



# *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**, 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.

---

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

“The virgin birth has never been a major stumbling block in my struggle with Christianity; it’s far less mind-boggling than the Power of all Creation stooping so low as to become one of us.”

**- Madeleine L’Engle, *A Stone for a Pillow***

### **COVER ARTWORK**

*Mary and Eve* by Sister Grace Remington, OCSO, from Sisters of the Mississippi Abbey in Dubuque, Iowa

## 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

December 6, 2020 at 9:00AM and 11:00AM

**REJOICE** Declare the praises of God

---

## Prelude

### Call to Worship

LEADER: A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

**PEOPLE: Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;**

LEADER: The uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places plain.

**PEOPLE: And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
and all flesh shall see it together,**

**ALL: For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”**

### Hymn of Rejoicing *Angels From The Realms Of Glory* (Music on Page 10)

James Montgomery | Henry T. Smart ©Public Domain

## Welcome & Announcements



## Scripture Reading Genesis 3:1-15

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die." But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,  
cursed are you above all livestock  
and above all beasts of the field;  
on your belly you shall go,  
and dust you shall eat  
all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and her offspring;  
He shall bruise your head,  
and you shall bruise his heel."

---

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.**

## 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.

## Confession of God's People

**UNISON: O promised Christ, with eager hearts we await Your advent.**

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

**PEOPLE: Come, Lord Jesus, our hope depends upon Your advent.**

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

**PEOPLE: Come, Lord Jesus, our joy depends upon Your advent.**

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

**PEOPLE: Come, Lord Jesus, our love depends upon Your advent.**

LEADER: 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

LEADER: Do you turn from the vanity of your own strength?

**PEOPLE: We do.**

LEADER: Do you return to the surety of God's strength?

**PEOPLE We do.**

## Assurance of God's Pardon from Galatians 4

LEADER: When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

## Hymn of Renewal *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* (Music on Page 11)

Polish Carol Tr. Edith M. G. Reed ©Public Domain

## Confession of Faith

 The Apostles Creed

**UNISON: I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried: He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic<sup>†</sup> Church; the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

<sup>†</sup> Worldwide communion of faith, past, present, and future.

## 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

### Offertory

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

arr. Mitchell Eithun  
Handbell Choir

## 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.

## Scripture Reading Matthew 1:18-21. Revelation 12:1-6

**18** Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. **19** And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. **20** But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. **21** She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”

---

**1** And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. **2** She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. **3** And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. **4** His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. **5** She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to His throne, **6** and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days.

---

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

### 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.

**Sermon** Rev. Robert Cunningham, Senior Minister  
**“Long Expected Retribution”**

# 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 *What Child Is This*

Tune: GREENSLEAVES Words: William Chatterton Dix ©Public Domain

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.

So bring Him insense, gold and myrrh, come peasant, King, to own Him.  
The King of kings, salvation brings, let loving arms enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise a song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.  
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the Son of Mary.

Nails, spears shall pierce Him through, the cross He bore for me, for you.  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the Son of Mary.

## Benediction

MINISTER: Go love your God;

**PEOPLE: Go love your neighbor.**



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

October Giving: \$158,111

October Goal: \$203,500

**8 Difference: -\$45,389**

*\*This is the first month of the new fiscal year.*

## 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)



## Mercy Fund Giving

If you would like to give towards the Mercy Ministry at TCPC, please send a text to **859-287-1144** with the message “**Give**”

## Announcements

---

### Please excuse our mess!

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, and a new Welcome Center in the Narthex. 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. In the meantime, the front office will be relocated to the Parlor.

### Your 2020 Giving Statement for Tax-Filing Purposes

All giving statements will be accessible through TouchPoint, our online giving platform, and right now is a great time to log into TouchPoint and make sure we have all the latest contact info for you and your family. You can also see your giving history to ensure that all of your 2020 gifts were recorded accurately. Visit [tcpca.tpsdb.com](https://tcpca.tpsdb.com) to log in and view your account.

### Year-End Giving Information

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 2020 gifts need to be postmarked or given online by 11:59 pm on December 31st. All contributions received after December 31st will count towards your 2021 giving.

If you are mailing a check, please make the check out to “TCPC” and mail it to:  
3900 Rapid Run Drive  
Lexington, KY 40515

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

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

### Volunteers Needed for Worship AV

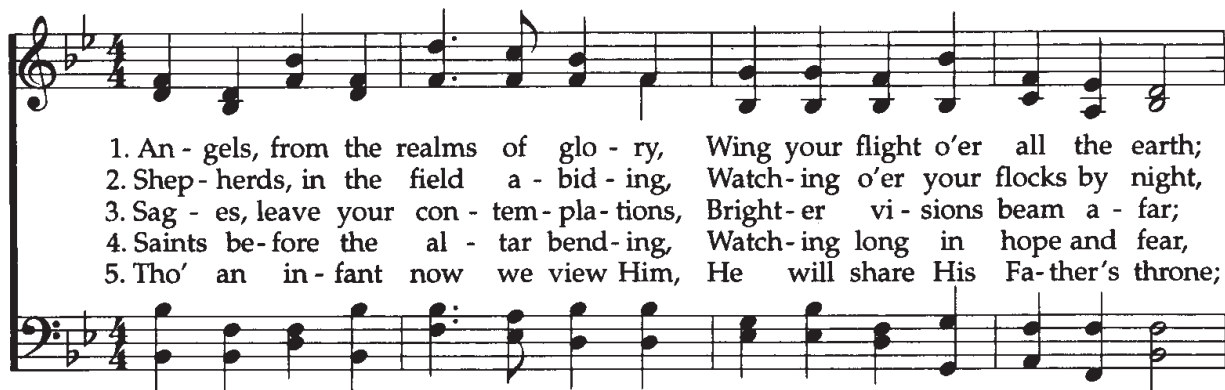
As our need for different means of worship has grown, so too has our need for volunteers grown to help make these live-streams happen. We would love for anyone who is interested in serving the church to email Stephen Lynerd about joining our AV Volunteer rotation. No experience needed! We are happy to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

### Communion At Home

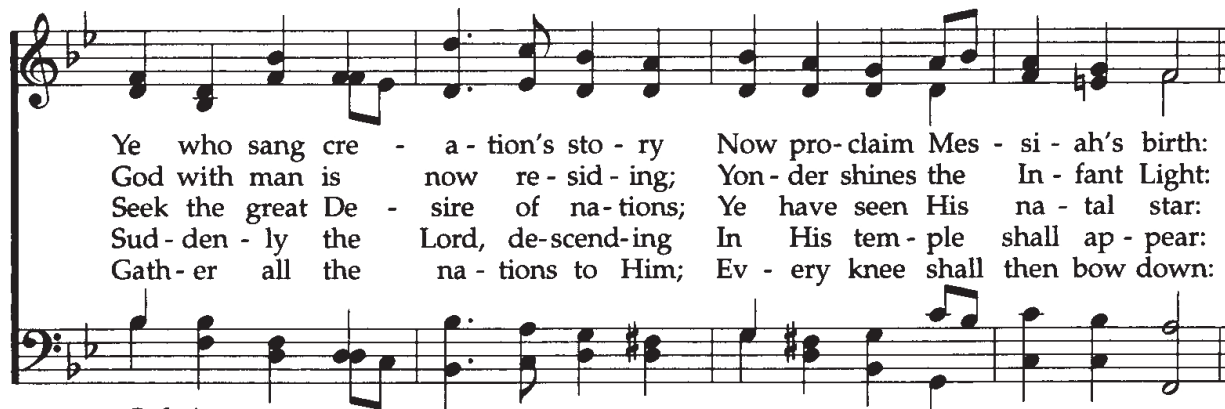
With the challenge of in-person attendance at Sunday worship service comes the inability to offer communion to those who are unable to attend. If you are unable to attend, because of risk factors related to Covid, our pastoral staff are happy to visit you at your home and offer the elements during the 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.

# Angels From The Realms Of Glory

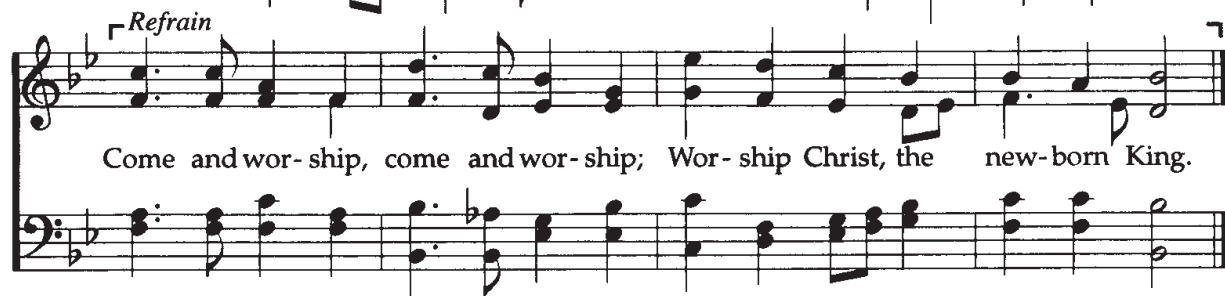
James Montgomery | Henry T. Smart  
©Public Domain



1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
2. Shep - herds, in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
3. Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in hope and fear,  
5. Tho' an in - fant now we view Him, He will share His Fa - ther's throne;



Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with man is now re - sid - ing; Yon - der shines the In - fant Light:  
Seek the great De - sire of na - tions; Ye have seen His na - tal star:  
Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing In His tem - ple shall ap - pear:  
Gath - er all the na - tions to Him; Ev - ery knee shall then bow down:



*Refrain*  
Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship; Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

# Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Polish Carol Tr. Edith M. G. Reed

©Public Domain



1. In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for His  
2. Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il  
3. In a man - ger He is ly - ing; who will



3 bed a cat - tle stall. Ox - en low - ing, lit - tle  
till the morn - ing new. Saw the glo - ry, heard the  
greet Him as He sleeps? Ba - by Je - sus, in - fant



6 know - ing Christ, the babe is Lord of  
sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel  
Christ child; who will greet Him as He



8 all. Swift are wing - ing an - gels sing - ing, No - els  
true. Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es  
sleeps? An - gels wing - ing, prais - es sing - ing, No - els



11 ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing. Christ, the Babe is Lord of  
voic - ing, greet the mo - rrow. Christ, the Babe was born for  
ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing. Christ, the Babe is Lord of



14 all! Christ, the Babe is Lord of all!  
you! Christ, the Babe was born for you!  
all! Christ, the Babe is Lord of all!

# 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)