



A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

THE LORD'S DAY

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022

## 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

Today marks the beginning of the traditional church calendar. 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. The four weeks of Advent represent the beginning of, or the preparation for that gospel cycle each year. While the culture around us jumps right to joy and celebration, this season should also be marked by repentance and longing. In particular, this first Sunday's songs and readings look at the foretelling of the Christ child by the prophets of old and emphasize a sense of longing and looking forward to the promised Messiah. May the Lord build in us that same sense of longing for Jesus this season.

### SERVICE OF WORSHIP — 10:45 AM

#### **Announcements and Greeting**

#### **Scripture Meditation—Isaiah 11:1–5**

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. 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. 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. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

#### **Introit**

#### **Call to Worship—Based on 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 Carol—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;  
 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!  
 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;  
 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."  
 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

## Prayer of Adoration

## Congregational Carol of the Month— Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Com-fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each dark mis - deed;  
For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert far and near,  
Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, Make the rough - er plac - es plain:

Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn-ing 'neath their sor - row's load;  
All that well de - served His an - ger He will no more see nor heed.  
Bid - ding all men to re - pen - tance, Since the king - dom now is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be - fits His ho - ly reign,

Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem Of the peace that waits for them;  
She has suf - fered many a day, Now her griefs have passed a - way,  
O that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way!  
For the glo - ry of the Lord Now o'er earth is shed a - broad,

Tell her that her sins I cov - er, And her war - fare now is o - ver.  
God will change her pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er spring - ing glad - ness.  
Let the val - leys rise to meet Him, And the hills bow down to greet Him.  
And all flesh shall see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johannes Olearius, Isaiah 40, translated by Catherine Winkworth;  
Music: THIRSTING, Louis Bourgeois, 1551

## 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.

## Responsive Ten Commandments

Leader: I am the Lord, your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before Me.

**ALL: You shall not make for yourself a carved image.**

Leader: You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

**ALL: Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.**

Leader: Honor your father and your mother.

**ALL: You shall not murder.**

Leader: You shall not commit adultery.

**ALL: You shall not steal.**

Leader: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

**ALL: You shall not covet.**

## Prayer of Confession of Sin

### Corporate Assurance of Grace— Psalm 130:7–8

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

### Congregational Sung Response—Gloria

The musical score is written for a congregational response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is simple and repetitive, with the lyrics 'Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,' and 'Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.' written below the notes. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system also ends with a double bar line.

Text: Traditional French carol; Music: GLORIA, Traditional French melody, arr. Edward Barnes, 1937

## Giving of Tithes and Offerings

## Congregational Carol—Of the Father's Love Begotten

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



1. Of the Fath - er's love be - got - ten. Ere the worlds be - gan —  
 2. O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin full —  
 3. He as - sumed this mor - tal bo - dy, frail and fee - ble, doomed  
 4. This is he whom heav'n taught sing - ers sang of old with one —  
 5. O ye heights of heav'n a - dore him! An - gel - hosts, his prais -  
 6. Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost, —



to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga, he the source,  
 of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the Sav -  
 to die, that the race from dust cre - a - ted might not per -  
 ac - cord, whom the Scrip - tures of the pro - phets pro - mised in  
 es sing! All do - min - ions bow be - fore him, and ex - tol  
 to thee, hymn, and chant, and high thanks - giv - ing, and un - wea -



the end - ing he. Of the things that are, that have been,  
 ior of our race, and the babe, the world's Re - deem - er,  
 ish ut - ter - ly, which the dread - ful law had sen - tenced  
 their faith - ful word. Now he shines, the long - ex - pect ed,  
 your God and King! Let no tongue on earth be si - lent,  
 ried prais - es be, hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - ion,



and that fu - ture years shall see, ev - er more and ev - er - more! —  
 first re - vealed his sac - red face, ev - er more and ev - er - more! —  
 in the depths of hell to lie, ev - er more and ev - er - more! —  
 let cre - a - tion praise its Lord, ev - er more and ev - er - more! —  
 ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring, ev - er more and ev - er - more! —  
 and e - ter - nal vic - tor - y, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! —

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413; Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, Plainsong 12<sup>th</sup> century

## Pastoral Prayer

### Responsive Scripture Reading—Isaiah 11:1-2

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.

## Congregational Carol—Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

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.

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

## Corporate Prayer of Illumination

Blessed Lord, you have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning—grant us that we may in such a way hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them; that by patience and comfort of your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

# Preaching of the Word—John 3:16

## JESUS CHRIST: THE OBJECT OF OUR FAITH

Kevin DeYoung

### Congregational Carol—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 Jesse, 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 heav'n - ward road,

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe. the grave. put to flight. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. 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: VENI EMMANUEL, Plainsong, 13<sup>th</sup> century

### Benediction

Assisting in Worship: Preaching Pastor: Dr. Kevin DeYoung Assisting Pastor: Rev. Bruce Creswell;

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 116:5–7**

Leader: Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.  
The LORD preserves the simple; when I was brought low,  
he saved me.

**ALL:** Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the LORD  
has dealt bountifully with you.

### **Congregational Hymn—**

**#401 All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night**

### **Prayer of Adoration**

### **Scripture Reading—**

**Deuteronomy 29:29; Matthew 18:1–4; Philippians 2:5–11**

### **Responsive Confession of Faith—from the Heidelberg Catechism**

Leader: What dost thou mean by the providence of God?

**ALL:** The almighty and everywhere present power of God;  
whereby, as it were by his hand, he upholds and governs  
heaven, earth, and all creatures; so that herbs and grass,  
rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, meat and drink,  
health and sickness, riches and poverty, yea, and all things  
come, not by chance, but by his fatherly hand.

Leader: What advantage is it to us to know that God has created,  
and by his providence does still uphold all things?

**ALL:** That we may be patient in adversity; thankful in prosperity;  
and that in all things, which may hereafter befall us, we place  
our firm trust in our faithful God and Father, that nothing  
shall separate us from his love; since all creatures are so  
in his hand, that without his will they cannot so much  
as move.

### **Assurance of Grace—James 4:6**

### **Congregational Hymn—#674 I Need Thee Every Hour**

### **Giving of Tithes and Offerings**

Parents, you may escort your pre-school aged children to (B-106)

### **Pastoral Prayer**

**Congregational Psalm—**

**#683 Not Haughty Is My Heart (Psalm 131)**

**Preaching of the Word—Psalm 131**

OUR HEARTS ARE RESTLESS UNTIL THEY REST IN YOU

Ben Traynor

**Congregational Hymn—#691 It Is Well with My Soul**

**Benediction**

Assisting in Worship: Preaching Pastoral Intern: Ben Traynor; Assisting Pastor: Rev. Tom Groelsema;  
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 worshiping 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 Caleb Johnson,  
Small Groups and Young Adults Ministries Coordinator, at calebjohnson@christcovenant.org.

Christ Covenant Church is a part of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).