



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...

“Isaac Watts wrote the last stanza of “Joy To The World” in anticipation of Christ’s future reign, a time when Jesus will indeed rule directly in this world. The curse of sin will be broken; gone will be war, plagues and natural disasters. He will not be an elected ruler, but He will reign by virtue of who He is; “King of kings and Lord of lords.” Today He brings peace to individuals, but the day is coming when He will bring peace to the nations.”

- Dr. Erwin Lutzer

COVER ARTWORK

The Effect of Snow, Sunset, Eragny

Camille Pissarro, 1895

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 19, 2021 at 9:00AM and 11:15AM

REJOICE Declare the praises of God

Call to Worship

LEADER: In this season of prophecy, promise, and preparation, we come to be renewed and refreshed.

PEOPLE: We come to be inspired by stories of a messiah who will change the world—and change us.

LEADER: We come to listen for words of hope and joy, promise and challenge.

PEOPLE: We come with open ears, open minds, and open hearts. We come to receive the blessings God has in store for us in this season of waiting.

UNISON: Come! Let us worship our God— the One who brings all things to fulfillment.

Hymn of Rejoicing *O Come All Ye Faithful*

C. Frederick Oakeley | John Francis Wade
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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 heaven above
Glory to God, in the highest (**REFRAIN**)

Yea Lord we greet Thee born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be all glory given
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing (**REFRAIN**)

Welcome & Announcements

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

11:15 - Baptism of Samuel McClellan Holt, son of McClellan & 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, Samuel, though you do not know it yet.

Choir Anthem *O Come, Emmanuel*

Text: Latin, translated John Neale (v. 1 and 2)

Henry Coffin, v.3

Music: Elaine Hagenberg

O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. O come, thou Dayspring come and cheer our spirits by Thine Advent here, and drive away the shades of night, and pierce the clouds and bring us light! Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel. O come Desire of nations bind all people in one heart and mind; Bid envy strife and quarrels cease, and fill the world with Heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

RENEW Receive the grace of God

Scripture Reading Luke 1:26-33

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

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:

O God, the stories of our faith have lost their power. We have heard the prophecies spoken so many times, the promises retold again and again, the call to prepare ourselves for Your coming repeated so often, we don't really hear or heed them anymore. We have replaced these messages of life: with guessing what presents we are getting, with preparing for parties and the social obligations of Christmas. Bring us back to a sense of mystery: a sense of awe, a sense of wonder, a sense of excitement, a sense of anticipation, a sense that something special is about to break into our everyday world. Help us prepare our hearts, souls, and minds for the coming of the Messiah. Amen.

- Silent Prayers of Confession -

Repentance of God's People

LEADER: Are you broken and sorrowful over your transgressions and sins?

PEOPLE: By grace, we are.

LEADER: Do you return again to the Lord your God, seeking to obey Him alone?

PEOPLE: By grace, we do.

Assurance of God's Pardon From Romans 6

LEADER: Sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Hymn of Renewal *What Child Is This?*

Tune: GREENSLEAVES

Words: William Chatterton Dix

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**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 incense, 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.***

Confession of Faith from Westminster Catechism

LEADER: What is the chief end of man?

PEOPLE: The chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.

LEADER: What is God?

PEOPLE: God is a spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, in His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth.

LEADER: Are there more Gods than one?

PEOPLE: There is but only one, the living and true God.

LEADER: How many persons are there in the Godhead?

PEOPLE: There are three persons in the Godhead; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

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

Hymn of Preparation *I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day* (Music on Page 11)

Henry W. Longfellow | Jean Baptiste Calkin

Chorus inspired by Mark Hall

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**I heard the bells on Christmas day
Their old familiar carols play
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth goodwill to men**

**I thought how as the day had come
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along th'unbroken song
Of peace on earth goodwill to men**

*Peace on Earth, peace on Earth
Peace on Earth, goodwill to men*

**And in despair I bowed my head
There is no peace on earth I said
For hate is strong and mocks the song
Of peace on earth goodwill to men**

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.

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep
God is not dead nor does He sleep
The wrong shall fail the right prevail
With peace on earth goodwill to men

*Peace on Earth, peace on Earth
Peace on Earth, goodwill to men*

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 11:1-9

- 1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
- 2 And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- 3 And His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what His eyes see,
or decide disputes by what His ears hear,
- 4 but with righteousness He shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth,
and with the breath of His lips He shall kill the wicked.
- 5 Righteousness shall be the belt of His waist,
and faithfulness the belt of His loins.

- 6 The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.
- 7 The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- 8 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
- 9 They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

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.**

Musical Reflection

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

Profession of Faith

9:00 - John Seigler

Hymn of Response *Joy To The World*

George Frideric Handel | Isaac Watts
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**Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev’ry heart prepare Him room
And heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n and nature sing
And heav’n and heav’n and nature sing**

**Joy to the earth the Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy**

(continue on next page)

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.

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.

No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found
Far as far as the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love
And wonders wonders of His love

Benediction

MINISTER: Go love your God; **PEOPLE: Go love your neighbor.**



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

Sunday School Schedule for December & January

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

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

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 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)*

Sing with the Choir on Christmas Eve

All are welcome to sing with the choir on Christmas Eve! If you'd like to sign, simply email Chelsea Steyn (csteyn@tcpca.org) to let her know you'll be singing, and then meet in the Choir Room at 4:15 PM on December 24th. Young people are welcome as well!

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:

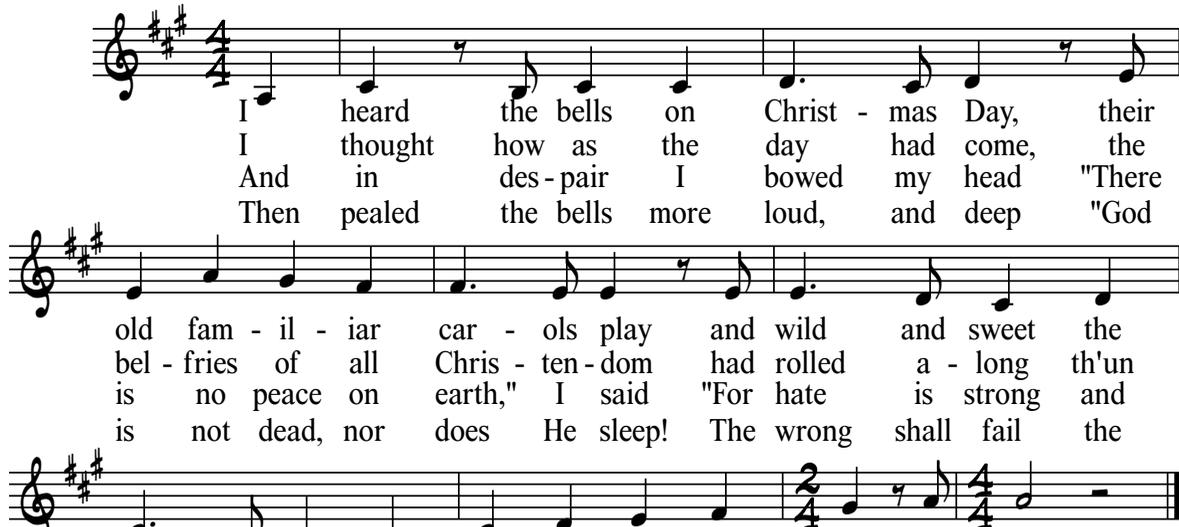
1. Log in to TouchPoint at tcpca.org/login
2. The first thing you should see is your profile. Click on the "Giving" tab.
3. You should see a summary of your giving under "Giving Summary" as well as a list of individual gifts under "Giving Detail." If you see anything that does not match your records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

I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day

Henry W. Longfellow | Jean Baptiste Calkin

Chorus inspired by Mark Hall

©Public Domain



I heard the bells on Christ - mas Day, their
I thought how as the day had come, the
And in des - pair I bowed my head "There
Then pealed the bells more loud, and deep "God
old fam - il - iar car - ols play and wild and sweet the
bel - fies of all Chris - ten - dom had rolled a - long th'un
is no peace on earth," I said "For hate is strong and
is not dead, nor does He sleep! The wrong shall fail the
words re - peat "Peace on the earth, good will to men!"
bro - ken song of peace on earth, good will to men.
mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men."
right pre - vail with peace on earth good will to men!

After Verses 2 and 4



Peace on earth, Peace on earth Peace on earth good will to men!

Tates Creek Presbyterian Church

Phone: 859-272-4399

Email: contact@tcpca.org

Learn more about our church online at tcpca.org