

THE LORD'S DAY ~ December 11, 2016

Third Sunday in Advent

MORNING WORSHIP 10:30 A.M.

Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church

to all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and need strength;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
to all who will come,
this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Preparation for Worship Thank you for silencing all electronic devices.

*“A voice cries: In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level and the rough places a plain.
And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”*
~ Isaiah 40:3-5

Pastor's Welcome and Announcements

The Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ Brings True Rejoicing, Even Under the Cross. Sometimes life requires the astonishing patience of Job. Like him, we are to rejoice in the midst of affliction, be grounded in repentance under the cross of Christ and hope relentlessly in His resurrection, that we might see *“the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful”* (James 5:11). Therefore, in the promise of the Gospel, *“be patient”* and *“establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand”* (James 5:8). Like John the Baptist, whatever your own kind of prison or suffering may be, call upon Jesus and receive the strength of His Word from those He sends to you. For as *“the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up”* (Matthew 11:5), so is the Good News of Jesus preached to you also. He comes and restores the fortunes of Zion, His holy Church, so that *“sorrow and sighing shall flee away”* (Isaiah 35:10).

Prelude *“Joy Has Dawned”* (Bulletin Insert)

Prayer of Invocation and Praise

***Call to Worship** I John 4:14, 16

***Hymn Medley”** *“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”* (C258)
“Angels, from the Realms of Glory” (C259)

* For those who are able, please stand at these times.

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*Confession of Faith

Leader: *Christian, in Whom is your hope found?*
People: In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my Light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

Leader: *And in Whom is God's wrath satisfied for your sins?*
People: In Christ alone who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless Babe.
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
‘Til on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied;
For every sin on Him was laid.
Here in the death of Christ I live.

Leader: *Christian, how do you know God's wrath for your sins was satisfied in the death of Christ?*
People: There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His and He is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

Leader: *So what has Christ secured for you?*
People: No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand.
‘Til He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Old Testament Scripture Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

New Testament Scripture Reading

James 5:7-11

Children's Devotional

Operation Christmas Child

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Hymn

“Jesus Messiah” (2)

He became sin, who knew no sin; that we might become His Righteousness.
He humbled himself, and carried the cross. Love so amazing, love so amazing.

*Jesus, Messiah; Name above all names; blessed Redeemer; Emmanuel.
The Rescue for sinners, the Ransom from Heaven, Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all.*

His body the bread, His blood the wine, broken and poured out, all for love.
The whole earth trembled, and the veil was torn. Love so amazing, love so amazing.

*All our hope is in You, all our hope is in You;
All the glory to You, God, the Light of the world.*

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Philippians 4:12-13

Prayer of Illumination

Psalm 1:1-3

Sermon

Isaiah 40:3-5

“Handel's Messiah (3): The Harbinger (B)”

2016 Advent Series
Rev. Cory D. Colravy

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Luke 22:14-23

Reading of the Law

Matthew 7:7-14

Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father,
we confess to You this morning
we have not loved You with
all of our heart, and
all of our mind, and
all of our soul, and
all of our strength.

Have mercy upon me, O God,
according to Your unfailing love!

We have not loved one another,
nor our neighbor as ourselves.
We have not treated others
as we ourselves would want to be treated.

Blot out my transgressions.
Holy Spirit, wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin,
not in part but the whole!

We praise You that
before the foundation of the world
You set Your saving love upon us and
predestined us to be conformed
to the image of Your Son.

We praise You that nothing in all creation
will be able to separate us
from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord,
not even our many sins.
Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 103:8, 10-12

Special Offering

Covenant Mercy Ministry

Hymn of Meditation

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming” (T221)

Distribution of Elements

(Please note that grape juice is in all the inner circles of cups
and wine is only in the outer circle.)

*Charge and Benediction

II Thessalonians 3:3

*Hymn of Benediction

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (T203, v.1)

*Postlude

THIS WEEK, December 11 - 17, 2016

Today •Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
•Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall, 10:00 - 10:25 a.m.
•Morning worship, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday •Praise Team Rehearsal, 5:15 p.m.
•Advent Soup Supper, 5:30 p.m.
•Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.
•Kids' Quest, 6:30 p.m.
•Carol Sing, 6:30 p.m.

Announcements

- ◆ **In Our Nursery Today:** Morning Worship ~ Heather Steele, Claire Zechman
- ◆ **Nursery Next Week:** Sunday School ~ Raquel Clark
Morning Worship ~ Johanna Richards, Anna Richards
- ◆ **WIC Tuesday Morning Bible Study:** Tuesdays in Fellowship Hall, 10:00 a.m.
No more meetings until January 3, 2017.
- ◆ **Budget Summary:**

Weekly Operational Budget Requirement	\$ 5,262.84
Tithes/Offerings, December 4, 2016	\$ 9,629.00
FYTD Tithes/Offerings Received	\$ 87,599.66
FYTD Operational Budget Expenses	\$ 107,694.61
Mortgage Balance	\$ 206,234.11

AM Sermon Notes
 The Lord's Day, Sunday, December 11, 2016
 "Handel's Messiah (3): The Harbinger (B)"
 Isaiah 40:3-5
 2016 Advent Series
 Rev. Cory D. Colravy

Prayer List, Sunday, December 11, 2016

PRAY DAILY FOR OUR PASTOR AND STAFF

Rev. Cory D. Colravy, Pastor
 Mrs. Glenda L. Delmar, CCS Principal
 Mrs. Martha A. Middleton, Executive Administrator
 Ms. Roseanne S. Culpepper, CCS Office Manager
 Mr. Bryan M. Walker, CCS Bookkeeper
 Mr. Art Stroh, Youth Director
 Mr. Jonah Cleveland, Assistant Youth Director
 Mr. Jeff Delmar, Music Leader

PRAY FOR UNSPOKEN REQUESTS

PRAY FOR OUR NATION AND OUR LEADERS

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER AND OUR MISSIONARIES

Sunday Gracie Welch* Hank Denny*
 Monday Stephanie Pike Swanson% MTW
 Tuesday Stephen Armstrong*
 Wednesday Archie Parrish% Serve International
 Thursday Andrew Bahati* Bryan Walker*
 Friday Chaplain's Ministry% MNA
 Saturday Kristie Delmar*
 (*Happy Birthday, #Happy Anniversary, %Missionary)

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY AT HOME AND ABROAD

Currently Deployed Overseas: Randy Miller (Joyce Post's grandson)

Currently Serving at Home: Shawn Rost (Warren & Judy Kline's son-in-law), Ben Hollo, Ian Harris, Seth Armstrong, Ezra Swanson

PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Cancer: Phil Khalife (Sonja Seidler's brother), Lee Broughton (friend of Martha Middleton, breast cancer), Charlene Elliott (CCS parent, blood cancer), Ryan Colravy (Pastor Colravy's nephew, chemotherapy & radiation), Charlotte Bass (4 year old friend of Mara Frazier, Aplastic Anemia), Larry Treston (Wendy Russell's father), Wayne Bingham, Dorothy Buckner (Janice Chilton's mother)

Illness: Brian Schreiber (Fred & Carrie Hayes Schreiber's son, blood disease), Fran Coyne (friend of the Steele's, aortic valve stenosis), Johnny Langham (Jack & Jan Langham's son), Naomi (brain tumor surgery, step-daughter of James Thompson's friend Jeremy Williams), Charlie Saunders (O'Lear family member), Linda Hopkins' family member (amyloidosis), David Hill (heart blockage), Cheryl Gaudiano, Roger Leete (CIDP), Gloria Hawkins (Glenda Delmar's mother, stroke), Derrick Jensen (family friend of Raquel Clark, ALS), Rich Simpson (hip replacement), Michael Kline (mini-strokes), Hope Park (Anna Denny's friend, needing heart transplant), *Warren Kline*

Special Need: Virginia Palmer, David & Toni Hill (Rusty & Chris Hill's parents), Tom Bingham family, Richard Post family, Dawn Welch family, Dell Simpson, Terrie Cleveland family, Esme Bahati


Expectant Mothers: Kristie Delmar

*Names in italics are new to the list this week.


Covenant Presbyterian Church

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