

**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.*

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## prelude

BROOKE LEWIS

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

*Angels from the Realms of Glory* – Henry T. Smart, arranged by Dennis Alexander  
*What Child Is This?* – Old English melody, arranged by Martha Mier

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## preparing our hearts

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.

– 1 Timothy 1:15-16 ESV

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## \*\* call to worship

*Leader:* The LORD is our strength and our shield;  
**All:** **In him our hearts trust, and we are helped;**

*Leader:* Our hearts exult, and with our song we give thanks to him.  
**All:** **The LORD is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed.**

*Leader:* Oh, save your people and bless your heritage!  
**All:** **Be our shepherd and carry them forever.**

– Based on Psalm 28:7-9 ESV

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

\*\* Please stand if you are able

## ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth; \*

\* *Chorus:*

Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing, yonder shines the infant light: \*

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star: \*

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear; \*

Words: James Montgomery; Music: Henry Smart. Public Domain.

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## choral invocation

*All Earth Rejoice with a Gladsome Voice* – Antonio Vivaldi, arranged by Hal H. Hopson

*The candle color for the second week of Advent is purple, symbolizing royalty and the sovereignty of Christ. This week's candle is called the Bethlehem Candle or the Candle of Preparation. It demonstrates the anticipation of the coming King that is celebrated during Advent.*

**The Readings** | John 1:1-5 and Revelation 21:22-26 ESV

*Leader:* This is the word of the Lord.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

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## \*\* hymn of praise

### COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set they people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,  
Dear Desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, appear;  
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!  
O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth:  
"Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories know no end;  
By his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;  
This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (vv. 1&4) & Mark Hunt (vv. 2&3); Music: Rowland Hugh Pritchard. Public Domain.

## CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

*Leader:* [Thus says the LORD,] “I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me.”

– Jeremiah 33:8 ESV

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**All:** **Merciful God, who sent your messengers, the prophets,  
To preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation:  
Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins,  
That we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer;  
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
One God, now and for ever. 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.**

**O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan’s tyranny;  
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict’ry o’er the grave.  
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:* And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

– Jeremiah 31:34 ESV

**All:** **Thanks be to God!**

THOU WHO WAST RICH BEYOND ALL SPLENDOR

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor;  
Thrones for a manger didst surrender, sapphire paved courts for stable floor.  
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor.

Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man;  
Stooping so low, but sinners raising heavenward by thine eternal plan.  
Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man.

Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.  
Emmanuel, within us dwelling, make us what thou wouldst have us be.  
Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.

Words: Frank Houghton, Music: Quelle Est Cette Odeur Agreeable, French carol. Public Domain.

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**scripture reading**

*Leader:* Matthew 15:21-28  
This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

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**prayer**

*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.**

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# the ordination and installation of officers

**Presiding Minister:** Whit Anderson

**Candidates:** Gary Britigan, Bob Turner | Ruling Elder

## Introduction

### QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as originally given, to be the inerrant Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?
2. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of this Church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures; and do you further promise that if at any time you find yourself out of accord with any of the fundamentals of this system of doctrine, you will, on your own initiative, make known to your Session the change which has taken place in your views since the assumption of this ordination vow?
3. Do you approve of the form of government and discipline of the Presbyterian Church in America, in conformity with the general principles of biblical polity?
4. Do you accept the office of elder in this church, and promise faithfully to perform all the duties thereof, and to endeavor by the grace of God to adorn the profession of the Gospel in your life, and to set a worthy example before the Church of which God has made you an officer?
5. Do you promise subjection to your brethren in the Lord?
6. Do you promise to strive for the purity, peace, unity, and edification of the Church?

### QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION

Do you, the members of this church, acknowledge and receive these brothers as elders, and do you promise to yield them all that honor, encouragement and obedience in the Lord to which this office, according to the Word of God and the Constitution of this Church, entitles them?

## The Laying On of Hands and Prayer

### Pronouncement & Charge:

*Minister:* I now pronounce and declare that Gary Britigan and Bob Turner have been regularly elected, ordained and installed elders in this church, agreeable to the Word of God, and according to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America; and that as such they are entitled to all encouragement, honor and obedience in the Lord: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

*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 preschool 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.*

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**sermon**

**Series** | “Scandalous Grace”

WHIT ANDERSON

**Sermon** | “Rahab”

**December 8, 2019**

**From Matthew 1** <sup>NIV</sup> | 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.

**Joshua 2:1-14, 18-21** <sup>ESV</sup> | 1 And Joshua the son of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies, saying, “Go, view the land, especially Jericho.” And they went and came into the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab and lodged there. 2 And it was told to the king of Jericho, “Behold, men of Israel have come here tonight to search out the land.” 3 Then the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying, “Bring out the men who have come to you, who entered your house, for they have come to search out all the land.” 4 But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. And she said, “True, the men came to me, but I did not know where they were from. 5 And when the gate was about to be closed at dark, the men went out. I do not know where the men went. Pursue them quickly, for you will

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overtake them.” 6 But she had brought them up to the roof and hid them with the stalks of flax that she had laid in order on the roof. 7 So the men pursued after them on the way to the Jordan as far as the fords. And the gate was shut as soon as the pursuers had gone out.

8 Before the men lay down, she came up to them on the roof 9 and said to the men, “I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that the fear of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt away before you. 10 For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you devoted to destruction. 11 And as soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was no spirit left in any man because of you, for the Lord your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath. 12 Now then, please swear to me by the LORD that, as I have dealt kindly with you, you also will deal kindly with my father’s house, and give me a sure sign 13 that you will save alive my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death.” 14 And the men said to her, “Our life for yours even to death! If you do not tell this business of ours, then when the LORD gives us the land we will deal kindly and faithfully with you.”

18 Behold, when we come into the land, you shall tie this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and you shall gather into your house your father and mother, your brothers, and all your father’s household. 19 Then if anyone goes out of the doors of your house into the street, his blood shall be on his own head, and we shall be guiltless. But if a hand is laid on anyone who is with you in the house, his blood shall be on our head. 20 But if you tell this business of ours, then we shall be guiltless with respect to your oath that you have made us swear.” 21 And she said, “According to your words, so be it.” Then she sent them away, and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

*Leader:* This is the Word of the Lord.

**All:** **Thanks be to God!**

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**\*\* 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.

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## 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.*

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## 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.*

*About more than Jesus' birth into poverty, "What Child is This?" also points us forward to Christ's sacrifice for the rescue of sinners through a cross "borne for me, for you." These words invite everyone from peasant to king to "raise the song on high"; for this child is the "Word made flesh," the "King of kings," and the Savior of the world.*

## WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste! Haste! to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail! Hail! the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;  
The King of Kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy! Joy! for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.

Words: William Chatterton Dix, Music: Greensleeves, 16th century English melody. Public Domain.

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven’s all-gracious King.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heavenly music floats o’er all the weary world;  
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,  
And ever over its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life’s crushing load whose forms are bending low,  
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,  
Look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.  
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold,  
When with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold,  
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

Words: Edmund H. Sears; Music: Richard Storrs Willis. Public Domain.

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**announcements**

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

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**\*\* benediction**

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**\*\* 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.**