



CORNERSTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL

Second Sunday of Advent—Peace

09 December 2018

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—Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus, Vs 2



Born Thy peo-ple to de - li - ver, Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, _Now Thy gra-cious kingdom 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 glor - ious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1745; Music: American Melody.

Call to Worship—from Isaiah 12

Pastor: We will give thanks to You, O LORD,
for though You were angry with Your people,
Your anger turned away, that You might comfort us.

All: Behold, God is our salvation, we will trust and will not be afraid;

Reader 1: For the LORD God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.
With joy, we will draw water from the wells of salvation.

Reader 2: Give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name.
Make known His deeds among the people, proclaim that His name is exalted.

Pastor: Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

All: Shout and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Hymn of Praise—On Christmas Night



On Christ - mas night all Christ - ians sing, To
Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since
When sin de - parts be - fore his grace, Then
All out of dark - ness we have light, Which



hear the news the an - gels bring, On Christ - mas night all
our Re - deem - er made us glad, Then why should men on
life and health come in its place, When sin de - parts be -
made the an - gels sing this night, All out of dark - ness



Christ - ians sing, To hear the news the an - gels bring,
earth be so sad, Since our Re - deem - er made us glad,
fore his grace, Then life and health come in its place;
we have light, Which made the an - gels sing this night:



News of great joy, news of great mirth,
When from our sin he set us free,
An - - - gels and men with joy may sing,
"Glo - - - ry to God and peace to men,



News of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.
All for to gain our li - ber - ty?
All for to see the new - born King.
Now and for ev - er - more. A - men."

Text: SUSSEX CAROL, Traditional English Carol

Hymn of Expectation—Good Christian Men, Rejoice



Good Christ - ian men, re - joice _____ with heart and soul, and voice; _____
Good Christ - ian men, re - joice, _____ with heart and soul and voice; _____
Good Christ - ian men, re - joice _____ With heart and soul and voice! _____



Give ye heed to what we say: News! News! Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 Now ye hear of end - less bliss: Joy! Joy! Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Je - sus Christ was born to save;

Ox and ass be - fore Him bow; and He is in the man - ger now.
 He has op - ened heav - en's door, and man is blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all, to gain His ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! _____ Christ is born to - day! _____
 Christ was born for this! _____ Christ was born for this! _____
 Christ was born to save! _____ Christ was born to save! _____

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

+++Latecomers Please Wait to be Seated+++

Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 52:7-10

- 7 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."
 8 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.
 9 Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem,
 for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.
 10 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.

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

Lamb of God who takes a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God who takes a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on

us. Lamb of God who takes a - way the sins of the world,

Grant us Your peace. Grant us Your peace. Grant us Your peace.

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

Corporate Confession of Sin—based on Ephesians 4:1-4, 14-16

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing that you have made us to be one body, in one Spirit,
called to one hope.
But our pride and impatience have spawned only dissension and division.

All: **We have not been strong in the strength of your might
and have not readied ourselves for the daily work of reconciliation.**

Pastor: We have neglected the grace given to us by Christ's gift
and have failed to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

All: **Forgive us for being tossed to and fro by selfish whims,
for building our own kingdoms
rather than living in submission to Christ's Kingdom.**

Pastor: Help us to speak the truth in love, and walk in it.
Rescue us and fill us with the Spirit, that Christ may be formed with us.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—Micah 7:18-20

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

+++Latecomers are Welcome to be Seated+++

Hymn of Praise—What Child is This

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

an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
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: William Chatterton Dix, 1865; Music: GREENSLEEVES, 16th Century English

GOD TEACHES US THROUGH HIS WORD

The Reading of the Word—Luke 1:39-56

³⁹ In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰ and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴² and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

⁴⁶ And Mary said,
“My soul magnifies the Lord,
⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.
For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
⁴⁹ for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;
⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;
⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

Sermon—*The Songs of Christmas, Part 2*

Singing with Mary: The Magnificat

—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 lyrics: "All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, Whose ad - vent has— our free - dom". The second system contains the 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 supporting bass line in the left hand. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

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.

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.

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

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.

Words of Institution and the Lord's Table

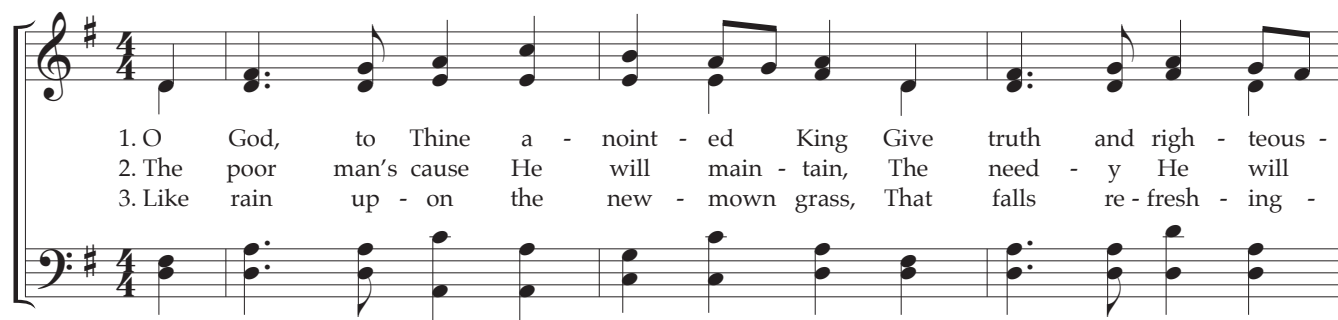
Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

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.

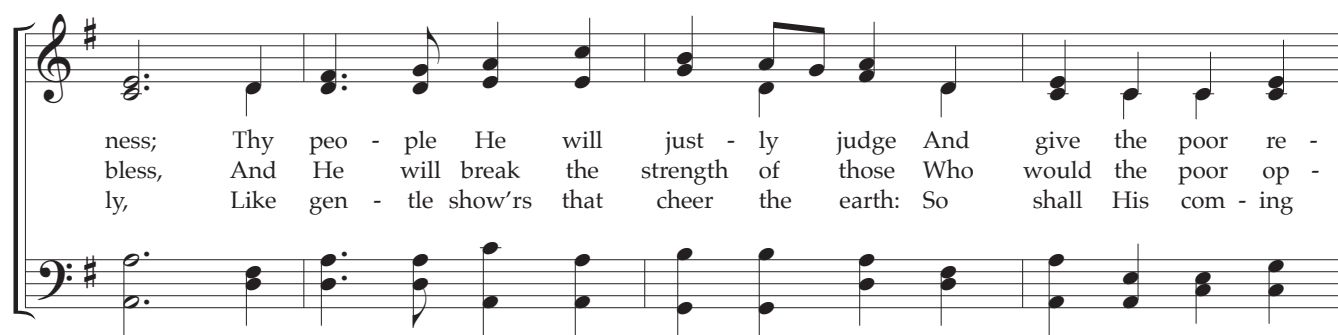
If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. You can find some sample prayers on the next page. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the church.

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.

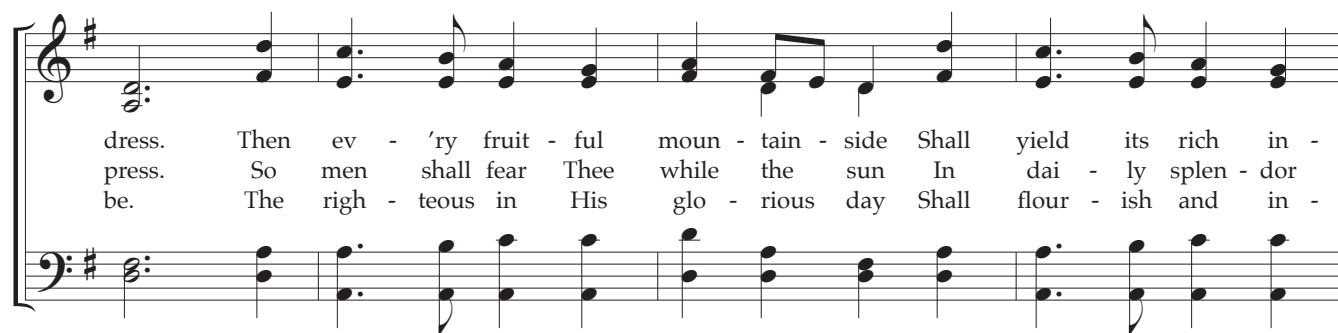
Psalm for Advent— Psalm 72: O God, to Thine Anointed King



1. O God, to Thine a - noint - ed King Give truth and righ - teous -
 2. The poor man's cause He will main - tain, The need - y He will
 3. Like rain up - on the new - mown grass, That falls re - fresh - ing -



ness; Thy peo - ple He will just - ly judge And give the poor re -
 bless, And He will break the strength of those Who would the poor op -
 ly, Like gen - tle show'rs that cheer the earth: So shall His com - ing



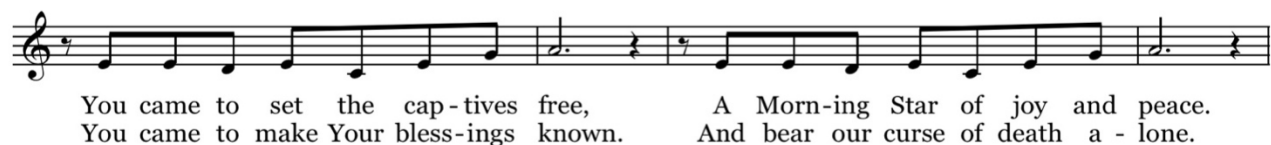
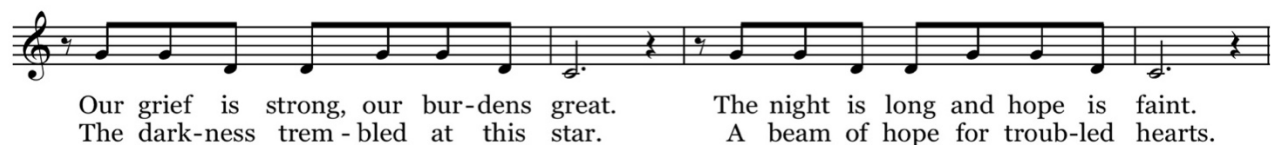
dress. Then ev - 'ry fruit - ful moun - tain - side Shall yield its rich in -
 press. So men shall fear Thee while the sun In dai - ly splen - dor
 be. The righ - teous in His glo - rious day Shall flour - ish and in -



crease, And righ - teous-ness in all the land Shall bear the fruit of peace.
 glows, And through all ag - es, while the moon On earth its light be - stows.
 crease, The earth, un - til the moon shall fade, Shall have a - bun - dant peace.

Text: *The Psalter*, 1912, based on Psalm 72:1-7; Music: Gregory D Wilbur, 2009.

Hymn of Communion—Glory in the Darkest Place



CCLI #11121087 © 2016 Sovereign Grace Music; Music; Text and Music: Brittany Kauflin, 2016

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.

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—2 John 1:3

Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love. *Amen.*

Sung Response—To Us a Child of Hope is Born, Vs 2

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of staves. The lyrics are: 'His pow'r, in - creas - ing, still shall spread, His reign no end shall know, Jus - tice shall guard His throne a - bove, And peace a - bound be - low. To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - se - lor, The might - y Lord of Heav'n.' The melody is simple and folk-like, with a clear harmonic structure.

Text: John Morrison, 1781; Music: KINGSFOLD, English Folk Tune.

Prayer Focus—Colleen McGarry is the local programs coordinator as well as the director of communications for SGI in Nashville. She organizes local volunteer opportunities, specifically English classes for women. She loves to help people overcome their fears and love those that are different than they are. She is also responsible for managing the social media and website for SGI.

- Pray for wisdom in dealing with deep problems among refugee women.
- Pray for opportunities to share hope with the refugee women (both for Colleen and her volunteers).
- Pray for wisdom in mentoring and caring for her volunteers.
- Pray for financial provision for Colleen as well as for the programs she coordinates. (SGI is going to be renovating their basement to be a new ministry center for local programs in the new year and we could use help!)
- Prayer for creative ways to draw more people into personal relationships with Muslims.
- If you would like to be added to Colleen's regular update email or mailing list, email her at abundantblessing@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS DEVOTIONALS

It is not too late to start the readings in the Christmas Devotional that has Scripture for each day as well as other readings, songs, discussion questions, and prayer.

These booklets are available at each entrance. Consider taking enough copies for your household to follow along responsively.



Service of Lessons & Carols

Tonight at 6:00pm

Today's message, "Singing with Mary: The Magnificat" is taken from Luke 1:39-56. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group (HFG).

- When Elizabeth first heard the greeting of Mary, we're told that John the Baptist "leaped" in Elizabeth's womb (1:41, 44). What significance, if any, are we to make of such an action?
- Blessing is one of the leading themes of this passage. The word "blessed" is used four times in these verses. Three times it refers to Mary (1:42, 45, 48) and once it refers to Jesus (1:42). What does it mean to be blessed?
- Mary's song is reminiscent of many Old Testament psalms, prayers, and songs—especially Hannah's song in 1 Samuel 2:1-10. Take a few minutes to compare Hannah's and Mary's songs. What parallels do you see?
- Of all that you learned in today's message about the content of Mary's song, what was most spiritually impactful?
- How has music/songs encouraged worship to the Lord for you personally? Using the truth from today's message, take a few minutes and write a short Advent prayer or song to the Lord.

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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Children's Director: Martha Brooks (591-1683) or elementary@cstonepres.org

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Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

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Steve Green (504-8733)

Jim Payne (497-0613)

Terry Cheney (579-7089)

Joe Haworth (289-7543)

Jim Smith (347-4188)

Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (943-8443)

Deacons

Gene King (806-3726)*

Todd Russell (319-4803)

Larry Thompson (901-734-1520)

Kevin McClung (243-9228)

Marty Smith (767-2240)^o

Bob Vermilye (599-9577)

Jim Robinson (587-0442)

David Steffens (557-5316)

*On Sabbatical

^oLeave of Absence

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

