

God with Us

ADVENT 2020



ORDER OF WORSHIP

DECEMBER 13, 2020
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

from Luke 2 & Isaiah 9

Leader: Come, let us worship our God and King!

**People: Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to those
on whom his favor rests!**

Leader: The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the shadow of death
a light has dawned.

People: Jesus Christ is our life and light!

❖ COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

Rowland Hugh Pritchard, Charles Wesley, Mark E. Hunt, Cliff Duren, and Laura Story

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Come to earth to taste our sadness,
He whose glories knew no end;
By his life he brings us gladness,
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Chorus:

*Come now, great Redeemer, come Emmanuel;
Bless the nations with your presence here.
Born our souls to rescue, born to save your very own;
Long expected Jesus, make our hearts your home.*

Him the people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thy own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.
(Chorus 2x)

*Come now, long expected Jesus.
Come now, long expected Jesus.*

❖ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Leader: How did Christ, being the Son of God,
become man?

People: **Christ, the Son of God,
became man by taking to himself a true body,
and a reasonable soul,
being conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
in the womb of the virgin Mary,
and born of her, yet without sin.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Week Three: Bethlehem Candle

Lauren Gaines

Lighting the Advent wreath originated in Germany, based on a Roman custom of the ceremonial entrance of a ruler to a province or city as his 'advent' (from the Latin adventus, meaning 'arrival'). One candle is lit the first Sunday of Advent, two are lit the second Sunday, and so on. Each of the candles has special significance. The final candle, the Christ candle, is lit at Christmas.

Leader: The Advent wreath helps us remember the miracle of God's becoming man for our sake. The wreath is a circle, causing us to remember the eternity of God's love for us and for all humanity. It is decked with green boughs, causing us to remember the newness of life we have in Christ Jesus.

The first candle reminds us of the prophets' hope for God's salvation to come. The second candle reminds us of Jesus' humility in coming to earth and being born in a stall.

People: **The third candle reminds us of the joy of the shepherds as they heard the good news of Jesus' arrival, for: "The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them."**

Leader: So let us stand and sing as we celebrate the coming of God into the world!

❖ WHILE BY THE SHEEP WE WATCHED AT NIGHT

JUNGST, Traditional German carol

While by the sheep we watched at night,
Glad tidings brought an angel bright.

Refrain:

How great our joy! (Great our joy!)

Joy, joy, joy! (Joy, joy, joy!)

Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

(Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!)

There shall be born, so he did say,
In Bethlehem a child today. *(Refrain)*

There shall the child lie in a stall,
This child who shall redeem us all. *(Refrain)*

This gift of God we'll cherish well,
That ever joy our hearts shall fill. *(Refrain)*

PRAYER FOR CHRIST'S CHURCH AND THE WORLD

COME LIGHT OUR HEARTS

Sandra McCracken

*Chorus: For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait.
For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait.
Truly our hope is in you. Truly our hope is in you.*

O Lord of life, our only hope,
Your radiance shines on all who look
To you in the dark, Emmanuel come;
Come light our hearts. (*Chorus*)

Oh joy above all other loves, in you we find more than enough.
We come as we are, O heal and restore.
Come light our hearts. (*Repeat*) (*Chorus*)

Truly our hope is in you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace,
you have given us Jesus, the light of the world,
but we choose darkness,
and cling to things that hide the brightness of your love.
Immersed in ourselves, we cannot see.

Baptize us with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed,
we may declare your Word to the nations
and tell of your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ,
our Lord and our light forever. Amen.

❖ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

John 1:9-12

Leader: The true light that gives light to everyone
was coming into the world.
To all who have received him,
to those who believed in his name,
he gave the right to become children of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

❖ ADVENT HYMN (SONG OF ISAIAH)

Pat Barrett, Graham Kendrick, Aaron Keyes, Chris Moerman, Eric Priest , and Ben Smith

In the darkness of our night
The Lord will come and shine his light,
Give the blind new eyes to see,
Throw off their chains, and set them free.

Chorus:
He will come, our Wond'rous Counselor.
He will come, our Mighty God,
Prince of Peace, our King Eternal.
He will come, our God with us.

When the chosen time arrived
God sent his Son – the Sacrifice.
Born a man, our sins to end,
To die, to rise, and to ascend.

He has come, our Wond'rous Counselor.
He has come, our Mighty God,
Prince of Peace, our King Eternal.
He has come, our God with us.

When the final trumpet sounds
And every foe is then cast down,
Christ, our Lord, will take the throne,
And reign forever with his own. (*Chorus*)

And he shall reign forever and ever. (*4x*) (*Chorus*)

❖ THE PEACE OF GOD

Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: **And also with you!**

THANKSGIVING FOR JOHN AND ANNA ALLISON

THE OFFERING

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 1:1-20

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE SERMON

"God with Us in Loneliness"
God with Us

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion is an opportunity for all of us to seek the Lord. It is an occasion for baptized Christians to be strengthened by our Savior. All who trust alone in Christ as Savior and Lord, belong to (and are in good standing with) a church that embraces the gospel, live at peace with their neighbor, and seek strength to live more faithfully are welcome to partake. If you are not a Christian, please consider spending this time in prayer.

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Minister: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.
Minister: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.
People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

❖ **HE WILL HOLD ME FAST**

Ada Habershon and Matt Merker

When I fear my faith will fail,
Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail,
He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold;
He must hold me fast.

Chorus:

*He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, he will hold me fast.*

Those he saves are his delight,
Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in his holy sight,
He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost;
His promises shall last;
Bought by him at such a cost,
He will hold me fast. (*Chorus*)

For my life he bled and died,
Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied;
He will hold me fast.
Raised with him to endless life;
He will hold me fast
'Till our faith is turned to sight,
When he comes at last! (*Chorus 2x*)

❖ **BENEDICTION**

Psalm 98:2

Minister: The Lord has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness
in the sight of the nations.
May his blessing be upon us, his people.

People: Come quickly, Lord Jesus. Amen.

❖ **COME, THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS**

*Come now, great Redeemer, come Emmanuel;
Bless the nations with your presence here.
Born our souls to rescue, born to save your very own;
Long expected Jesus, make our hearts your home.
Come now, long expected Jesus. (2x)*

Worship Leaders

Joe Beam	drums
Daniel Campbell	keyboard & vocals
Joe Deegan	guitar & vocals
Ryan Dougan	liturgy
Conrad Guthrie	bass
Clay Holland	sermon
Frank Matta	electric guitar
Katie Reyes	vocals
Steven Wiggs	cello

Audio/Visual Team

Phil Betti	projections
Namath Naif	audio
Amber Saugier	switcher
Titus Saugier	camera

CCLI# 1268735

*Welcome! We are so glad you are with us today.
Here are a few things going on within the life of the church
that we don't want you to miss. For a full list of upcoming
events, please visit christtheking.com.*

Congregational News

- We give praise for the birth of James Duke Weatherford to Mary and Willis on December 6.
- We extend our sympathy to Collin and Amanda Brack and to Luke, Liz Grace, Cate and Eloise in the death of both Amanda's father and her brother.



An Evening with John and Chrissy Trapp

Everyone is invited to join us for a casual conversation tonight with John and Chrissy Trapp via Zoom. This is a great opportunity to interact with the proposed candidate for Senior Pastor at Christ the King.

As the Pulpit Committee continues to examine John Trapp as candidate for Senior Pastor of Christ the King, they would like to hear from you. You can contact them and find up-to-date information at christtheking.com.

Officer Nominations

Church members are invited to recommend individuals for the office of Elder or Deacon. If you would like to see a list of our current Session and Deacons and nominate someone, please visit christtheking.com/staff/.

Relate|Strong Counseling Group

Are you interested in enriching your marriage by increasing your understanding of your spouse and yourself? Todd Parish (M.A.B.C., Th.M., L.P.C.-Associate) will lead couples through a 6-week seminar exploring how gospel truth can transform painful relationship cycles couples find themselves in as well as enhance problem solving and communication skills. The cost for this 6-week group is \$250 per couple. Limited childcare is available. For more information or to reserve your spot in the group, email Todd Parish at todd.parish@christtheking.com.

MINISTRY BUDGET UPDATE

Please contact John Allison for more information at (713) 892-5464.

2020 Ministry Budget Goal	\$ 4,615,000
Expected Giving through 12/6/20	\$ 4,348,750
Received as of 12/6/20	\$ 3,057,506
Variance	\$ -1,291,244

9:00 am
Worship Service

Nursery Care
(Infant - 4 years)

Children's Worship
Kingdom Kids (K-2nd grade)
Children will be dismissed
from the worship service.

10:30 am
Worship Service

Nursery Care
(Infant - 1 years)

Sunday School
2 - 4 years old (1st floor)
K - 3rd grade (2nd floor)
Code 45 - 4th & 5th graders
(past the playground,
and up the stairs)
Student Ministry (3rd floor)

**Adult Sunday
Morning Class**
(The Great Hall)

ADULT SUNDAY MORNING CLASS

10:30 am, The Great Hall & Zoom

Join us as we look into how God's plan of redemption culminated in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the promised Rescuer - God himself - to realize that God's plan of redemption culminates not in an ending, but a new beginning - a new creation where God will live forever with his people.

