



CHRIST COVENANT CHURCH

SERVICE OF WORSHIP ~ ONLINE EDITION THE LORD'S DAY ~ November 28, 2021 *that in everything he might be preeminent. —Colossians 1:18*

WELCOME TO CHRIST COVENANT CHURCH

We are glad you are here to worship the living God! This worship folder is intended to walk you through the service, as well as provide you with devotional material to take home.

IN PREPARATION

During the four weeks of Advent we walk through several traditional passages that point us toward the incarnation of Christ. Though the church calendar can be a distraction if given too much emphasis, it can also be a helpful aid as we think through the gospel story through the year. This cyclical look at the gospel finds its first landmark in the advent of Christ (Christmas and Epiphany), its second in the death of Christ (Good Friday), its third in the resurrection of Christ (Easter), its fourth in the ascension of Christ (Ascension Sunday), and its fifth in gift of the Spirit of Christ (Pentecost). These are the five evangelical feasts. The four weeks of Advent represent the beginning of, or the preparation for, that Gospel cycle. We start week one by remembering the prophets of old. On week two we remember that fulfillment came in Bethlehem. On week three we celebrate the message to the shepherds. And finally, on

week four we wonder at the hope and peace announced by the angels! May this Advent season bring repentance, joy, hope, and peace in our midst as we read familiar passages and sing beloved songs. Merry Christmas.

SERVICE OF WORSHIP — 10:45 AM

Announcements and Greeting

Advent Scripture Meditation—Isaiah 2:2–5

It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Introit—Veni, Veni Emmanuel

Ancient Chant, arr. John Englert

Call to Worship—Isaiah 35:1–4, 5–6

Leader: Worship the Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, who fulfills his promises and makes alive what was once dead.

ALL: Rejoice! for the wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing.

Leader: Come and see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.

ALL: Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

Leader: Then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

ALL: Give thanks to the Lord, for at his word the waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.

Prayer of Invocation

Congregational Hymn—Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev’ry nation, joy of ev’ry longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Dayspring from on high, appear;
come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!
O’er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth;
“Go to him, your praises bringing;
Christ the Lord has come to earth.”

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end;
by his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
this the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1744; Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855

Old Testament Scripture Reading— Isaiah 59:1–2, 16, 20

Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear; but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede; then his own arm brought him salvation, and his righteousness upheld him.

“And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression,” declares the LORD.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession of Sin and Thanksgiving for Grace

Congregational Hymn—O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient time didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. [Refrain.]

O come, thou Dayspring from on high,
and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight. [Refrain.]

O come, thou Key of David come, And open wide our heav'nly home;
Safeguard for us the heav'nward road,
And bar the way to death's abode. [Refrain.]

Text: Latin Hymn, 1710, translated by John Mason Neale, 1961;
Music: VBNI EMMANUEL, Plainsong, 13th century

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Pastoral Prayer

Responsive Scripture Reading—Isaiah 11:1–5

Leader: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

**ALL: And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit
of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge
and the fear of the LORD.**

Leader: And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes
by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge
the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

**ALL: Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.**

Congregational Hymn—Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter,
when halfspent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind:
to show God's love aright she bore to us a Savior
when halfspent was the night.

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness evr'where,
true man, yet very God; from sin and death he saves us
and lightens evr'y load.

Text: Theodore Baker, 1894, Harriet R. Spaeth, 1875;
Music: ES IST EIN ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN, German Melody, 15th century

Prayer of Illumination

Preaching of the Word—2 Corinthians 8:8–15

THE MOTIVATION FOR GENEROSITY

Kevin DeYoung

Congregational Hymn—As with Gladness Men of Old

As with gladness, men of old did the guiding star behold,
as with joy they hailed its light leading onward, beaming bright,
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.

As they offered gifts most rare at that cradle rude and bare;
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'nly King.

Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;
and, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright, need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;
there forever may we sing alleluias to our King!

Text: William Chatterton Dix, 1860; Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1838

Benediction

Assisting in Worship: Preaching Pastor: Dr. Kevin DeYoung; Assisting Pastor: Rev. Zach Fulginiti;
Pastor of Worship: Rev. Nathan George; Organist: Pam Eash; Pianist: Pamela Mullins;
Instrumental Director: Joseph Foucachon

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SERVICE OF WORSHIP — 6:00 p.m.

Announcements and Greeting

Call to Worship— Psalm 9:1–2, 11–12, 18–19

Leader: I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart;
I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.

**ALL: I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise
to your name, O Most High.**

Leader: Sing praises to the LORD, who sits enthroned in Zion!
Tell among the peoples his deeds!

**ALL: For he who avenges blood is mindful of them;
he does not forget the cry of the afflicted.**

Leader: For the needy shall not always be forgotten, and the hope
of the poor shall not perish forever.

**ALL: Arise, O LORD! Let not man prevail; let the nations
be judged before you!**

Congregational Hymn—#197 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Prayer of Adoration

Congregational Hymn—#199 See, amid the Winter's Snow

Old Testament Scripture Reading—

Hosea 6:1–6 and Isaiah 29:13–14

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Pastoral Prayer

Congregational Hymn—#211 God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

Preaching of the Word—Revelation 3:11–22

SO WHERE IS YOUR HEART TODAY

Mike Miller

Congregational Psalm—#179 Hallelujah! Thine the Glory

Benediction



Due to the different editions of the *Trinity Hymnal* that are available, the text may vary.

Assisting in Worship: Preaching Pastor: Rev. Mike Miller; Assisting Pastor: Rev. Bruce Creswell;
Pastor of Worship: Rev. Nathan George; Organist: Pam Eash

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In humble reliance upon the word of God and prayer, Christ Covenant Church is committed to worshipping God, making disciples, loving one another, and serving the body of Christ.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship Services at 10:45 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

SENIOR STAFF

Kevin DeYoung, Senior Pastor
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NEW TO CHRIST COVENANT?

We hope you will visit the Guest Center in the main lobby so we can meet you! Interested in knowing more about Christ Covenant Church? Please contact Michelle Gustavson, Engagement and Connections Ministry Manager, at mgustavson@christcovenant.org. Interested in a small group? Please contact Tom Buitert, Assistant Director of Small Groups, at tbuitert@christcovenant.org.