



Tates Creek  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Welcome to our church!

We're glad you're here! We hope you experience the warmth and welcome of Christ our Savior in this community.

---



If this is your first time visiting, please fill out a **Visitor's Card** (located in the pew in front of you) and place it in the offering basket later in the service. We would love to meet you and help you get connected.

---



If you would like to speak to someone who can answer any questions you may have about our church, please visit the **Welcome Desk**, which will be on your left after you exit the Sanctuary.

---



The artwork in the windows were created by members of TCPC in celebration of the love, light, and coming advent of Christ.



Handbells as they are known in Europe and the United States are descendants from the tower bells in England. Around the 16th Century, the art of tower bell ringing was becoming established in England. It took hours of practice of pulling on the ropes to create intricate melodies called “change ringing”. Ringing the tower bells was disturbing to the surrounding villagers, so small bells were developed so the ringers could practice indoors. Eventually, this type of bell ringing became an art in itself. Larger sets of handbells were cast and “tune ringing”, or ringing melodies and simple harmonies for festive occasions was developed. Many churches continue this tradition in worship services throughout America and Europe to praise the Lord with music!

*Adapted from [www.lancasterhandbellensemble.org/handbell-history](http://www.lancasterhandbellensemble.org/handbell-history)*

## Liturgy Notes

Do you have questions about how we worship? This column answers the “what” and “why” of each element of our liturgy.

### Call to Worship

The Call to Worship is traditionally the first element in a Christian liturgy, serving as the moment of consecration. God’s word is used to invite us into the sacred time of corporate worship, and we respond with our voices as an answer to His call.

### Congregational Singing

A unique aspect of Christian worship is that we sing together. Our singing is an expression of love for God and joy in his gospel. Singing strong hymns grounded in the truths of our theology raises our eyes from awe of the created to awe of the Creator. Scripture commands us to sing. Beautiful voices are not required, but a community joining together to sing truth and to sing it with passion and conviction is beautiful to our God.

### Invocation

The minister invokes the presence of God that is promised to those who gather in His name. We ask for God to join us in worship, to lead us in worship, and to be pleased with our worship.

# Order of Worship

December 22, 2019 at 9:00 and 11:15AM

## REJOICE Declare the praises of God

### Prelude *He Is Born* (arr. Kevin McChesney)

Handbell Choir

### Call to Worship from Titus 3:4-7

LEADER:

The goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior has appeared.

**PEOPLE:**

**He saved us, not because of works done by us, but according to his mercy!**

LEADER:

He has washed and renewed us by the Holy Spirit,

**PEOPLE:**

**Whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ, our Savior,**

LEADER:

So that being justified by his grace we are heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

**PEOPLE:**

**With great hope, we lift up our hearts!**

### Hymn of Rejoicing *O Come, All Ye Faithful* #208

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.**

God of God, Light of Light;  
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin’s womb;  
Very God, begotten, not created; **(REFRAIN)**

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav’n above:  
Glory to God in the highest; **(REFRAIN)**

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv’n;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; **(REFRAIN)**

### Invocation

## Scripture Reading

 1 John 4:7-12 (Pew Bible p. 1023)

MINISTER:

The Word of the Lord.

**PEOPLE:**

**Thanks be to God.**

## Confession of God's People

**UNISON:**

**O promised Christ, with eager hearts we await your advent.**

MINISTER:

We confess our fears, doubts, and discontent...

**PEOPLE:**

**Come, Lord Jesus, our hope depends upon your advent.**

MINISTER:

We confess our despondency, ingratitude, and grumbling...

**PEOPLE:**

**Come, Lord Jesus, our joy depends upon your advent.**

MINISTER:

We confess our bitterness, divisiveness, and hostility...

**PEOPLE:**

**Come, Lord Jesus, our love depends upon your advent.**

MINISTER:

We confess our restlessness, anxieties, and despair...

**PEOPLE:**

**Come, Lord Jesus, our peace depends upon your advent.**

- *Silent Prayers of Confession* -

## Repentance of God's People

MINISTER:

Has Christ come?

**PEOPLE:**

**He has.**

MINISTER:

Will he return?

**PEOPLE:**

**He will.**

MINISTER:

Is your trust in Him alone?

**PEOPLE:**

**It is.**

## Assurance of God's Pardon

 from John 3

MINISTER:

God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world, through him, might be saved.

## Confession of God's People

In the Confession of Sin we humbly agree with Scripture's claim that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. This is the most honest moment of our week, as we confess our sin and shame together. We do this corporately through a unison litany or prayer and individually through a moment of silence for private confession.

## Repentance of God's People

Our time of confession becomes a time of fresh commitment through corporate repentance. Together we boldly turn from all evil and offer our lives again to God. Only say these words if you are indeed willing to repent of your sins.

## Assurance of God's Pardon

Confession and repentance is always met with the surety of God's grace. The minister proclaims to the penitent community words of pardon from Scripture, assuring our hearts of the grace that is already ours in Christ Jesus.

## Greeting of Peace

We extend to others the grace that God has extended to us, greeting each other with the peace of Christ. In the midst of a fractured world filled with prejudice, hatred, and violence, we are a demonstration of God's reconciliation. Worshipers greeted one another with the words of Christ after His resurrection, which became the customary greeting of the early Church: "Peace be with you."

## Confession of Faith

We confess together the convictional truths of orthodoxy by reciting the ancient creeds of our faith. We share these words with saints throughout the centuries as well as those throughout the world today. This also serves as a bold proclamation to the watching world of what we believe is true.

# Greeting of the Peace of Christ

## Hymn of Renewal *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* #203

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

## RESPOND Embrace the call of God

---

### Confession of Faith from Westminster Shorter Catechism

LEADER:

Who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

**PEOPLE:**

**The only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and continues to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, forever.**

LEADER:

What offices does Christ execute as our Redeemer?

**PEOPLE:**

**The offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.**

LEADER:

How does Christ execute the office of a prophet?

**PEOPLE:**

**In revealing to us, by his Word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.**

*(continue on next page)*

LEADER:

How does Christ execute the office of a priest?

**PEOPLE:**

**In his once offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice and reconcile us to God, and in making continual intercession for us.**

LEADER:

How does Christ execute the office of a king?

**PEOPLE:**

**In subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies.**

## Doxology Old Hundredth

Musical score for the Doxology 'Old Hundredth'. The score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be-low; praise him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost A-men.'

## Offertory Prayer

### Offertory *Sing Noel! Ring the Christmas Bell* (arr. Liebergen)

Teresa Davidson, Karen Taylor, and Anna Waldrop, handbells

Sing, sing we all Noel, he shall come, Emmanuel! Sing a glad Noel. Ring, ring the Christmas bell! He shall come on earth to dwell. Sing a glad Noel! Prepare the way the Lord shall come we raise a joyful cheer! Prepare the way the Lord shall come now sing from far and near. Rise up to join the festive song, rejoice for all to hear. O sing, sing we all a glad Noel, sing Noel, a child shall come, Emmanuel. Prepare the way the Lord shall come, the child, Emmanuel. Prepare the way the Lord shall come to Bethlehem to dwell. Sing, sing we all Noel, he shall come, Emmanuel!

## Offering

The offering is received, not merely as a way to pay the bills, but as an act of worship. In response to the God from whom all blessings flow, we give freely, joyfully, and sacrificially to His beloved bride, the Church.

## Anthem

It is not just financial offerings that we give to God during this time but offerings of beauty as well. While the offering is collected, our choir offers up to God beautifully-composed music with text that meditates upon the truths of the gospel and the promises of God. God's gift of music (along with the work of his Spirit) helps us feel deeply and marvel at who he is, what he has done, and what he will do.



# SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

---

## **PLEASE NOTE:**

We offer both wine and grape juice in Holy Communion: the wine is in the outermost ring of cups, and the grape juice is in the inner rings of cups. Gluten-free bread is offered at the center table.

## **Children's Blessing:**

Children (of any age) who have not professed faith in Christ are encouraged to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing from the pastor or officer.

## **Words of Institution**

MINISTER:

Let us together proclaim the hope of the Church:

**UNISON:**

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ shall come again!**

MINISTER:

I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper, he took the cup saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## **Holy Communion**

### **Communion**

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper is a holy ordinance, wherein Christ and his gospel are represented and applied to His people. Though the bread and wine are not literally the body and blood of Jesus, this meal is far more than a sentimental reminder. It is spiritual nourishment to our souls and a means of growth in His grace. Communion is the family meal of Christians, and all followers of Jesus who are in good standing with His Church are invited to partake.



## Hymn of Response *What Child is This?* #213

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.

### Benediction

The minister raises His hands and pronounces God's benediction over the congregation, sending them forth with assurance from on high. Stretch forth your hands and open wide your hearts to receive the abundant blessings that are yours in Christ Jesus!

### Prayer

Prayer is available after the service to any in need. The Elder on Call will be waiting by the communion table to pray with you.

### Prayer Chain

Kathryn Lyon  
[KRL40502@aol.com](mailto:KRL40502@aol.com)

Janet Whitley  
[JJWhitley@twc.com](mailto:JJWhitley@twc.com)

### Benediction

MINISTER:  
Go love your God;

PEOPLE:  
Go love your neighbor.

### Postlude *In Dulci Jubilo* (J S Bach)



### Today's Musicians

---

Jane Ritter, organ  
Deb Endean, piano

# Weekly Information

---

**12/15 Attendance:** 904

Sunday School: N/A

**Deacons on Duty:**

Bobby Pepiot, Seth Ralston,  
and Russ Smith

**Elder on Call:**

Ron Whitley

**Giving Report:** For more info, visit [tcpca.org/give](http://tcpca.org/give)

November Actual Giving: \$159,184

November Giving Goal: \$156,417

**Difference: +\$3,434**

YTD Actual Giving (Oct-Nov): \$327,193

YTD Actual Expenses (Oct-Nov): \$352,417

**Difference: -\$25,224**

## Calendar

---

### Sunday, December 22

9:00 am, Worship of the Living God

11:15 am, Worship of the Living God

2:00 pm, Lafayette Place Seniors Worship

### Tuesday, December 24

TCPC Office Closed

5:00 pm, Christmas Eve Service

### Sunday, December 29

9:00 am, Worship of the Living God

11:15 am, Worship of the Living God

2:00 pm, Lafayette Place Seniors Worship

### Future Events

January 12, Senior Ministry Luncheon

January 19, Congregational Meeting

February 13-16, Good of the Bluegrass Conference

## Year-End Giving Information

---

### Year-End Gifts

If you are praying about making a year-end gift, please consider giving to what the Lord is doing in and through the movement of TCPC. All 2019 gifts have to be postmarked or given online **by 11:59 pm on December 31st**. All contributions received after then will count towards your 2020 giving.

**If you are mailing a check**, please make the check out to TCPC and send it to:

Tates Creek Presbyterian Church

3900 Rapid Run Drive Lexington KY 40515

**For online giving**, go to [tcpca.org/give](http://tcpca.org/give)

**If you are making a stock donation**, please make sure you give enough time for the transaction to process before December 31st. For more information about this please visit [tcpca.org/give](http://tcpca.org/give) or send an email to Bobby Pepiot at [bpepiot@tcpca.org](mailto:bpepiot@tcpca.org).

### Reviewing Your 2019 Giving

Confirm the accuracy of your statement by logging in to TouchPoint at [tcpca.tpsdb.com](http://tcpca.tpsdb.com). For more information about TouchPoint, visit [tcpca.org/touchpoint](http://tcpca.org/touchpoint)

# Announcements

---

## **TCPC Office Holiday Hours**

The TCPC Office will be closed December 23-25, December 31, and January 1.

## **No Sunday School and Children's Gospel Storytime**

There will be no Sunday School and Children's Gospel Storytime through the end of the year. Sunday School and Children's Gospel Storytime will resume January 5.

## **Christmas Eve Service**

Join us at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, December 24 for our Christmas Eve service. There will be a special missions offering during this service. No nursery or childcare will be available during this service.

## **Fifth Sunday Fellowship - December 29**

On Sunday, December 29, TCPC will host our Fifth Sunday Fellowship event from 5:00-7:00 PM in the Gym. We will have inflatables and Raising Cane's chicken fingers and salad for all. Feel free to bring any leftover Christmas desserts to share with all!

## **Congregational Meeting on January 19**

There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, January 19 during the Sunday School hour.

## **Good of the Bluegrass Conference**

We are excited to announce that we are two months away from the Good of the Bluegrass Conference! The conference will take place February 13-16, 2020, and we are honored to be joined by this year's speaker, Dr. Dan Doriani, professor of theology and ethics at Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. Mark your calendars - registration to come soon!

## **LeeAnn Raleigh and the Nursery Director Position**

TCPC would like to celebrate the faithful service of LeeAnn Raleigh as our Nursery Director. For the past two years, LeeAnn has dedicated countless hours to the spiritual growth of our children, and she will be transitioning out of this role soon. We would love for you to be in prayer as we begin the search for our next director. If you have questions, please contact Will Witherington at [wwitherington@tcpca.org](mailto:wwitherington@tcpca.org)

## **TCPC Basketball League**

The TCPC Men's Basketball League is now open for registration! The first day of the season will begin January 12th, and the tournament will be on March 28th and 29th. Sign up at [tcpca.org/basketball](http://tcpca.org/basketball). If you have any questions, please contact Nate Jones at [njones@tcpca.org](mailto:njones@tcpca.org).

## **Christmas Eve Community Choir**

Christmas Eve is this week, and anyone is welcome to join the choir for a simple piece which we will prepare at 4:30 pm in the basement choir room. The choir helps lead singing and reading for this service and holds candles for the annual singing of "Silent Night." Email [csteyn@tcpca.org](mailto:csteyn@tcpca.org) with any questions.

## **Senior Ministry Luncheon on January 12**

Save the date! The next Senior Ministry luncheon will be held right after the second service on January 12, 2020. All ages are invited for a delicious catered meal and great fellowship! More information to follow.

## **Sound System Ministry Volunteer Needed**

Do you have an interest in serving by running the sound system for the worship services? Please call or email David Hamrin at 859-806-4900 or [drhamrin@yahoo.com](mailto:drhamrin@yahoo.com)

---

# Tates Creek Presbyterian Church

**Phone:** 859-272-4399 **Email:** [contact@tcpca.org](mailto:contact@tcpca.org)

Learn more about our church online at [tcpca.org](http://tcpca.org)