

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

THE LORD'S DAY

1st Sunday of Advent—Hope

November 28, 2021

WELCOME TO CHRIST COVENANT CHURCH

We are glad you are here to worship the living God! This worship folder is intended to guide 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 - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 Joy to those who long to see thee, Day - spring from on high, ap - pear;
 Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he whose glo - ries knew no end;
 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 come, thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se, of thy birth we long to hear!
 by his life he brings us glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend.
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
 O'er the hills the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings of a birth;
 Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in a cat - tle stall;
 By thine own e - ter - nal spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 "Go to him, your prais - es bring - ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."
 this the ev - er - last - ing won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious 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, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on
O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's
O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by thy
O come, thou Key of Da - vid come, And o - pen wide our

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here,
Si - nai's height, in an - cient time didst give the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save,
draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
heav'n - ly home; Safe - guard for us the heav'n - ward road,

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
and death's dark sha - dows put to flight.
And bar the way to death's a - bode.

Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

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

Parents, you may escort your pre-school aged children to Children's Bible Time (B-102). Thank you.

The image displays a four-staff musical score for the hymn "Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming". The music is written in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature (C). The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next two lines. The third system contains the following two lines. The fourth system contains the final two lines of the hymn. Each system consists of a treble staff and a bass staff, with the lyrics written between them. The lyrics are: "Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung, I - sai - ah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have in mind; This flow'r, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air, Of Jes - se's lin-eage com - ing, as men of old have sung. With Mar - y we be - hold it, the vir - gin mo - ther kind: dis - pels with glo-rious splen-dor the dark-ness ev - r' - where, It came, a flow'r - et bright, a - mid the cold of To show God's love a - right, she bore to us a true man, yet ver - y God; from sin and death he win - ter, when half - spent was the night. Sav - ior when half - spent was the night. saves us and light - ens ev - r'y load." The score ends with a double bar line and a final chord in the bass staff.

Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung,
I - sai - ah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have in mind;
This flow'r, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air,
Of Jes - se's lin-eage com - ing, as men of old have sung.
With Mar - y we be - hold it, the vir - gin mo - ther kind:
dis - pels with glo-rious splen-dor the dark-ness ev - r' - where,
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To show God's love a - right, she bore to us a
true man, yet ver - y God; from sin and death he
win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
Sav - ior when half - spent was the night.
saves us and light - ens ev - r'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 glad - ness, men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold,
As with joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly cra - dle bed,
As they off - ered gifts most rare at that cra - dle rude and bare;
Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;
In the heav - en - ly coun - try bright, need they no cre - a - ted light;

as with joy they hailed its light lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright,
there to bend the knee be - fore him whom heaven and earth a - dore;
so may we with hol - y joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
and, when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;

so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led to thee.
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
all our cost - liest treas - ures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly King.
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our King!

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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SERMON NOTES

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 3:14–22

SO WHERE IS YOUR HEART TODAY

Mike Miller

Congregational Psalm—#179 Hallelujah! Thine the Glory

Benediction

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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SERMON NOTES

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

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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.