion,
and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore!

Prayer of the Church

by Pastor John Jones

Scripture Lesson

Philippians 2.1-11 (p. 980)

¹ So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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.

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.

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.

Sermon

by Pastor Jake Bennett

WONDERFUL HUMILITY

*Hymn of Response *Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor*

Words: Frank Houghton, 1894-1972

Music: QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE, French carol melody; arranged by Charles Herbert Kitson, 1930

Hymnal No. 230

*Confession of Faith Westminster Larger Catechism, 36
(1647)

LEADER: Christian, who is the Mediator of the covenant of grace?

PEOPLE: **The only Mediator of the covenant of grace is the Lord Jesus Christ who, being the eternal Son of God, of one substance and equal with the Father, in the fulness of time, became man, and so was and continues to be God and man, in two entire distinct natures, and one person, forever.**

*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

2 Corinthians 13.14
by Pastor Jake Bennett

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

Postlude

SERMON NOTES

Title: Wonderful Humility

Sermon Text: Philippians 2.1-11

We must look to the wondrous work of Jesus' humility.

The meaning of our humility (vv. 1-5)

The means of our humility (vv. 6-11)

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 John Jones preaches from Psalm 45.6-9.

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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 available to children who were born after September 1, 2019. Any deacon can direct you there.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

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 Concert - Sanctuary - 7 pm

Wednesday, December 21

Session Mtg - O-105 - 7 pm

Friday, December 23

Church Offices Closed

Saturday, December 24

Lessons & Carols - Sanctuary - 5:30 pm

Sunday, December 25 - *Christmas*

Worship Service - Sanctuary - 9:30 am
Lord's Supper Celebrated

Monday, December 26

Church Offices Closed

MORE INFORMATION

Our church website and calendar are updated daily. Visit cpcchatt.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.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

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

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.

COVENANT LIFE

CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP

Join us today after Sunday School as we recognize and give thanks for the Jones Family at our Christmas Fellowship Lunch. 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.

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!

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.

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.

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.

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 bpierce@cpchatt.org.

BUDGET REPORT

Through December 11:

Giving To Date:	\$1,245,920
Annual Budget Need:	\$1,984,930
Needed By Year-end:	\$ 739,010

MIDWEEK

MIDWEEK IN THE NEW YEAR

All regular Midweek activities and classes will pause until mid-January.

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

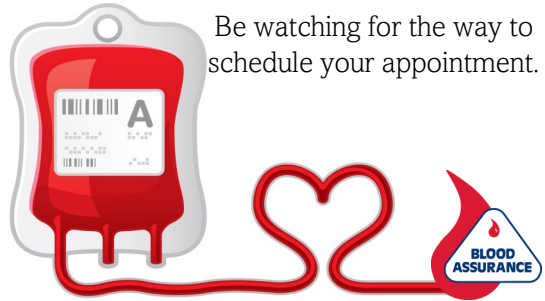
Midweek will begin again on Wednesday, January 18 at 5:30 pm with our regular meal.

Be watching for details about the upcoming activities and classes that will be offered in 2023.

CPC BLOOD DRIVE

CPC is partnering again with Blood Assurance to host the Bloodmobile in our parking lot on Wednesday, January 18 from 4:30-8:30 pm.

Be watching for the way to schedule your appointment.



CHILDREN & YOUTH

NO NURSERY ON CHRISTMAS

Please note that there will be no nursery for the Sunday morning service on Christmas Day. We would love for our families to be together that morning. We look forward to worshipping with our littlest Covenant Children.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

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

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.

NURSERY - TODAY	NURSERY - DECEMBER 25
Front Desk: John Pearce	-----
Worship Volunteers / 9:15 - 10:45 am	
Judy Foster (Infant Room) Esther McEachern (Infant Room) Shirley Jones (Toddler Room) Emily Pearce (Toddler Room)	<i>No Nursery for Christmas Day Worship Service</i>
Sunday School Volunteers / 10:45 - 12:15 pm	
Amy Creamer (Infant Room) Bev Roop (Infant Room)	-----

OUTREACH

CPC MISSIONARIES WITH CRU CHATTANOOGA



Aubrey and Jerri serve with CRU Chattanooga. CRU (formerly Campus Crusade for Christ) is a community that exists to help connect the whole campus to Jesus Christ--His Word, His people, and His world. This ministry has the potential to reach the 40,000 college students of greater Chattanooga. Their desire is to help students come to know Christ and learn to walk with him for a lifetime.

Aubrey and Jerri Fritz

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

- For help for Jerri with homeschooling their two girls
- For landscaping needs - They need a play area for their kids to play in the backyard at their new residence, which is covered with poison ivy roots. They need someone to excavate and fill at a reasonable price.
- For support - God would continue to lead them to His people He's calling to partner with them financially. They need to raise around \$3,000 monthly to reach their goal before starting their new role with Family Life
- The transition process to Family Life - that God would sharpen their vision and mission as they prepare to start a new spiritual moment

LOVE'S ARM



Love's Arm began in 2005 with a mission to engage, empower, and transition women survivors of trafficking, prostitution, and addiction toward a Christ-centered community of grace. We offer street and strip club outreach programs in Hamilton County and Chattanooga, Tennessee. Rahab's Rest is a cost-free holistic recovery home for women survivors, and they are involved in numerous advocacy initiatives. Love's Arm believes ALL human beings are fearfully and wonderfully made in the image of God and worthy of love, respect, and dignity. To read more thoroughly about this ministry, visit www.lovesarmoutreach.org.

Please pray for this ministry in these particular ways:

- For the ongoing support of the ministry, since the services provided are free of charge
- For those who struggle with these sexual sins
- For the families healing from these past sins

