

ADVENT | *The season of Advent, a season of waiting, is designed to cultivate our awareness of God's actions – past, present, and future. In Advent we hear the prophecies of the Messiah's coming as addressed to us – people who wait for the second coming. In Advent we heighten our anticipation for the ultimate fulfillment of all Old Testament promises, when the wolf will lie down with the lamb, death will be swallowed up, and every tear will be wiped away.*

prelude

ANNA FLYNN

As the music plays, please quietly prepare your heart and mind for worship, lifting your thoughts up from the cares of this world.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence – Traditional French Carol, arranged by Mark Hayes
Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming – Geistliche Kirchengesang, arranged by Fred Bock

preparing our hearts

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.

– 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 ESV

** call to worship

Leader: O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
All: **For you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.**

Leader: He has swallowed up death forever. He has wiped away every tear.
All: **Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.**

– Based on Isaiah 25 & Luke 2:14 ESV

Leader: They will call his name Immanuel.
All: **Come, let us adore him.**

** Please stand if you are able

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,

Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,

Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see;

Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;

Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty! God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Words: Anonymous, Music: Giardani Felice. Public Domain.

****prayer of invocation**

Leader: Send out your light and your truth; let them lead us; let them bring us to your holy hill and to your dwelling! Then we will go to the altar of God, to God our exceeding joy, and we will praise you, O God, my God. This we pray by the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent as the Light of the World. Amen.

– Based on Psalm 43:3-4

The candle color for the first week of Advent is purple, symbolizing repentance. This week's candle is called the Candle of Hope. It is the light that burned within the Prophets who longed for God's Messiah.

The Readings | Isaiah 7:14 and Revelation 21:1-5 ESV

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**** hymn of praise**

COME BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King.
He the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity.
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come.
Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, he the perfect Son of Man.
In his living, in his suffering, never trace nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man.
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree.
In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory.
See the price of our redemption; see the Father's plan unfold.
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come behold the wondrous mystery; slain by death the God of life.
But no grave could e'er restrain Him; praise the Lord; He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance; how unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected as we will be when he comes.

"Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery," Words & Music: Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, & Michael Blecker.
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CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found.

– Psalm 32:5b-6a^{ESV}

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**All: Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
And to put on the armor of light.
We confess our sins to you and hide our lives in Christ,
Who visited us in great humility, to redeem us from our sin and shame,
That in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
To judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal.
Through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God,
now and forever. Amen.**

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL **

**All: O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Words: Latin hymn, trans. by John Mason Neale; Music: Thomas Helmore. Public Domain.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

– Romans 8:1^{ESV}

All: Thanks be to God!

COME YE SOULS BY SIN AFFLICTED

Come ye souls by sin afflicted, bowed with fruitless sorrow down;
By the broken law convicted, through the cross behold the crown;
Look to Jesus, look to Jesus, look to Jesus; mercy flows through him alone.

Take his easy yoke and wear it; love will make your obedience sweet;
Christ will give you strength to bear it, while his grace shall guide your feet
Safe to glory, safe to glory, safe to glory, where his ransomed captives meet.

Blessèd are the eyes that see him. Blest the ears that hear his voice.
Blessèd are the souls that trust him, and in him alone rejoice.
His commandments, his commandments, his commandments then become their happy choice.

Sweet as home to pilgrims weary, light to newly opened eyes,
Like full springs in deserts dreary, is the rest the cross supplies.
All who taste it, all who taste it, all who taste it shall to rest immortal rise.

Look to Jesus, look to Jesus, look to Jesus; mercy flows through him alone.

“Come Ye Souls By Sin Afflicted,” Words: Joseph Swain (alt. Twit); Music: Kevin Twit.
© Kevin Twit Music (ASCAP) CCLI #3022711, Song #7079450.

Leader: John 8:1-11
This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

An officer of the church prays for the world, nation, community, and church.

Leader: All these mercies we ask in the name of Jesus, who prayed saying,

All: **Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name;
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors,
Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.**

**** passing the peace**

Leader: Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.” In a world filled with trouble, let us encourage one another to look to the one who has overcome the world. May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

While your children are welcome and encouraged to worship with you, at this time they can be dismissed for an age-appropriate worship for ages 3–5.

If you would like to hear more about CPC or would like to let us know of a prayer need, please include your contact information or prayer request in the welcome pad when it comes around to you.

When instructed, greet those around you, saying, “The peace of Christ be with you.” When the music begins, please be seated and prepare yourself for the hearing of God’s Word.

Series | “Scandalous Grace”

Sermon | “Tamar”

December 1, 2019

Matthew 1:1, 3, 5, 6, 16, 17 ^{NIV} | 1 This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah... 3 Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar... 5 Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth... 6 David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah’s wife... 16 Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah... 17 Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Messiah.

Genesis 38:13-19, 24-30 ^{ESV} | 13 And when Tamar was told, “Your father-in-law is going up to Timnah to shear his sheep,” 14 she took off her widow’s garments and covered herself with a veil, wrapping herself up, and sat at the entrance to Enaim, which is on the road to Timnah. For she saw that Shelah was grown up, and she had not been given to him in marriage. 15 When Judah saw her, he thought she was a prostitute, for she had covered her face. 16 He turned to her at the roadside and said, “Come, let me come in to you,” for he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law. She said, “What will you give me, that you may come in to me?” 17 He answered, “I will send you a young goat from the flock.” And she said, “If you give me a pledge, until you send it – ” 18 He said, “What pledge shall I give you?” She replied, “Your signet and your cord and your staff that is in your hand.” So he gave them to her and went in to her, and she conceived by him. 19 Then she arose and went away, and taking off her veil she put on the garments of her widowhood.

24 About three months later Judah was told, “Tamar your daughter-in-law has been immoral. Moreover, she is pregnant by immorality.” And Judah said, “Bring her out, and let her be burned.” 25 As she was being brought out, she sent word to her father-in-law, “By the man to whom these belong, I am pregnant.” And she said, “Please identify whose these are, the signet and the cord and the staff.” 26 Then Judah identified them and said, “She is more righteous than I, since I did not give her to my son Shelah.” And he did not know her again.

27 When the time of her labor came, there were twins in her womb. 28 And when she was in labor, one put out a hand, and the midwife took and tied a scarlet thread on his hand, saying, “This one came out first.” 29 But as he drew back his hand, behold, his brother came out. And she said, “What a breach you have made for yourself!” Therefore his name was called Perez. 30 Afterward his brother came out with the scarlet thread on his hand, and his name was called Zerah.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

** affirmation of faith

Leader: Christian, do you believe and trust in God the Father, who because of his great love did send his only begotten Son to take on flesh in union with mankind?

All: **We believe and trust in him.**

Leader: Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who graciously represented mankind before the Father in perfect obedience and in perfect atonement, reconciling us to God?

All: **We believe and trust in him.**

Leader: Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who mercifully breathes life into those dead in sin, that they might know the Father and believe the Son unto salvation.

All: **We believe and trust in him.**

Leader: This is the faith of the Church.

All: **This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Minister: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Minister: It is very good and right, our duty and privilege, to at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious Name; evermore praising you, and singing,

All: (*singing Gloria Patri*)

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the be-

gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, a - men.

WELCOME TO HIS TABLE

The Lord's Supper is a family meal for Christians — a time when we delight in Christ and in the good news that His work alone has made us right with God. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, and seek strength to live more faithfully to Christ are invited to participate. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, please use this time to meditate on the following prayer.

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.

Please remain seated for communion. As a symbol of our unity in Christ, wait until everyone has been served the elements, and we will all partake together. Once you are finished with your cup, please pass it to the inside aisles and the ushers will retrieve them.

If you have a gluten allergy, there are gluten-free wafers available in the center of the bread trays. During the celebration of communion, we will reflect during the passing of the bread and sing the printed hymn during the passing of the cup.

NOTE TO PARENTS: *To receive communion, a child must have been baptized, publicly professed their faith in Christ, and been formally received as a communing member by the elders of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. We look forward to welcoming your children to the table when they come to this point and ask that you speak to the pastor when you feel your child is ready to begin the process of becoming a communing member.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

– Matthew 26:26-29 ESV

Minister: Let us pray.

All: We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But it is your right, O God, to give mercy to whom you please. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink of him, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood; that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Minister: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

As the bread is distributed, examine your heart and reflect on the meaning of this supper, that you would take it in a worthy manner.

As the cup is distributed, sing as one body, affirming that in Christ we are united to him and to one another.

LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood;
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood.
He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish, as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-wingèd seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry:
“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!”

Words: Liturgy of St. James, trans. by Gerard Moultrie. Music: Traditional French Carol. Public Domain.

HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED

** Chorus:*

Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
His reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
To take away transgression and rule in equity. *

He comes with comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight. *

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
Kings shall fall down before him, and gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing. *

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed," Words: James Montgomery; Music (alt lyrics): Sandra McCracken.
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announcements

Please note the announcements found on Pages 17-20 of your bulletin.

**** benediction**

**** doxology**

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**