



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Season of Advent

*28 November 2021*

God never made a promise that was too good to be true. —D.L. Moody

Whenever we act in faith in God we have to launch right out—isn't that the great lesson of the incarnation? The call of God presents us with sealed orders and urges us to a vast adventure. —Oswald Chambers

## GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

*It is God Himself who calls His people to worship. We do not call ourselves, but it is the King who opens His gates and beckons us into His courts.*

### Gospel Invitation—from Lamentations 2:17

Good news. Glad tidings. Great joy. “The Lord has done what He purposed; He has carried out His Word, which He commanded long ago.”

### Introit—Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus, Vs. 1

Come, Thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set Thy peo - ple free;

From our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in Thee.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth Thou art,

Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed between the vocal and piano lines. The score ends with a double bar line.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1745; Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855.

## Lighting Of The Advent Wreath

## Call to Worship—based on Micah 5:2-5

Pastor: Rejoice, O you people, and be glad.

All: For the Lord has spoken and His promises are sure.

Reader 1: O Bethlehem, you are too little even to be among the clans of Judah, but from out of you shall come forth one who is to be ruler in Israel.

Reader 2: His coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. He shall stand and shepherd His flock in the majesty of the name of the Lord His God.

All: And we shall dwell secure, for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth.

Pastor: And He shall be our peace.

## Hymn of Praise—Joy To The World!

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let Earth re - ceive her King;  
 Joy to the Earth! The Sav - ior reigns: let men their songs em - ploy;  
 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the ground;  
 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions prove

Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him room,  
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 He comes to make his bless - ings flow  
 The glo - ries of His righ - teous - ness

And Heav'n and na - ture sing, and Heav'n and na - ture sing,  
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing joy,  
 Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,  
 And won - ders of His love, and won - ders of His love,  
 And Heav'n and na - ture sing and Heav'n and na -

And Heav'n, and Heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 Far as, far as the curse is found.  
 And won - ders, won - ders of His love.  
 ture sing

Text: Isaac Watts, 1719, based on Psalm 98:4-9; Music: ANTIOCH, Lowell Mason, 1836.

## GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

*The Bible is the means by which God graciously reveals Himself to His people—so we listen, read, and study with expectant hearts.*

### Psalm of Praise—Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates (Psalm 24)

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; Behold, the King of glory waits;  
O blest the land, the city blest, Where Christ the Ruler is confessed  
Redeemer, come, with us abide; Our hearts to Thee we open wide;  
So come, my Sovereign, enter in! Let new and nobler life begin!

The King of kings is drawing near; The Savior of the world is here!  
O happy hearts and happy homes To whom this King in triumph comes!  
Let us Thy inner presence feel; Thy grace and love in us reveal.  
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

Text: based on Psalm 24, George Weissel, 1642, Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1855; Music: TRURO, Thomas Williams, 1789.

### Responsive Psalter Reading—Psalm 98:1-9

Elder: Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

All: **His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**

Elder: The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations. He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to His covenant people.

All: **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

Elder: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

All: **Break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

Elder: Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

All: **With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord! Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!**

Elder: Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the Lord, for He comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness.

All: **He will judge all people with equity.**

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn of Praise—Once In Royal David's City

Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,  
He came down to Earth from Heav - en who is God and Lord of all,  
And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own re - deem - ing love,  
Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,

Where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for His bed:  
And His shel - ter was a sta - ble, and His cra - dle was a stall:  
For that Child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in Heav'n a - bove;  
We shall see Him, but in Heav-en, set at God's right hand on high;

Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.  
With the poor, and mean, and low - ly, lived on Earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
And He leads His child - ren on to the place where He is gone.  
When like stars His chil - dren crowned all in white shall wait a - round.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

Text: C.F. Alexander, 1848; Music: IRBY, H.J. Gauntlett, 1849.

## Reading of the Word—Matthew 1:1-17

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Sung Response—See, Amid The Winter’s Snow, Vs. 1

See, a - mid the win - ter's snow, born for us on earth be-low,  
See the ten - der Lamb ap-pears, prom - ised from e - ter - nal years.  
Hail, thou e - ver - bless - ed morn! Hail, re-demp - tion's hap - py dawn!  
Sing through all Je - ru - sa-lem, Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.

Text: Edward Caswall, 1851; Music: HUMILITY, John Goss, 1870.

## Sermon—*The Great Storybook*

—Pastor, George Grant

## GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE, AND RECONCILIATION

*The people of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God’s favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.*

### Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 51:3-13

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. For we know only too well our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us.

**All: Against You, and You only, have we sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.**

Pastor: Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being, and You teach wisdom in the secret of our hearts.

**All: Purge us with hyssop, and we shall be clean; wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow. Let us hear joy and gladness; let the bones that You have broken rejoice. Hide Your face from our sins and blot out all our iniquities.**

Pastor: Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

**All: Restore to us the joy of Your salvation and uphold us with a willing spirit.**

*(Silent prayers of confession)*

## Sung Response—Lamb Of God

UNISON

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. —

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. —

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,

*Slightly faster* WOMEN

Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy, Grant us Thy peace,

MEN

Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy peace.

Text: Traditional, based on John 1:29; Music: CLOVERCROFT AGNUS DEI, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

## Assurance of Pardon—Isaiah 44:21-22; Titus 2:11-14

Remember, O My people, for you are My servants; I formed you; you are My servants; you will not be forgotten by Me. I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to Me, follow Me, and walk in your calling for I have redeemed you.

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

**All: This is the Word of the Lord.**

Pastor: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.

**All: And so we await our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: Amen and amen.

## Sung Response—Twofold Amen

A - men, a - men

Text: Traditional; Music: DRESDEN, Johann Naumann, 18<sup>th</sup> Century.

## HEAVENLY GIFT—EUCCHARISTO

*As God beckons His people to the bounty of His table, they make joyous profession of their fealty to Him.*

### Profession of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of Heaven and Earth,  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,  
Born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into Hell.  
On the third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into Heaven and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
From whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit; the one holy church—both visible and invisible;  
The communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
The resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

### Sursum Corda

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. Therefore, we praise You, Triune God, and we join our voices with the angels, the archangels, and the whole company of Heaven in this hymn of eternal praise:

UNISON



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth. \_\_\_\_

WOMEN

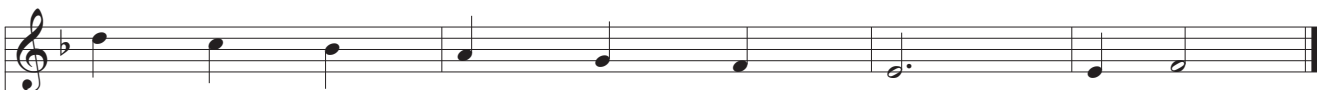


We praise You, we bless You, we wor-ship You, we glo-ri-fy You,

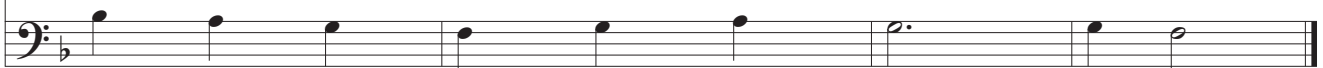
MEN



We praise You, we bless\_ You, we wor-ship You, we glo-ri-fy You,



We give You thanks for Your great glo - ry.



We give You thanks for Your great glo - ry.

Text: Traditional, based on Luke 2:14; Music: CLOVERCROFT GLORIA, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.



# WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE LORD'S TABLE

*This table is open to all baptized Christians who have made a profession of faith. You may come forward to receive the bread and wine or grape juice.*

## Hymn of Anticipation—Savior Of The Nations, Come

Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, vir - gin's Son, make here Thy home!  
Not of flesh and blood the Son, off - spring of the Ho - ly One;  
Won-drous birth! O won - drous child of the Vir - gin un - de - filed!  
From the Fa - ther forth He came and re - turn - eth to the same,

Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.  
Born of Ma - ry ev - er - blest, God in flesh is man - i - fest.  
Though by all the world dis - owned, still to be in Heav'n en - throned.  
Cap - tive lead - ing death and hell, high the song of tri - umph swell!

Text: Ambrose of Milan, 4<sup>th</sup> century, Tr. Martin Luther, 1524, Tr. William M. Reynolds, 1860;  
Music: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, *Geistliches Gesangbüchlein*, Wittenberg, 1524

## Hymn of Praise—O Little Town Of Bethlehem

O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem how still we see thee lie!  
For Christ is born of Ma - ry, and gath - ered all a - bove,  
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, des - cend to us we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by.  
While mor - tals sleep the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.  
Cast out our sin, and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;  
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth  
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
And prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to all on Earth.  
O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el.

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1867; Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1868.

# GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE, PETITIONS, TITHES & OFFERINGS

*Our praying, serving, and giving are essential aspects of worship. It is here that our faith moves from our heads and hearts into our lives and callings.*

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession—The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

## Hymn of Praise—O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,  
God of God, Light of Light;  
Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py morn - ing:

O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
Lo, He ab - hors not the vir - gin's womb:  
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of Heav'n a - bove;  
Je - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry giv'n;

Come and be - hold Him born the King of an - gels;  
Ver - y God, be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted;  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
Word of the Fa - ther, late in flesh ap - pear - ing;

O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,

O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord.

Text: Latin Hymn, Tr. By Frederick Oakeley, 1841; Music: ADESTE FIDELES, *Cantus Diversi*, 1751.

# GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

*After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.*

## Reception of New Members

### Benediction—based on Isaiah 41:8-10

But you, My servants, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, My friend; you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, fear not, for I am with you; go forth in My name. *Amen.*

### Sung Response—Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus, Vs. 2

Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
By Thine own e - ter - nal spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;  
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines that support the vocal melody.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1745; Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855.

## Announcements

## Worship Notes:

*O come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.*  
—Phillips Brooks

Advent is usually observed as a season of confession, preparation, and anticipation, looking forward to the birth of Christ on Christmas Day. You'll notice several added elements in the service this morning: lighting of candles during the Call to Worship, purple accents on the bulletin and the pulpit, and a time of silent prayer followed by a sung response where we cry out, "Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us." We have also included an insert in the bulletin with a series of daily scripture readings for Advent, which you can use at home with your family. As we enter this new season, I hope these added elements help us to prepare our hearts for the coming of our Savior—the long-expected Savior of the nations who appears as tender Lamb "promised from eternal years."

—Henry C. Haffner

**Key Words:** Genealogy, Son, Father, David, Abraham, Mary, Christ, Jesus, Generations  
**Keystone Verse:** Jesus was born, who is called the Christ. (Matthew 1:16)



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### Elders

Tom Goddard (on sabbatical)	Brandon Goodin (on leave)	Brandon Herrenbruck (339-5516)
Michael Mastroberti (973-879-1368)	Mike Miserocchi (594-3880)	Matt Morrison (482-5107)
Jason Parolini (497-3337)	John Scherrer (916-0654)	

### Elders Emeritus

Phil Hutcheson Steve Nelson

### Deacons

Aaron Anderson (973-1797)	Jimmy Allen (815-9368)	Brandon Blair (575-430-6436)
Ben Crist (on leave)	Jeff Dokkestul (on sabbatical)	Chris Ragsdale (619-988-1876)
Nolan Reategui (829-0412)	Tim Simmons (850-532-8997)	Nae Soundara (519-3720)
	Walt Yates (785-477-0990)	

*All Biblical quotes taken from the English Standard Version unless otherwise noted.*