



CORNERSTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL
Third Sunday of Advent—Joy

15 December 2019

Welcome to Worship

If you are reading this in worship, I want you to know something—you *are an answer to prayer*. Each Sunday before worship, I ask God to bring into our midst exactly who He desires would be there. Since you are with us today, I believe God has a blessing in store for you. I am prayerful as we worship together today, that blessing will be received and enjoyed.

To that end, this service of worship has been designed that we might know God and the glory of the gospel of Jesus Christ. From the summons to worship at the beginning to the sending out into the world at the benediction, that you might know God, the truth and joy of salvation, and be equipped to answer the call to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Following the service, feel free to approach one of our elders (the men who help serve the Lord's Supper) with any prayer needs or questions you may have. I believe you will find them to be warm, inviting, and eager to serve. Please know I would personally enjoy getting to meet you this morning following the service, so please stop by and see me at the front door of the chapel.

It is my sincere prayer that your experience today at Cornerstone Presbyterian Church is one that blesses you spiritually and strengthens your faith in the Lord.

Grace & Peace,
Rev. Nate Shurden

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

God built within His people an innate desire to celebrate, to mark seasons and events, to set up “stones of remembrance” so that we do not forget His goodness and promises. One method that the Church has used over time is dividing each year according to the events in the life of Christ—a reminder of redemptive history. Although the Church Calendar is not prescribed by Scripture, it can be a useful framework or tool to help walk our hearts through the Gospel every year.

The major divisions of the liturgical year are:

- **Advent**—The four Sundays leading to Christmas; preparation for the coming of Christ and the need for a Savior
- **Christmas & Twelve Days**—Celebration of the Incarnation & the Gift of Christ, our Redeemer
- **Epiphany**—January 6; Coming of the Magi for Christ is the Light of the World; Hope for the Gentiles; Kingship of Christ
- **Lent**—from Ash Wednesday to Easter; repentance and reflection; recognition that our sinfulness leads to the cross; intentional time to exercise the disciplines of grace
- **Holy Week**—Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday; Jesus as King, Priest, Prophet; The remembrance that the shedding of blood was necessary for the forgiveness of sins
- **Easter**—Resurrection of the Living Lord; the conquering of death and sin
- **Ascension**—Christ in Power at the right hand of the Father; Christ interceding as the Mediator
- **Pentecost**—Coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church; God sends out His people as the Church

- **Ordinary Time**—The weeks between Pentecost and Advent; Living in light of the Gospel as the Church

Worship is a response to the love of God that brings us out of darkness into his light. The rhythm and flow of the service reflects this present reality as God calls his people and reveals himself, forgives their sins, teaches them from his Word, the Bible, feeds them, and then sends them out to live what they have learned.

This is the pattern of his love in redeeming and saving his people.

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE AND REVEALS HIMSELF

God calls His people to worship and come before Him. The Creator of all things reveals Himself through His Word and calls us into His presence.

Prelude, Announcements & Preparation

Lighting of the Advent Wreath—Good Christian Men, Rejoice, Vs 2

Good Christ-ian men, re - joice With heart and soul and voice! Now ye hear of
 end-less bliss: Joy! Joy! Je - sus Christ was born for this; He hath op - ened heav-en's door, And
 man is blessed for - ev - er - more. Christ was born for this. Christ was born for this.

Text: Medieval Latin Carol, Tr by John Mason Neale, 1853; Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German Melody, 14th c.

Call to Worship—from Psalm 98:I-4

Pastor: 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.

Reader 1: *The LORD has made known His salvation;
 He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.*

Reader 2: *He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.*

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

All: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

Pastor: Break forth into joyous song and sing praises! For He has done marvelous things!

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, from Psalm 98; Music: ANTIOCH, arr. by Lowell Mason, 1836

Hymn of Praise—All My Heart This Night Rejoices

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

All my heart this night re - joic - es As I hear, far and
 Hark! a voice from yon - der man - ger, Soft and sweet, doth en -
 Come then, let us has - ten yon - der; Here let all, great and
 Dear - est Lord, thee will I cher - ish. Though my breath fail in
 near, Sweet - est an - gel voic - es; "Christ is born," their choirs are
 treat, "Flee from woe and dan - ger; Breth - ren, come; from all that
 small, Kneel in awe and won - der, Love him who with love is
 death, yet I shall not per - ish, but with thee a - bid for -
 sing - ing, Till the air ev - ery - where Now with joy is ring - ing.
 grieves you You are freed; all you need I will sure - ly give you."
 yearn - ing; Hail the star that from far Bright with hope is burn - ing.
 ev - er there on high, in that joy which can van - ish ne - ver.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76, Tr by Catherine Winkworth, 1829+78; Music: BONN (FROLICH SOLL), Johann Georg Ebeling, 1637

Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 49:8-13

8 Thus says the LORD:

“In a time of favor I have answered you; in a day of salvation I have helped you;

I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people,
 to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages,

9 saying to the prisoners, ‘Come out,’ to those who are in darkness, ‘Appear.’

They shall feed along the ways; on all bare heights shall be their pasture;

10 they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them,
 for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them.

11 And I will make all my mountains a road, and my highways shall be raised up.

12 Behold, these shall come from afar,

and behold, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene.”

13 Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing!

For the LORD has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.

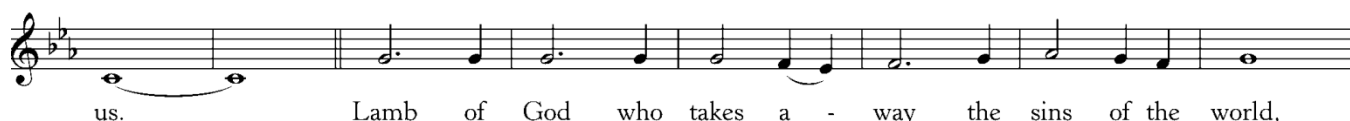
Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE & 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.

Sung Response—Lamb of God



Text: John 1:29; Music: FRANKLIN AGNUS DEI, Gregory D Wilbur, 2009. ©2009 Greyfriars Press.

Corporate Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 51:I-4, 6-10, 11-12

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Have mercy on us, O God,
according to Your steadfast love.

All: According to Your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions.

Pastor: Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us of our sins,
for we know only too well our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us.

All: Against You, 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

Assurance of Pardon—Colossians 1:11-14

11 May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. 13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Hymn—See Amid the Winter's Snow

See, a - mid the win - ter's snow, born for us on earth be - low,
 Say, ye ho - ly shep - herds, say - what's your joy - ful news to - day?
 Sa - cred in - fant, all di - vine, what a ten - der love was thine,

see the ten - der Lamb ap - pears, prom - ised from e - ter - nal years. Lo, with - in a
 Where fore have ye left your sheep on the lone - ly moun - tain steep? "As we watched at
 thus to come from high - est bliss down to such a world as this! Teach, O teach us,

man - ger lies he who built the star - ry skies: he who, throned in height sub - lime,
 dead of night, lo, we saw a won - drous light; an - gels sing - ing, 'Peace on earth,'
 ho - ly child, by thy face so meek and mild, teach us to re - sem - ble thee,

sits a - mid the cher - u - bim. Hail, thou e - ver - bless - ed morn! Hail, redemp tion's
 told us of the Sav - ior's birth." Hail, thou e - ver - bless - ed morn! Hail, redemp tion's
 in thy sweet hu - mil - i - ty. Hail, thou e - ver - bless - ed morn! Hail, redemp tion's

hap - py dawn! Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem, Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.
 hap - py dawn! Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem, Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.
 hap - py dawn! Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem, Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.

Text: Edward Caswall, 1851; Music: SEE AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW, John Goss, 1870.

GOD TEACHES US THROUGH HIS WORD

The Reading of the Word—John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

All: But the Word of our God will stand forever.

Sermon—The One True Light, Part 3

The Making of the God-Man

—Nate Shurden, *Pastor*

Sung Response—From Heaven Came the Angels Bright

The musical score is written for a piano accompaniment in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first line of lyrics: "All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, Whose ad - vent has_ our free - dom". The second system contains the second line of lyrics: "won, Whom with the Fa - ther we a - dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more." The melody is primarily in the right hand, with a simple harmonic accompaniment in the left hand.

Text: Martin Luther; Music: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621.

Profession of Faith—from Philippians 2:5-II

We believe, that though Christ Jesus was in the form of God,
He did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,
but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant,
being born in the likeness of men.

And being found in human form,
He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted Him
and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Sung Response—Gloria

WOMEN

Glo-ry to God in the high - est! Peace to His peo-ple on earth.

MEN

Glo-ry to God in the high - est! Peace to His peo-ple on earth. We praise earth. Glo-ry to God in the high - est! Peace on earth. We praise You! We bless You! We a - dore You! We glo - ri - fy! We give You thanks for Your glo - ry. We give You thanks for Your glo - ry. We give You thanks for Your glo - ry. We give You thanks.

CCLI #11121087 Text: Luke 2:14; Music: FRANKLIN GLORIA, Gregory D Wilbur, 2012 ©2012 Greyfriars Press.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

God offers to His people the gift of communion with Him through the grace of the sacrament and we respond in thanksgiving.

Words of Institution and the Lord's Table

Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is the family meal for Christians. We invite all baptized Christians who are members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, and who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ to join us.

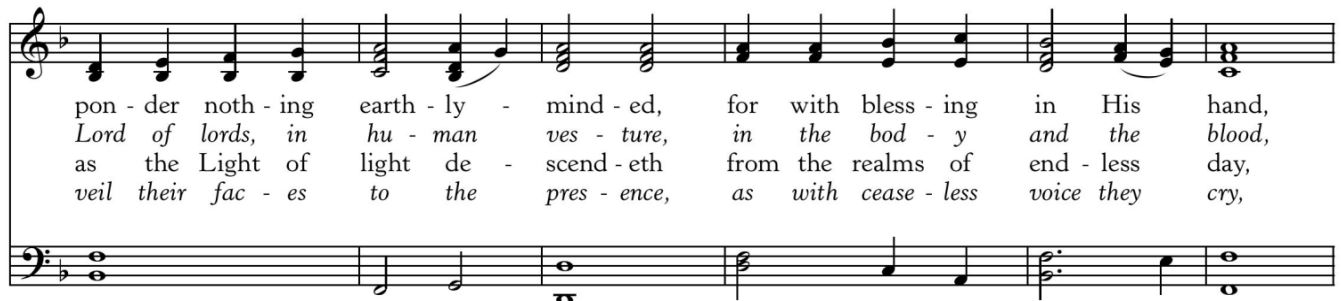
If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. You can find some sample prayers on the next page. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the church.

At Cornerstone, we come forward to receive communion. You may take the bread at the first table and then proceed to either side for the wine/grape juice.

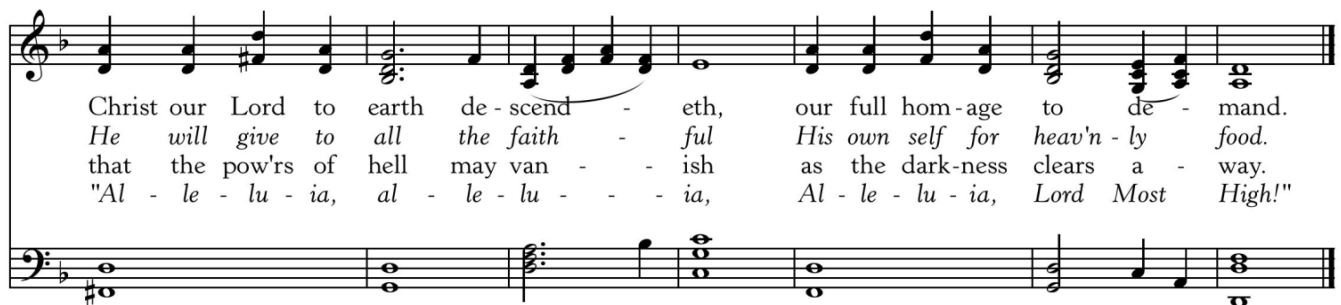
Hymn of Communion—Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth He stood,
 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van - guard on the way,
 At His feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim, with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in His hand,
 Lord of lords, in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
 as the Light of light de - scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,
 veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,



Christ our Lord to earth de - scend - eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.
 He will give to all the faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.
 that the pow'rs of hell may van - ish as the dark - ness clears a - way.
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th c. Adapted by Gerard Moultrie, 1864, Music: PICARDY, 17th c. French Melody

Prayers for Those Not Taking the Lord's Supper

If you are not able to partake in the Lord's Supper today, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth. Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief. Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment. Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship through membership in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Communion Hymn—God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may, re -
 From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther, a bless - ed an - gel came; and
 "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "let noth - ing you af - fright; this
 The shep - herds at those tid - ings re - joic - éd much in mind, and

mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas day, to
 un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same; how
 day is born a Sav - ior of a pure vir - gin bright, to
 left their flocks a - feed - ing, in tem - pest, storm, and wind: and

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

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

Text and Music: 18th century Traditional Carol

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE

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—Thou Who Wast Rich

Thou who wast rich be--yond all splen--dor, all for love's sake be--cam--est poor;
Thou who art God be--yond all prais--ing, all for love's sake be--cam--est man;
Thou who art love be--yond all tell---ing, Sav--ior and King, we wor-ship thee.

thrones for a man---ger didst sur-----ren----der, sap---phire--paved courts for sta-----ble
stoop-----ing so low, but sin---ners rais---ing, heav'n-ward by thine e-----ter-----nal
Em-----man--u-----el, with--in us dwell--ing, make us what thou wouldst have us

floor. Thou who wast rich be--yond all splen--dor, all for love's sake be--cam--est poor.
plan. Thou who art God be--yond all prais--ing, all for love's sake be--cam--est man.
be. Thou who art love be--yond all tell---ing, Sav--ior and King, we wor-ship thee.

CCLI #11121087 Text: Frank Houghton, 1894-1972;
Music: QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE, French Carol Melody, Arr. Charles Kitson, 1930.

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

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.

Benediction—from Jude 1:24-25

24 Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, 25 to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Sung Response—From Heaven Came the Angels Bright, Vs 3

Re - joice there - fore that through his Son Your God with you is now at
one. He took on hu - man flesh and bone, And you, his broth - ers, are God's own.

The image shows a musical score for a two-part setting. The top part is a vocal line in treble clef, and the bottom part is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Text: Martin Luther; Music: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, Arr Michael Praetorius, 1609.

Prayer Focus—Rebecca Giles, daughter of Tony and Mary Lynn Giles and a missionary with Mission To The World's youth ministry (NEXT), serves our denomination's global missionary families. This summer, she moved to St. Andrews, Scotland for a closer proximity to the missionary families in Europe. In addition, she began a new role as the Director of Operations for The Chalmers Institute, a training center for discipleship and mission. Her responsibilities there include writing curriculum, teaching, and planning events to facilitate theological learning for the next generation of Scottish church leaders.

Please pray for Rebecca & NEXT in the following ways:

- FOR NEXT's Missionary Kids: Rebecca is currently discipling a teen missionary girl in Germany who would not call herself a Christian. Pray for them as they read and discuss Mere Christianity together over video calls. At the end of January, a dozen teenagers will go to Georgia for a week of debriefing at MTW's Reconnect Conference. Pray that these MKs would have courage to process the benefits and challenges of their unique lives as third culture kids.
- FOR CHALMERS INSTITUTE: From January 6-10, Chalmers Institute will host an intensive conference for people around Scotland on the subject of "Music, Meaning & Myth: Telling Our Maker's Story in Sound." Pray that many would learn to consider how to engage culture critically & how to experience God's creativity in deeper ways. (And please come if you'd like!) Pray for us as we begin to recruit new college-graduates for an internship year beginning next fall.
- FOR REBECCA: Pray for Rebecca as she prepares to send off her colleagues, Robbie and Lydia Sweet in January for six months of home ministry assignment. In their absence, Rebecca will assume some of



Service of Lessons & Carols

December 15
at 5:00pm

Taking the Message Home

Today's message, "The Making of the God-Man" is taken from John I:I4. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group (HFG)

- When John says the "Word became flesh," he's letting us know that the Christian faith is more than a set of doctrines to believe but a *person* to be loved and embraced. Why is this significant?
- The word "dwelt" literally translated is "tabernacled." In a way of speaking, John is saying that in Christ's incarnation God has pitched his tent among us. What does this teach us about our God?
- How would you define glory? When John says, "We have seen his glory," to what is he referencing?
- How is seeing God's glory both a problem in one sense and a solution in another sense?
- How does regular meditation on Christ's glory wither the desire to sin and grow us into the image of Jesus Christ?
- What would it mean for you to be changed by Christ's glory this Christmas?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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Nursery Coordinator: Christy Shurden or nursery@cstonepres.org

Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

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Terry Cheney (579-7089)

Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (943-8443)

Joe Haworth (289-7543)

Jim Payne (497-0613)

Jim Smith (347-4188)

Deacons

Mark Elliott (477-1041)

Gene King (806-3726)

Mike Payne (579-6453)

Kevin McClung (243-9228)

Jim Robinson (587-0442)

Todd Russell (319-4803)

Larry Thompson (901-734-1520)

Bob Vermilye (599-9577)

David Steffens (557-5316)

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version