



A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

THE LORD'S DAY  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 11, 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

The four weeks of Advent represent the beginning of an annual gospel cycle. While the culture around us jumps right to joy and celebration, this season should also be marked by repentance and longing. Our songs and readings throughout this season clearly speak of the coming Christ child and express both hope and joy. May the Lord build in us that same sense of longing for Jesus this season.

### SERVICE OF WORSHIP — 10:45 AM

#### **Announcements and Greeting**

#### **Advent Scripture Meditation—Isaiah 9:6–7**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

#### **Introit**

#### **Call to Worship—From Psalm 147:12–15**

Leader: Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

**ALL: For he strengthens the bars of your gates;  
he blesses your children within you.**

Leader: He makes peace in your borders; he fills you with the finest of the wheat.

**ALL: He sends out his command to the earth;  
his word runs swiftly. Praise the Lord!**

#### **Prayer of Invocation**

## Congregational Carol—

### While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night

The image shows a musical score for a congregational carol. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The music is in 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system covers the first two lines of text. The second system covers the next two lines. The third system covers the final two lines and ends with a double bar line and the number 8.

While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, All seat - ed  
"Fear not!" said he, for might - y dread Had seized their  
"To you, in Da - vid's town, this day Is born of  
"The heaven - ly Babe you there shall find To hu - man  
"All glor - ry be to God on high and to the

on the ground, The an - gel of the Lord came down,  
troubl - ed mind. "Glad ti - dings of great joy I bring  
Da - vid's line A Sav - ior, who is Christ the Lord,  
view dis - played, All mean - ly wrapped in swa - thing bands,  
earth be peace; good will hence - forth, from heav'n to men,

And glor - y shone a - round, And glor - y shone a - round.  
To you and all man - kind, To you and all man - kind.  
And this shall be the sign, And this shall be the sign.  
And in a man - ger laid, And in a man - ger laid."  
be - gin and nev - er cease, be - gin and nev - er cease!"

Text: Nahum Tate, 1700; Music: CHRISTMAS, Georg Frederick Handel, 1728

## Prayer of Adoration

## Congregational Carol—What Child Is This

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?  
 Why lies he in such mean es-tate, where ox and ass are feed-ing?  
 So bring him in-cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him;

Whom an-gels greet with an-thems sweet, while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?  
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si-lent Word is plead-ing.  
 the King of kings—sal-va-tion brings, let lov-ing hearts en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing:  
 Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you:  
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir-gin sings her lul-la-by:

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the Son of Mar-y.  
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the Son of Mar-y.  
 joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the Son of Mar-y.

Text: Traditional English Carol, adapted by William C. Dix, 1865;  
 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English Melody

## Old Testament Scripture Reading—Isaiah 51:4–5

“Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples. My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait.

## **New Testament Scripture Reading—**

### **From the Song of Zechariah in Luke 1:68–69, 77–79**

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David,...to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## **Prayer of Confession of Sin**

### **Assurance of Grace—Isaiah 52:7–10**

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

## **Giving of Tithes and Offerings**

### **Offertory**

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

## **Pastoral Prayer**

## Congregational Carol—God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

God rest ye mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may,  
From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther, a bless - ed an - gel came;  
"Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "let noth - ing you af - fright;

re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas day,  
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same;  
this day is born a Sav - ior of a pure vir - gin bright,

to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray;  
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name,  
to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might."

O\_ tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy, O\_ tid - ings of com - fort and joy.

Text: Anon. English Carol, 18th Century; Music: GOD REST YE MERRY

## Prayer of Illumination

## Preaching of the Word—2 Thessalonians 3:16

JESUS CHRIST: THE LORD OF PEACE

Kevin DeYoung

# Congregational Psalm—Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; be - hold, the  
 A help - er just he comes to thee, his char - iot  
 O blest the land, the cit - y blest, where Christ the  
 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a  
 Re - deem - er, come, I op - en wide my heart to  
 So come, my Sov - 'reign, en - ter in! Let new and

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is draw - ing  
 is hu - mil - i - ty, his king - ly crown is ho - li -  
 rul - er is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and hap - py  
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for heav'n's em -  
 thee; here Lord a - bid! Let me thy in - ner pre - sence  
 no - bler life be - gin! Thy Ho - ly Spir - it, guide us

near; the Sav - ior of the world is here!  
 ness, his scept - er, pi - ty in dis - tress.  
 homes to whom this King in tri - umph comes!  
 ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
 feel; they grace and love in me re veal.  
 on, un - til the glor - ious crown be won.

Text: Based on Psalm 24, Georg Weissel, Tr. By Catherine Winkworth; Music: TRURO, 1789

## Benediction

Assisting in Worship: Preaching Pastor: Dr. Kevin DeYoung Assisting Pastor: Rev. Dave Baxter;  
 Worship Leader: Mary Ann Foltz; Organist: Pam Eash; Pianist: Pamela Mullins;

Instrumental Director: Joseph Foucachon

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## SERMON NOTES

## Announcements and Greeting

### Call to Worship—From Psalm 66

Leader: Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory  
of his name;

**ALL: Give to him glorious praise!**

Leader: Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds!

**ALL: All the earth worships you and sings praises to you;  
they sing praises to your name.”**

Leader: Come and see what God has done:

**ALL: He is awesome in his deeds toward the children  
of man.**

Leader: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise  
be heard,

**ALL: who has kept our soul among the living.**

## Congregational Hymn—#218 Angels, from the Realms of Glory

### Prayer of Adoration

### Scripture Reading—Ephesians 4:1–16

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it says, “When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.” (In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed

to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

**Congregational Hymn—**

**#230 Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor**

**Giving of Tithes and Offerings**

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

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Congregational Psalm—#356 How Beautiful the Sight (Psalm 133)**

**Preaching of the Word—Psalm 133**

THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH

Tom Groelsema

**Congregational Hymn—#347 The Church's One Foundation**

**Benediction**

Assisting in Worship: Preaching Pastor: Rev. Tom Groelsema; Assisting Pastor: Rev. Zach Fulginiti;  
Worship Leader: Joseph Foucachon; 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

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](mailto:mgustavson@christcovenant.org).

Interested in a small group? Please contact Caleb Johnson,  
Small Groups and Young Adults Ministries Coordinator, at [calebjohnson@christcovenant.org](mailto:calebjohnson@christcovenant.org).

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