

# *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.

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**If this is your first time visiting**, please fill out a **Visitor's Card**, we would love to meet you and help you get connected. Please visit **[tcpca.org/visitor](https://tcpca.org/visitor)** or scan the QR code to the left with your smartphone camera.

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## *Preparing Our Hearts for Worship...*

“The Self-revealing of the Word is in every dimension - above, in creation; below, in the Incarnation; in the depth, in Hades; in the breadth, throughout the world. All things have been filled with the knowledge of God.”

**- Athanasius, On the Incarnation**

### **COVER ARTWORK**

*Winter Landscape* by Paul Gauguin

1879; Paris, France

Budapest Museum of Fine Arts, Budapest, Hungary

## 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.

# Order of Worship

November 29, 2020 at 9:00AM and 11:00AM

## REJOICE Declare the praises of God

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### Prelude

### Call to Worship (from Psalm 9:1–2)

LEADER: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

**PEOPLE: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;**

LEADER: And the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called:

**UNISON: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

### Hymn of Rejoicing *Good Christian Men Rejoice* (Music on Page 10)

Text: Latin Carol, Tr. John Neale  
Music: In Dulci Jubilo  
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### Welcome & Announcements

### Membership Vows

11:00 - Zack & Jessica Francisco

### Baptism

9:00 - Wilz Valentine Kent, son of David & Monica Kent

### Declaration to Our Covenant Children from the Church of Scotland

**UNISON: For you Jesus Christ came into the world. For you He lived and showed God’s love. For you He suffered the darkness of Calvary. For you He triumphed over death and rose to new life. For you He reigns at God’s right hand. All this He did for you, Wilz, though you do not know it yet.**

## Scripture Reading 1 John 4:7-12

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us.

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LEADER: The Word of the Lord.      **PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.**

## Confession of God's People

**UNISON: Lord Christ, we confess our willingness to be loved but also our reluctance to love. We confess our readiness to accept Your forgiving love but also our refusal to forgive. We confess our eagerness to grasp Your offer of redeeming love but also our resistance to follow You without question. In this Advent season, forgive us our failure to respond as we should. Come to us anew, and by Your grace, assist us to receive You with joy, as the shepherds; with gratitude, as Simeon; with obedience, as Mary; with love, as You have loved us. Even so: come, Lord Jesus.**

- Silent Prayers of Confession -

## Repentance of God's People

LEADER: Has Christ come?

**PEOPLE: He has.**

LEADER: Will He return?

**PEOPLE He will.**

LEADER: Is your trust in Him alone?

**PEOPLE: It is.**

## Assurance of God's Pardon from John 3

LEADER: 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.

## **Hymn of Renewal** *O Come O Come Emmanuel*

Text: Latin Carol, Tr. John Neale

Music: Veni Emmanuel

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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, O come, Thou Lord of might,  
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height,  
In ancient times didst give the law  
In cloud and majesty and awe.  
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 vic'try o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Dayspring from on high  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

## Confession of Faith from the Belgic Confession on the Incarnation

LEADER:

Let us now proclaim our faith with the saints of the ages,

**UNISON:**

**We profess that God fulfilled the promise  
that He had made to the early fathers  
by the mouth of His holy prophets  
when He sent His only and eternal Son into the world  
at the time set by Him.**

**The Son took the “form of a servant”  
and was made in the “likeness of man,”  
truly assuming a real human nature,  
with all its weaknesses, except for sin;  
being conceived in the virgin Mary  
by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

**And He not only assumed human nature  
as far as the body is concerned  
but also a real human soul,**

**in order that He might be a real human being.**

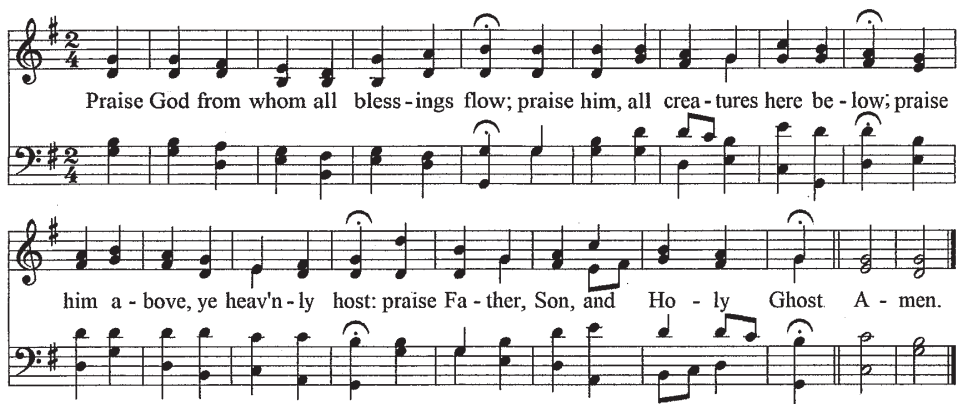
**For since the soul had been lost as well as the body,**

**He had to assume them both to save them both together.**

**In this way He is truly our Immanuel—**

**that is: “God with us.”**

## Doxology



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low; praise  
him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost A-men.

## Offertory Prayer

### 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.

### 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.

## Offertory Solo *Advent Hymn*

Christy Nockels

© 2016 Sweater Weather Music

Christ whose glory fills the skies, Christ the everlasting light  
Son of righteousness arise and triumph o'er these chains of mine

Come thou long awaited One in the fullness of Your love  
And loose this heart bound up by shame, and I will never be the same

So here I've waited hope of You, all my soul's longing through and through  
Dayspring from on high be near, and Daystar in my heart appear

Dark and cheerless is the morn until Your love in me is born  
And joyless is the evening song until Emmanuel has come

## Scripture Reading Psalm 138

- 1 I give You thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing Your praise;
- 2 I bow down toward Your holy temple  
and give thanks to Your name for Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness,  
for You have exalted above all things  
Your name and Your word.
- 3 On the day I called, You answered me;  
my strength of soul You increased.
- 4 All the kings of the earth shall give You thanks, O LORD,  
for they have heard the words of Your mouth,
- 5 and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD,  
for great is the glory of the LORD.
- 6 For though the LORD is high, He regards the lowly,  
but the haughty He knows from afar.
- 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
You preserve my life;  
You stretch out Your hand against the wrath of my enemies,  
and Your right hand delivers me.
- 8 The LORD will fulfill His purpose for me;  
Your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work of Your hands.

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All men are like grass, their glory like flowers of the field. The grass withers  
and the flowers fall, **but the Word of the Lord stands forever.**

**Sermon** McClellan Holt, Youth Ministry Director

**“The Discipline of Thanks: A Practice for Exiles”**

## Sermon

The preaching of God's Word in the context of holy worship is the primary means of God's voice to His people. Our trust is not in the ability of the preacher, but in the promise that God, by His Spirit working in and through His word, is speaking to us in exceptional ways. Therefore, we open our minds and hearts to the uniquely formative power of ordained preaching.

# SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

## PLEASE NOTE:

Communion elements were passed out as you entered the Sanctuary. If you did not receive elements, please raise your hand and they will be brought to you. A gluten-free option is available as well.

## 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

## Hymn of Response *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*

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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.**

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)**

"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)**

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)**

## Benediction

MINISTER: Go love your God;

**PEOPLE: Go love your neighbor.**

## 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.

## 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 Chain

If you would like to share prayer requests with our church prayer chain, we would love to pray for you. Please feel free to send an email to:

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

Janet Whitley  
[janetjwhitley@gmail.com](mailto:janetjwhitley@gmail.com)



# Announcements

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## **Additional COVID Measures for Worship**

The session has decided to implement stricter measures in corporate worship to slow the spread of COVID. Our attendance capacity will be limited to 150 per service. Including overflow rooms, this number is roughly 10% of our total space capacity, providing more than enough room to spread out attendance beyond the recommended social distance. Additionally, we are requiring masks to be worn throughout the entirety of the service and are not permitting congregating in the parking lot before or after. These restrictions will be in place through the December 13 worship service, and may continue past December 13 if health experts believe it is prudent.

## **Please excuse our mess!**

We have an exciting announcement to make about some changes coming soon to the office space and Narthex. During a time when it can be difficult to find the silver lining, we have one that we would like to communicate.

With the ministries of TCPC continuing to grow, we are making some layout changes to our office area and Lower Level. This includes:

- Relocating the Campus Outreach office to TCPC
- Updating the office area upstairs to accommodate our growing team
- A new Welcome Center in the Narthex.

All of these changes will better serve the ministry and members of TCPC. We are thankful for the Lord providing the resources for this project, and also for the providence in being able to take advantage of reduced ministry activity during this time due to COVID.

The project will begin Monday, November 30, 2020. This will not impact our Sunday morning services. In the meantime, the front office will be relocated to the Parlor.

## **Volunteers Needed for Worship AV**

As our need for different means of worship has grown, so too has our need for volunteers grown to help make these live-streams happen. We would love for anyone who is interested in serving the church to email Stephen Lynerd about joining our AV Volunteer rotation. No experience needed! We are happy to train anyone who is eager to learn. You can email Stephen at [slynerd@tcpca.org](mailto:slynerd@tcpca.org).

## **Communion At Home**

With the challenge of in-person attendance at Sunday worship service comes the inability to offer communion to those who are unable to attend. If you are unable to attend, because of risk factors related to Covid, our pastoral staff are happy to visit you at your home and offer the elements during the week at a time that is convenient for you. Please email Mark Randle ([mrandle@tcpca.org](mailto:mrandle@tcpca.org)) or call the office (859-272-4399) if you would like to receive communion at your home.

## **Trinity Job Openings for Substitute Teachers**

Trinity Christian Academy is looking for substitute teachers! Applicants can contact Melissa Feaster for more information ([mfeaster@trinitylex.org](mailto:mfeaster@trinitylex.org)).

# Good Christian Men Rejoice

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Text: Latin Carol, Tr. John Neale

Music: In Dulci Jubilo

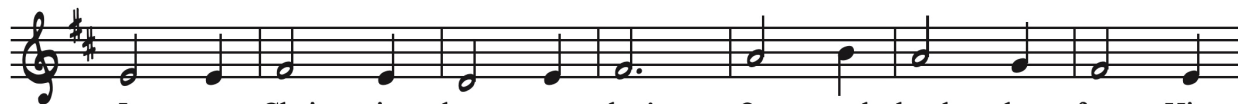
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1. Good Chris - tian men re - joice, \_\_\_\_\_ with heart and  
2. Good Chris - tian men re - joice, \_\_\_\_\_ with heart and  
3. Good Chris - tian men re - joice, \_\_\_\_\_ with heart and



soul and voice! \_\_\_\_\_ Give ye heed to what we say!  
soul and voice! \_\_\_\_\_ Now ye hear of end - less bliss:  
soul and voice! \_\_\_\_\_ Now you need not fear the grave,



Je - sus Christ is born to - day! Ox and lamb be - fore Him  
Je - sus Christ was born for this! He has op - ened heav - en's  
Je - sus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you



now and He is in the man - ger now. Christ is born to -  
door, and man is blessed for - ev - er - more. Christ was born for  
all to gain His ev - er - last - ing hall, Christ was born to



day! \_\_\_\_\_ Christ is born to - day!  
this! \_\_\_\_\_ Christ was born for this!  
save! \_\_\_\_\_ Christ was born to save!



# 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)