

3 Behold, I am bringing
shall bring forth a son
name Em-man'-u-el
is, God with us.
24 Then Jo'-seph



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 or scan the QR code to the left with your smartphone camera.

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship...

“The incarnation did not happen merely to let us know that God exists. It happened to bring Him near, so He can be with us and we with Him. Millions of people every Christmas sing, “Jesus, our Immanuel,” but are they really with Him? Do they know Him or do they only know about Him? Jesus literally moved heaven and earth to get near us— what should we be doing now to truly be with Him?”

- Tim Keller

COVER ARTWORK

Emmanuel

Photo by Ben White

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 12, 2021 at 9:00AM and 11:15AM

REJOICE Declare the praises of God

Call to Worship

LEADER: We come from a world of darkness

PEOPLE: Into Christ’s world of light.

LEADER: We come from a world of weariness

PEOPLE: Into God’s strength and hope.

LEADER: We come from a slumbering world.

PEOPLE: Strengthened by the Spirit, we come to awaken our souls and watch for the coming of Christ.

Hymn of Rejoicing *Once In Royal David’s City*

Text: C.F. Alexander

Music: H.J. Gauntlett

Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed
Mary was that mother mild Jesus Christ her little Child

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all
And His shelter was a stable and His cradle was a stall
With the poor and meek and lowly lived on earth our Saviour holy

For He is our childhood’s pattern day by day like us He grew
He was little weak and helpless tears and smiles like us He knew
And He feeleth for our sadness and He shareth in our gladness
And our eyes at last shall see Him through His own redeeming love
For that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above
And He leads His children on to the place where He has gone

Welcome & Announcements

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

9:00 - Baptism of Brycent and Audrey Fuad, children of Chelcent & Devina

11:15 - Baptism of Samuel McClellan Holt, son of Mac & Jessica

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, Byrcent and Audrey / Samuel, though you do not know it yet.

Choir Anthem *A Spiritual Christmas*

Arr. Tom Fettke
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I'm gonna sing for a Baby is born. I'm gonna sing for a Baby is born. Hallelujah! Gonna sing for a Baby is born in the poor little town of Bethlehem. I'm gonna shout for a Baby is born. I'm gonna shout for a Baby is born. Hallelujah! Gonna shout for a Baby is born in the poor little town of Bethlehem. Tell me who do you call Wonderful Counselor? Oh, glory hallelujah! Glory hallelujah to the newborn King! Well, I call Jesus the Wonderful Counselor. Oh, glory hallelujah! Glory hallelujah to the newborn King! Wasn't that a mighty day when Jesus Christ was born? Angels shouted glory to God when Jesus Christ was born. I'm gonna sing for a Baby is born. I'm gonna sing for a Baby is born. Hallelujah! Gonna sing for a Baby is born in the poor little town of Bethlehem. I'm gonna shout for a Baby is born. I'm gonna shout for a Baby is born. Hallelujah! Gonna shout for a Baby is born in the poor little town of Bethlehem. Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born. Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and brought to us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

RENEW Receive the grace of God

Scripture Reading Matthew 1:20-23

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. She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call His name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us).

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

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:

We confess, Gracious God, that we have not always turned to You for guidance. At times, we have allowed the world's time to dominate Your time. Forgive us for our sins of hurriedness and impatience. Forgive us when we have slumbered instead of remaining alert, waiting and watching for You. Forgive us for allowing the world's fears to become our fears. Shine upon us this Advent season so that we may be restored unto You. Guide us into Your time. As we call upon Your name, hear our prayers and give us life. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

- Silent Prayers of Confession -

Repentance of God's People

LEADER: Do you turn from the vanity of your fears?

PEOPLE: We do.

LEADER: Do you return to the surety of your God?

PEOPLE: We do.

Assurance of God's Pardon

 Based on 1 Thess. 3:12-13

LEADER: And now may our God make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all. Christ promises to strengthen our hearts in holiness that we may be blameless before our God and creator at the coming of the Lord. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia!

Hymn of Renewal

Joy Has Dawned **(Sheet Music on Page 11)**

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend

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**Joy has dawned upon the world
Promised from creation
God's salvation now unfurled
Hope for ev'ry nation
Not with fanfares from above
Not with scenes of glory
But a humble gift of love
Jesus born of Mary**

**Sounds of wonder fill the sky
With the songs of angels
As the mighty Prince of Life
Shelters in a stable**

(continue on next page)

Hands that set each star in place
Shaped the earth in darkness
Rest within a mother's arms
Vulnerable and helpless

Shepherds bow before the Lamb
Gazing at the glory
Gifts of men from distant lands
Prophecy the story
Gold a King is born today
Incense God is with us
Myrrh His death will make a way
By His blood He'll win us

Son of Adam Son of heaven
Given as a ransom
Reconciling God and man
Christ our mighty Champion
What a Savior what a Friend
What a glorious mystery
Once a babe in Bethlehem
Now the Lord of history

RESPOND Embrace the call of God

Confession of Faith Heidelberg Catechism Question 1

LEADER: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

UNISON: That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to Him, Christ, by His Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Amen.

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 *Jesus King Of Angels*

Fernando Ortega
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Jesus King of angels Heaven's light
Shine Your face upon this house tonight
Let no evil come into my dreams
Light of Heaven keep me in Your peace

Remind me how You made dark spirits flee
And spoke Your power to the raging sea
And spoke Your mercy to a sinful man
Remind me Jesus for this is what I am

*The universe is vast beyond the stars
But You are mindful when a sparrow falls
And mindful of the anxious thoughts
That find me surround me and bind me*

With all my heart I love You Sov'reign Lord
Tomorrow let me love You even more
And rise to speak the goodness of Your name
Until I close my eyes in sleep again

Jesus King of angels Heaven's light
Hold my hand and keep me through the night

GOSPEL STORYTIME

At this time, children ages 4 - Kindergarten may be dismissed to Room 103 for prayer, singing, and a lesson from the Gospel Story Bible. They will return to the Sanctuary at the end of the sermon to be with their families during Communion.

Scripture Reading Isaiah 7:13-14

13And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? **14**Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

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 Rev. Robert Cunningham

"With Us"

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:

You will be released from your pew to come forward and receive the communion elements, and we will take the elements together once everyone has been served.

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 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Charles Wesley | Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

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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 hosts 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

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.

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

Janet Whitley
janetjwhitley@gmail.com

Announcements

Millcreek Christmas Store on December 18th

On December 18th, Millcreek Elementary is holding a Christmas Store for their students, and we would love for you to consider sponsoring one of the 30 students that we are helping this year with Christmas gifts (buying each child one piece of clothing and one fun item, at \$25 to \$30 each). You can also volunteer your time at the Christmas Store on Saturday, December 18th. To sponsor a child, or sign up to volunteer, please email Luke Rakestraw at lrakestraw@tcpca.org.

Sunday School Schedule for December & January

Here is the schedule for Sunday School for the next two months:

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

December 12: Bridge Class & Vine Class Combined Fellowship Brunch

December 19: No Sunday School

December 26: No Sunday School

January 2: No Sunday School

January 9: Celebration of the Ordination of Chelcent Fuad

January 16: Congregational Meeting

January 23: Regular Sunday School classes resume

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

December 12: Regular Sunday School classes

December 19: No Sunday School

December 26: No Sunday School

January 2: No Sunday School

January 9: Regular Sunday School classes

January 16: Regular Sunday School classes

January 23: Regular Sunday School classes

Christmas Eve Service

We are excited to share some details with you about this year's Christmas Eve service! It will take place on December 24th at 5:00 PM in the TCPC Sanctuary (with overflow seating in the Fellowship Hall and Lower Level). A wide selection of Christmas music will be sung together and performed by a host of instrumentalists, singers, and our amazing choir. We would love for you to invite your family and friends to this wonderful night!

(continue on next page)

Announcements *(continued)*

Giving Report: For more information, visit tcpca.org/give.

November Giving:	\$171,985	Total FY Giving (Oct-Nov):	\$372,255
November Goal:	\$195,523	Giving Goal (Oct-Nov):	\$397,218
Difference:	-\$23,538	Difference:	-\$24,963

December Goal: \$423,035 (see below)

Year-End Giving Information

As we approach the end of the calendar year, the finance committee would like to communicate some important details about year-end giving. December is historically our largest month of giving, and this year, our goal for the month is \$423,035. Please join us in prayer towards this goal.

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 2021 gifts need to be postmarked or given online by 11:59 pm on December 31st in order to be counted towards your 2021 giving.

If you are mailing a check, please make the check out to “TCPC” and mail it to:

Tates Creek Presbyterian Church
3900 Rapid Run Drive
Lexington, KY 40515

For online giving, please go to tcpca.org/give or scan this QR code:



If you would like to make a stock donation, please allow enough time for the transaction to process before December 31st. For more information about stock giving, please visit tcpca.org/give or send an email to Bobby Pepiot at bpepiot@tcpca.org.

Finally, this is a perfect time to log in to TouchPoint and review your 2021 giving history. This will help us prepare year-end statements and identify any concerns. To see your giving history:

1. Log in to TouchPoint at tcpca.org/login
2. The first thing you should see is your profile. Click on the “Giving” tab.
3. You should see a summary of your giving under “Giving Summary” as well as a list of individual gifts under “Giving Detail.” If you see anything that does not match your records please email Bobby Pepiot at bpepiot@tcpca.org.

Joy Has Dawned

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend

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1. Joy has dawned up - on the world, pro - mised from cre - a - tion:
2. Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of an - gels;
3. Shep - herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the glo - ry;
4. Son of Ad - am, Son of heav'n, giv - en as a ran - som,



God's sal - va - tion now un - furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.
As the might - y Prince of Life shel - ters in a sta - ble.
Gifts of men from dis - tant lands proph - e - sy the sto - ry.
rec - on cil - ing God and man, Christ our might - y Cham - pion!



Not with fan - fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry,
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in dark - ness.
Gold, a King is born to - day; In - cense, God is with us;
What a Sav - ior, what a Friend, what a glo - rious mys - 'try:



but a hum - ble gift of love: Je - sus born of Ma - ry.
rest with - in a moth er's arms vul - n'ra - ble and help - less.
Myrrh, His death will make a way, by His blood He'll win - us.
Once a babe in Beth - le - hem, now the Lord of his - 'try.

Tates Creek Presbyterian Church

Phone: 859-272-4399 **Email:** contact@tcpca.org

Learn more about our church online at tcpca.org