



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 **tc pca.org/visitor** or scan the QR code to the left with your smartphone camera.

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship...

“May swords of hate fall from our hands,
our hearts from envy find release,
till by God's grace our warring world
shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.”

- Carl Daw, “O Day of Peace that Dimly Shines”

COVER ARTWORK

Adoration of the Shepherds by Guido Reni, 1640

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 13, 2020 at 9:00AM and 11:00AM

REJOICE Declare the praises of God

Prelude

Call to Worship

LEADER: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing.

PEOPLE: **The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.**

LEADER: Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart,

ALL: **“Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.”**

Hymn of Rejoicing *Once In Royal David’s City* (Music on Page 10)

Cecil F. Alexander | Henry J. Gauntlett ©Public Domain

Welcome & Announcements

Membership Vows

11:00 - Chelcent Fuad & Devina Filia; David Barron; Daniel & Mary Rouse

Scripture Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

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.
You have multiplied the nation;
You have increased its joy;
they rejoice before You
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
You have broken as on the day of Midian.
For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.
For to us a Child is born,
to us a Son is given;
and the government shall be upon His shoulder,
and His name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of His government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over His kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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 Matthew 11

LEADER: Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Hymn of Renewal *O Little Town Of Bethlehem*

Lewis Henry Redner | Phillips Brooks ©Public Domain

O little town of Bethlehem how still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight

For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above
While mortals sleep the angels keep their watch of wondering love
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King and peace to men on earth

How silently how silently the wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven
No ear may hear His coming but in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive Him still the dear Christ enters in

(continue on next page)

O holy Child of Bethlehem descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in be born in us today
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell
O come to us abide with us our Lord Emmanuel

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 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

Hymn of Preparation *Come Quickly, Lord* (Sheet Music on Page 11)

Sarah Majorins ©2007 Gloria Notes Music

We walk in the shadows of the valley of death.
We weep by the willows as we hunger for bread.
And our silent voices echo through a foreign land.
Waiting for our crying to be dancing once again.

(continue on next page)

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.

REFRAIN

**We will lift up our eyes to the Maker of the heavens,
For He is our help; let the saints all sing together:
“Holy Lord, Holy Lord, Holy Lord, we wait for Your kingdom come!
Come Quickly Lord, Jesus come!
We long for the marriage of the Lamb!”**

And He'll come in brightness so there will be no night.
To build a new city where all wrong will be right.
Come, O Come, Emmanuel and ransom us from sin.
Give us songs of angels, O help us lift our praise. Refrain

Come, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
Come, Lord Je-sus. (Repeat 4X, then **REFRAIN**)

Scripture Reading Luke 2:8-12; Revelation 22:3-5

8And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. **9**And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. **10**And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. **11**For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. **12**And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

3No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His servants will worship Him. **4**They will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. **5**And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

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

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

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 *Angels We Have Heard On High*

Edward Shippen Barnes | James Chadwick ©Public Domain

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains

REFRAIN

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds why this jubilee, why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song? **(REFRAIN)**

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord the newborn King **(REFRAIN)**

See Him in a manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise
Mary Joseph lend your aid while our hearts in love we raise **(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

Janet Whitley
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** 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**

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 or send an email to Bobby Pepiot at bpepiot@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) or call the office (859-272-4399) if you would like to receive communion at your home.

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

November Giving:	\$213,308	Total FY Giving (Oct-Nov):	\$371,419
November Goal:	\$163,917	Total FY Expenses (Oct-Nov):	\$367,417
Difference:	+\$49,391	Difference:	+\$4,002

Once In Royal David's City

Cecil F. Alexander | Henry J. Gauntlett
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1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a low - ly
2. He came down to earth from heav - en Who is God and
3. Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern; Day by day like
4. And our eyes at last shall see Him Thro' His own re -

cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her Ba - by In a
Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a sta - ble, And His
us He grew. He was lit - tle, weak, and help - less; Tears and
deem - ing love; For that Child so dear and gen - tle Is our

man - ger for His bed. Ma - ry was that moth - er
cra - dle was a stall. With the poor, and mean, and
smiles like us He knew. And He feel - eth for our
Lord in heav'n a - bove. And He leads His chil - dren

mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle Child.
low - ly Lived on earth, our Sav - ior ho - ly.
sad - ness, And He shar - eth in our glad - ness.
on To the place where He is gone.

Come Quickly Lord

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1. We walk in the shad-ows of the val-ley of death. We
2. And He'll come in bright-ness so there will be no night. To



weep by the wil-lows as we hung-er for bread.
build a new cit-y where all wrong will be right.



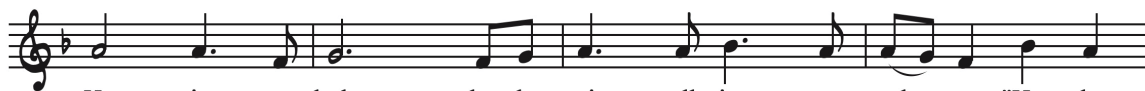
And our si-lent voi-ces ech-o through a for-eign land.
Come, O Come, Em-man-u-el and ran-som us from sin.



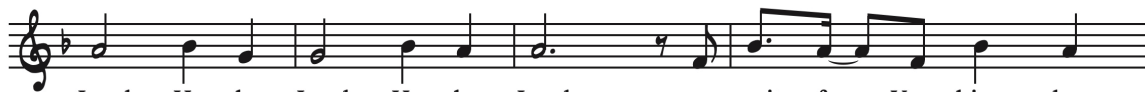
wai-ting for our cry-ing to be danc-ing once a-gain.
Give us songs of an-gels, O help us lift our praise.



We will lift up our eyes to the Mak-er of the heav-ens, for



He is our help; let the saints all sing to-geth-er: "Ho-ly



Lord, Ho-ly Lord, Ho-ly Lord, we wait for Your king-dom



come! Come Quick-ly Lord, Je-sus come! We long for the mar-riage of the Lamb!"



Come, Lord Je-sus, quick-ly come, come, Lord Je-sus.

Tates Creek Presbyterian Church

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

Learn more about our church online at tcpca.org