



CORNERSTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL

Second Sunday of Advent—Peace

10 December 2017

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 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 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;

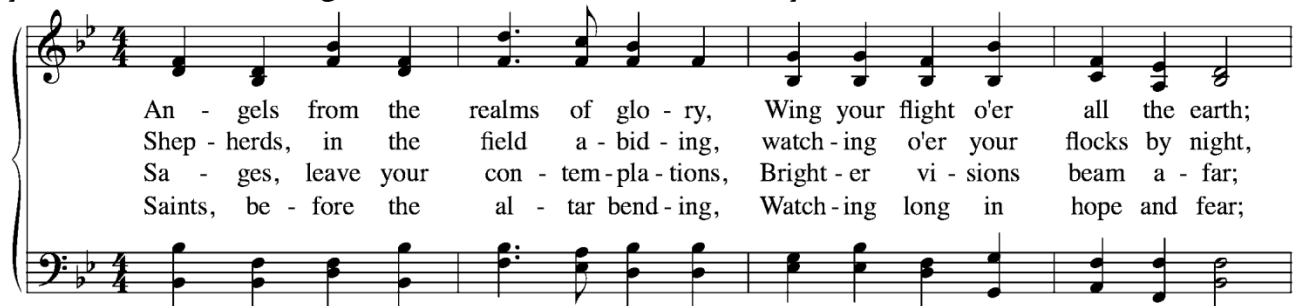
Reader 1: For the LORD God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.
With joy, we will draw water from the wells of salvation.

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

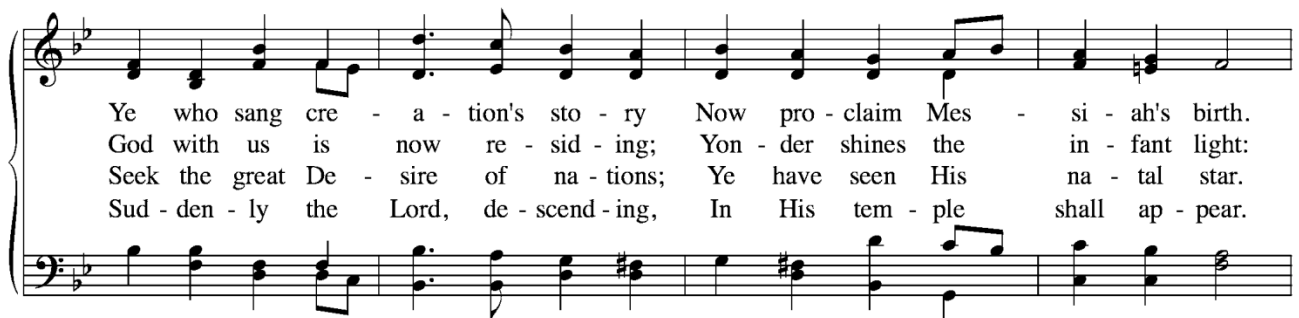
Pastor: Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

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

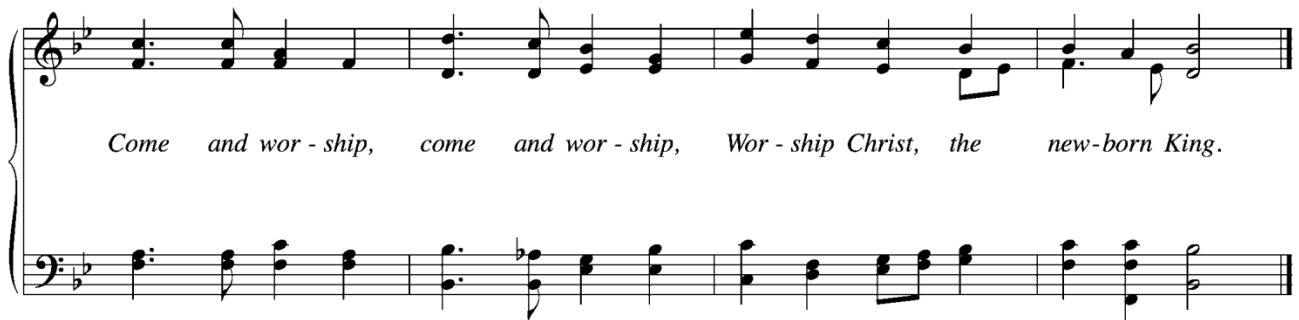
Hymn of Praise—Angels from the Realms of Glory



An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Shep - herds, in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
Saints, be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in hope and fear;



Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
God with us is now re - sid - ing; Yon - der shines the in - fant light:
Seek the great De - sire of na - tions; Ye have seen His na - tal star.
Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text: James Montgomery, 1816, 1825; Music REGENT SQUARE, Henry Smart, 1867.

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

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

Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 26:I-8

In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:

"We have a strong city; he sets up salvation as walls and bulwarks.

² Open the gates, that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in.

³ You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

⁴ Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.

⁵ For he has humbled the inhabitants of the height, the lofty city.

He lays it low, lays it low to the ground, casts it to the dust.

⁶ The foot tramples it, the feet of the poor, the steps of the needy."

⁷ The path of the righteous is level; you make level the way of the righteous.

⁸ In the path of your judgments, O Lord, we wait for you;
 your name and remembrance are the desire of our soul.

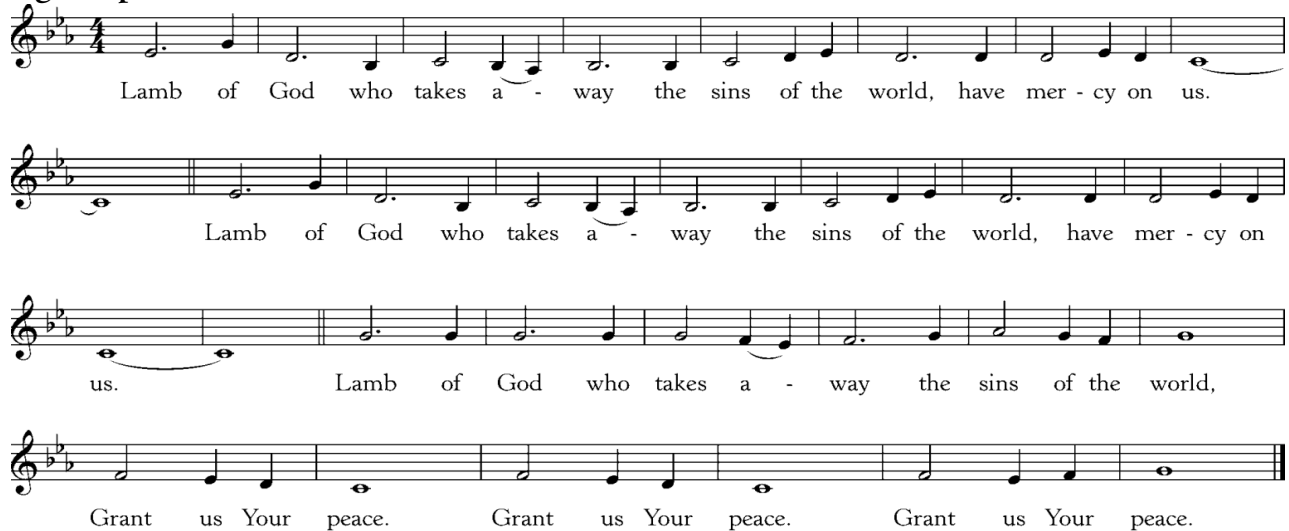
Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

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.

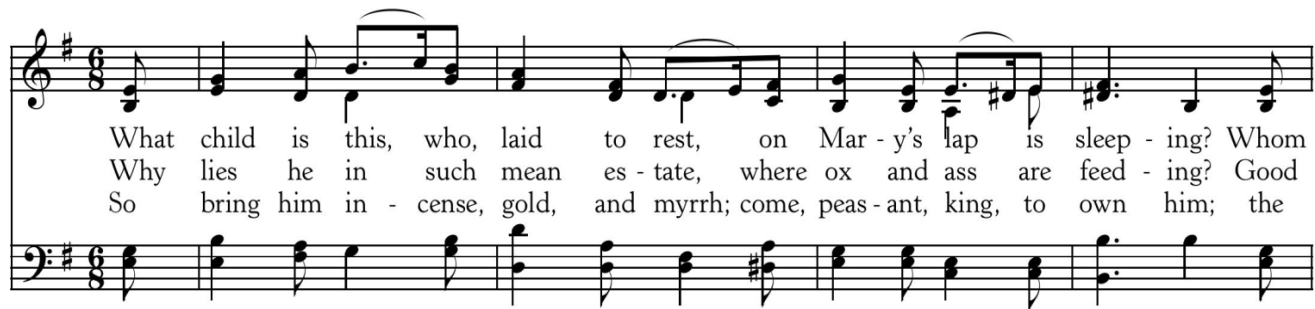
Silent Prayers of Confession

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



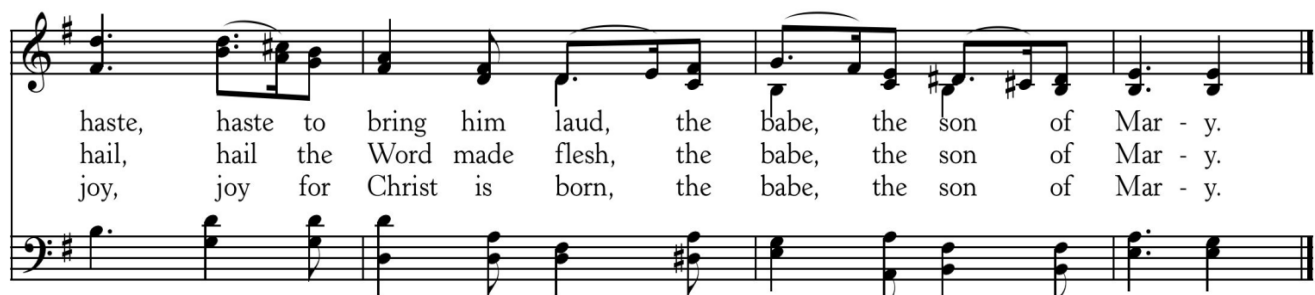
What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing? Whom
Why lies he in such mean es - tate, where ox and ass are feed - ing? Good
So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him; the



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— Zephaniah 3:14-20

- ¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!
- ¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;
he has cleared away your enemies.
The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall never again fear evil.
- ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
“Fear not, O Zion;
let not your hands grow weak.
- ¹⁷ The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.
- ¹⁸ I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.
- ¹⁹ Behold, at that time I will deal
with all your oppressors.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
- ²⁰ At that time I will bring you in,
at the time when I gather you together;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes,” says the LORD.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

Sermon—The Lord is in Your Midst, Pt 2

The Lord is Mighty to Save

—Nate Shurden, *Pastor*

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.

Profession of Faith—from Philippians 2:5-11

We confess, 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.

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.

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.

Hymn of Communion—Glory in the Darkest Place



Out of the depths of si-lent night Im-man - u - el, come hear our cry.
 Out of the depths of si-lent night A Sav - ior born, a moth - er's sigh.



Our grief is strong, our bur-dens great. The night is long and hope is faint.
 The dark-ness trem - bled at this star. A beam of hope for troub-led hearts.



You came to set the cap - tives free, A Morn - ing Star of joy and peace.
 You came to make Your bless - ings known. And bear our curse of death a - lone.



Why does this dark-ness feel so deep? Lord, help our wear - y spir - its see.
 You came to share our suf - fer - ing So in our sor - row we could sing:

Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry in the dark - est place.

Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry, let Your mer - cy reign.

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

Communion Hymn—Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming

Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath
 I - sai - ah 'twas fore - told it, The Rose I have in
 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the

sprung, of Jes - se's lin - age com - ing, as
 mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The
 air, dis - - - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the

men of old have sung. It came, a flow'r - et bright, a -
 Vir - gin Mo - ther kind: To show God's love a - right She
 dark-ness ev - r' - where, True man, yet ver - y God; from

mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
 bore to us a Sav - iour When half - spent was the night.
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - r'y load.

Text: 15th century German Carol, Trans. Theodore Baker, 1894; Music: ES IST EIN ROS, harm. Michael Praetorius, 1609.

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

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are as follows:

To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n, Him
His pow'r, in - creas - ing, still shall spread, His reign no end shall know, Jus -

shall the tribes of earth o - bey, Him all the hosts of Heav'n. His
tice shall guard His throne a - bove, And peace a - bound be - low. To

Name shall be the Prince of Peace, For - ev - er - more a - dored, The
us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n, The

Won - der - ful, the Coun - se - lor, The great and might - y Lord.
Won - der - ful, the Coun - se - lor, The might - y Lord of Heav'n.

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

Prayer Focus—Gavin Breeden, RUF, Campus Minister, Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville
Gavin Breeden is the Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) campus minister at Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, Tennessee. RUF is the campus ministry organization of the Presbyterian Church in America. RUF has experienced rapid growth the past few years, and currently has 140 chapters at different college campuses spread over 37 states, Mexico, Columbia and the Czech Republic. More than just a ministry on the university, RUF seeks to be a ministry for the university. It strives to serve in this unique stage of a student's life in the world they live in, exploring together how the Lordship of Christ informs every area of life.

- Pray for wisdom and discernment in balancing family life and ministry.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit would draw unbelieving students to Christ, and that believing students would continue to grow in their love for Him.
- Pray for further financial support. _____



Service of Lessons & Carols

**Tonight
at 5PM**

with Choir, Chamber
Orchestra, Scripture, &
Congregational Carols

Doors open at 4:40PM



CHRISTMAS DEVOTIONALS

Continue with the readings in the Christmas Devotional that has Scripture for each day as well as other readings, songs, discussion questions, and prayer. The Read Through the Bible schedule is also included.

These booklets are available at each entrance. Consider taking enough copies for your household to follow along responsibly. It is not too late to start.

Today's message, "The Lord is Mighty to Save" is taken from Zephaniah 3:14-20. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group.

- One of the most terrifying descriptions of God's wrath comes at the beginning of Zephaniah, while one of the most reassuring descriptions of God's love appears at the end. How do we account for the radical shift from judgment to salvation in Zephaniah?
- Hebrews 10:31 says, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of a living God." Why does that not seem to be the case in Zephaniah 3:15-16? How is it possible for us to be in the presence of God without fear?
- How is it possible that God is not only able to, but that he delights to, rejoice over us with singing? Do you believe this is true?
- What does it mean for God's love have a quieting (peaceful) effect on us? How does this work? Are you experiencing this?
- In what way does Zephaniah's vision anticipate, even foretaste the reality of the incarnation and the second coming of Jesus Christ?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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Randy Allen (260-1884)

Terry Cheney (579-7089)

Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (643-8443)

Steve Green (504-8733)

Joe Haworth (289-7543)

Jim Payne (497-0613)

Brian Phillips (429-8125)

Jim Smith (347-4188)

Greg Wilbur (512-4156)*

Deacons

Clint Branch (516-9855)

Gene King (806-3726)

Kevin McClung (243-9228)

*On Sabbatical

Jim Robinson (587-0442)

Todd Russell (319-4803)

Marty Smith (767-2240)

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

