

Lord's Day Worship

A DIVINE SERVICE OF COVENANT RENEWAL

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 11, 2022

PRELUDE

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Quiet our minds, O God, and gladden our hearts; that, as we come together to worship you, we may draw near to your presence and find that this place is indeed the very gate of heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

GOD CALLS US

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down!

People: That the mountains might quake at your presence.

To make your name known to your adversaries,

And that the nations might quake at your presence!

When you did awesome things that we did not look for,

You came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From of old no one has heard, or perceived by the ear,

No eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him.

Isaiah 64:1-4

†RESPONSE TO GOD'S CALL

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Selection 196

†PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our fellow men, in thought and word and deed. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name.

+Silent Prayer+

All this we ask through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near; your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

†DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Now lift up your heads, and hear these words of comfort and good news from the Scriptures...

"Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."

Psalms 51:7

Our heavenly Father, in his great mercy, has given his only Son to die for you, and for his sake forgives you all your sins; wherefore as Christ's minister and by his authority, I declare to you that all of your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

†*"Doxology"* Selection 733

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below: Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise him above, ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Our joy is in God and in his Son, Jesus Christ. May the joyful promise of your presence, O God, make us rejoice in the hope of our salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel!

Since Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, came as a man in the flesh, and is now present with us by his Spirit, we know that he will certainly come again in glory on the Last Day, that we might be saved through him. We thank God for the hope he gives us in Jesus, and for the joy he bestows upon all who trust and wait for his appearance.

Lighting of the Candle

All: Almighty God, you have made all things to serve you; now prepare the world to receive your rule. Come quickly, Lord Jesus, to end war and oppression, to right all wrongs, to crush the head of Satan, to destroy death itself, to wipe away every tear, to heal every pain, and to make all things new so that your glory will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. Amen!

†HYMN OF PRAISE

"Rejoice, All Ye Believers" Selection 320

GOD CONVERSES WITH US

OLD TESTAMENT READING Daniel 9:1-5, 16-23

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE READING James 5:13-18

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

†GOSPEL READING John 14:5-14

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Praise be to you, O Christ!

†We Respond by Confessing Our Faith *Apostles' Creed*

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, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

†*"Gloria Patri"* Selection 735

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen, Amen.

SERMON TEXT Matthew 7:7-11

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD

"Our Lack of Faith & Jesus' Intercession" Pastor Josh Anderson
III. Advent 2022: Prayer

†PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pr: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;

P: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation...

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life...

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name forever and ever.

We give you thanks for all those who have died in Christ and whose souls are now in your presence as their bodies wait for the resurrection...

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

All these prayers, and even the desires of our hearts that are known only by your Holy Spirit, we offer to you, our Heavenly Father;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

GOD COMMUNES WITH US

†COMMUNION HYMN

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" Selection 203

†The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise!

Pastor: It is indeed right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks unto you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, in union with the saints who have gone before us and the whole church on earth, we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Glory be to you, O Lord Most High!

Prayer of Preparation & Faith

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your steadfast love, which endures forever. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Father, to partake of the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ, that we may grow into his likeness, and evermore abide in union with him, and he with us. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Bread

Pastor: Alleluia, Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:
All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

‡Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Wine

Pastor: Let us confess the mystery of our faith:
**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!**

GOD COMMISSIONS US

†Prayer of Dedication

All gracious God, who of your infinite love gave your only begotten son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins and rise again for our justification, and have made us partakers of your divine nature through the gift of the Holy Spirit; accept the fruits of our labors which we now present to you in this offering and also our very selves as we stand before you; and hear us as we pray as your Son taught us: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen!

†Hymn of Praise

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory" Selection 218

†Pastoral Benediction

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

People: Amen!

†Those who are able are invited to stand.

Matthew 7:7-11

[7] "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. [8] For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. [9] Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? [10] Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? [11] If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!"

"Now what sort of prayer will this be? 'O Lord, I am in doubt whether thou wilt to hear me, but because I am pressed by anxiety, I flee to thee, that, if I am worthy, thou mayest help me.' This is not the way of all the saints whose prayers we read in Scripture. And the Holy Spirit did not so instruct us through the apostle, who enjoins us to "draw near to the heavenly throne... with confidence, that we may receive... grace" (Heb. 4:16); and when he teaches elsewhere that we have boldness and access in confidence through faith in Christ (Eph. 3:12). If we would pray fruitfully, we ought therefore to grasp with both hands this assurance of obtaining what we ask, which the Lord enjoins with his own voice, and all the saints teach by their example. For only that prayer is acceptable to God which is born, if I may so express it, out of such presumption of faith, and is grounded in unshaken assurance of hope."

~John Calvin

"God ordains prayer as a means to change history. There are things that happen because of prayer, and things that do not happen because of no prayer. Now, of course, prayer doesn't change the eternal plan of God. But within that eternal plan are many plans for means and ends. God ordains that crops will grow, but not without water and sun. He ordains that people will be saved, but (ordinarily) not without the teaching of the Word. And he ordains that we will have everything we truly need, but not without prayer."

~John Frame



COLLEYVILLE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Third Sunday
in Advent

December 11, 2022

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