

The Lord's Day, November 27, 2022

10:30 AM Morning Service

"Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come." Revelation 1:4

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Leader: Why do we light the Advent candle?

Response: Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world. He who follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the Light of Life."

Leader: In the days to come, the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established. All the nations shall stream out of it.

Response: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Leader: He shall judge between the nations, and settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more.

Response: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The readers pause while the candle lighter begins to light the candle, and then the Leader continues.

Leader: We light this candle as a symbol of expectation. May the light of Christ show us the way of salvation.

Response: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The Voluntary for Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship: Colossians 1:15-20

Minister: He [Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

People: For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him.

Minister: And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

People: And he is the head of the body, the church.

Minister: He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

People: For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

Minister: and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Unison: Come, let us sing of our Lord!

***Hymn of Adoration: "Across the Lands" (Insert)**

You're the Word of God the Father,
From before the world began;
Every star and every planet
Has been fashioned by Your hand.
All creation holds together
By the power of Your voice:
Let the skies declare Your glory,
Let the land and seas rejoice!

You're the Author of creation,
You're the Lord of every man;
And Your cry of love rings out
Across the lands.

Yet You left the gaze of angels,
Came to seek and save the lost,
And exchanged the joy of heaven
For the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer You fed the hungry,
With a word You stilled the sea.
Yet how silently You suffered
That the guilty may go free.

With a shout You rose victorious,
Wresting victory from the grave,
And ascended into heaven
Leading captives in Your wake.
Now You stand before the Father
Interceding for Your own.
From each tribe and tongue and nation
You are leading sinners home.

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***Prayer of Adoration and Congregational Prayer**

O Most High, Creator of the ends of the earth, Governor of the universe, Judge of all men, Head of the church, Savior of sinners: your greatness is unsearchable, your goodness infinite, your compassions unfailing, your providence boundless, your mercies ever new. We thank you for the unspeakable gift of your Son. He is our only refuge, foundation, hope, and confidence. We depend upon his death, rest in his righteousness, and desire to bear his image. May his glory fill our minds and his love reign in our affections. In his name we come to you. Amen.

From The Valley of Vision

***Affirmation of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism 28**

Minister: What does it benefit us to know that God has created all things and still upholds them by his providence?

People: We can be patient in adversity, thankful in prosperity, and with a view to the future we can have a firm confidence in our faithful God and Father that no creature shall separate us from his love; for all creatures are so completely in his hand that without his will they cannot so much as move.

***Gloria Patri (Tune: Crusader's Hymn)**

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40

Hymn of Praise: "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" (No. 197)

1 Comfort, comfort ye my people,
speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness,
mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
of the peace that waits for them;
tell her that her sins I cover,
and her warfare now is over.

2 Yea, her sins our God will pardon,
blotting out each dark misdeed;
all that well deserved his anger
he no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many a day
now her griefs have passed away;
God will change her pining sadness
into ever-springing gladness.

3 For the herald's voice is crying
in the desert far and near,
bidding all men to repentance,
since the kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
let the valleys rise to meet him,
and the hills bow down to greet him.

4 Make ye straight what long was crooked,
make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits his holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
now o'er earth is shed abroad;
and all flesh shall see the token,
that his word is never broken.

The Prayers of the People

Our Father, Everlasting God, Creator of the ends of the earth: In your Word and in your creation, we delight to behold you. In great might, you rule over all. You measure the waters in the hollow of your hand. You mark off the heavens with a span. You weigh the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance. To you, all the nations are like a drop from a bucket. Yet like a shepherd, you tend your flock: you gather us in your arms, you carry us close to your heart, you gently lead us. You never grow faint or weary, and your understanding is unsearchable. So when we are faint, you give us power. When we have no might, you increase our strength. For all this we praise you and thank you. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Isaiah 40

Pastoral Prayer

***Hymn of Thanksgiving: "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen" (No. 211)**

1 God rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay,
remember Christ our Savior
was born on Christmas day,
to save us all from Satan's pow'r
when we were gone astray;

Refrain:

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

2 From God our heav'nly Father,
a blessed angel came;
and unto certain shepherds
brought tidings of the same:
how that in Bethlehem was born
the son of God by name. [Refrain]

3 "Fear not, then," said the angel,
"let nothing you affright;
this day is born a Savior
of a pure virgin bright,
to free all those who trust in him
from Satan's pow'r and might." [Refrain]

4 The shepherds at those tidings
rejoiced much in mind,
and left their flocks a-feeding,
in tempest, storm, and wind:
and went to Bethlehem straightway,
the Son of God to find. [Refrain]

Worship of God through Tithes and Offerings

***Doxology (Tune: Old Hundredth)**

**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.**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

***Reading of the Holy Scriptures: John 1:1-3**

***The Prayer for Illumination**

Sermon: "In the Beginning Was the Word" (Rev. Seth Wallace)

***Hymn of Response: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (No. 208)**

1 O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him
born the King of angels;

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

2 God of God,
Light of Light;
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
very God,
begotten, not created; [Refrain]

3 Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
glory to God
in the highest; [Refrain]

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning:
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father,
late in flesh appearing; [Refrain]

***The Benediction**

Postlude

**Denotes congregational standing, if able.*

If you would like someone to pray with you, an Elder will be available at the front of the sanctuary following the service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

➤ **Volunteer Schedule**

We will be making a volunteer schedule for December – February. If you were not included on the last schedule and would like to be added, please see Susan Parsons. Also, please let her know if there are dates you will be out of town during those months so that we can try to avoid scheduling conflicts. Thank you!

➤ **Poinsettias**

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the form found in the bulletin and leave it in the offering plate. The poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary during the Advent season and will be available to take home on December 25 after the morning service.

➤ **Chili Dinner - For Lunch**

You are invited to join in on the fun and fellowship at our Annual Chili Dinner on Sunday, December 11, following worship service. A signup sheet is located in the foyer; please remember to add your name, the number in your party and the food item you will bring (salad or dessert, enough to feed 8 people). Or you may sign up online at www.ckvb.org. The chili dinner is an annual event at CTK; it's one of our favorite times of fellowship and you are encouraged to bring friends and extended family, but please remember to sign up.

➤ **Lessons & Carols Service**

Please plan to join us December 18 at 6:00 p.m. for our Lessons & Carols Service.

➤ **Men's Fellowship Time**

Men's Fellowship Time is at 7:00 a.m. on Wednesdays at C.J. Cannon's.