

## **Preparing Your Heart for Worship**

November 30, 2025

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*Week One: Christ Has Come*

“I am sure that God keeps no one waiting unless he sees  
that it is good for him to wait.”

– C.S. Lewis

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*A Liturgy of the Already & Not Yet*

Pastor: Let us praise the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Congregation: Alleluia! Jesus Has Come!**

Pastor: He came as the Serpent Crushing Seed of Adam.

**Congregation: Alleluia! Jesus Has Come!**

Pastor: He came as a smoking firepot and flaming torch.

**Congregation: Alleluia! Jesus Has Come!**

Pastor: He was the ram caught in the thicket at just the right time.

**Congregation: Alleluia! Jesus Has Come!**

Pastor: Surely he has born our griefs, and carried our sorrows.

**Congregation: Alleluia! Jesus Has Come!**

Pastor: He is the refuge of the Blessed; Blessed are all who take refuge in him!

**Congregation: Alleluia! Jesus will come again!**

## HYMNS OF PRAISE

*“Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

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 every nation  
Joy of every longing heart

Joy to those who long to see Thee  
Dayspring from on high appear  
Come thou promised Rod of Jesse  
Of thy birth we long to hear  
O’er the hills the angels singing  
News, glad tidings of a birth  
“Go to him, your praises bringing,  
Christ the Lord has come to Earth!”

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

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Born Thy people to deliver  
Born a child and yet a King  
Born to reign in us forever  
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone  
By Thine all sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

*“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”*

O come, O come Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear

Chorus:  
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee O Israel

O come Thou Dayspring come and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadows put to flight  
(Chorus)

O come Thou Wisdom from on high  
And order all things far and nigh  
To us the path of knowledge show  
And cause us in her ways to go  
(Chorus)

O come Desire of nations bind  
All peoples in one heart and mind  
Bid envy strife and quarrels cease  
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace  
(Chorus)

## **ADVENT TESTIMONY & CANDLELIGHTING**

*Lydia Flynt*

## **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL**

*Children ages 3 through 4th grade dismiss with their teachers for Sunday school. They will return at the end of the service.*

## **OFFERTORY**

*Prayer cards are located in the pews. If you'd like our prayer team to pray for you, please fill out a card and drop it in the offering plate.*

## HYMN OF ASSURANCE

*“It Came Upon The Midnight Clear”*

It came upon the midnight clear  
That glorious song of old  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold  
Peace on the earth good will to men  
From heaven’s all gracious King  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing

Still thro’ the cloven skies they come  
With peaceful wings unfurled  
And still their heavenly music floats  
O’er all the weary world  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hovering wing  
And ever o’er its Babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing

And ye beneath life’s crushing load  
Whose forms are bending low  
Who toil along the climbing way  
With painful steps and slow  
Look now for glad and golden hours  
Come swiftly on the wing  
O rest beside the weary road  
And hear the angels sing

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For lo the days are hastening on  
By prophet bards foretold  
When with the ever-circling years  
Comes round the age of gold  
When peace shall over all the earth  
Its ancient splendors fling  
And the whole world give back the song  
Which now the angels sing



## **SERMON TEXT**

### **Colossians 3:20-21**

20 Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. 21 Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

# **SERMON: “Stop Telling Me What to Do! The Gospel and Parenting”**

*Colossians 3:20-21*

*Rev. Lanier Wood*



## THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Non-alcoholic wine will be served during communion.  
For those who need it, gluten free bread is available on  
the small table as you come up. Take a piece and  
continue through the line.*

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*New City Catechism*

Q47. Does the Lord's Supper add anything to Christ's atoning work?

**A. No, Christ died once for all. The Lord's Supper is a covenant meal celebrating Christ's atoning work; as it is also a means of strengthening our faith as we look to him, and a foretaste of the future feast. But those who take part with unrepentant hearts eat and drink judgment on themselves.**

Q48. What is the church?

**A. God chooses and preserves for himself a community elected for eternal life and united by faith, who love, follow, learn from, and worship God together. God send out this community to proclaim the gospel and prefigure Christ's kingdom by the quality of their life together and their love for one another.**

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **Prayer of Belief**

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen.

### **Prayer of Humble Access**

I do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in my own goodness, but only in your righteousness credited to me. I am not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose manner is always to show mercy. Grant me, therefore, O Lord, the grace to commune now with Christ by faith, that I may evermore live with him and he in me. Amen.

## COMMUNION MUSIC

*“Emmanuel (God With Us Forever)”*

Before you set the edge of time  
Foundations of the earth and sky  
You saw it all and said that was good  
The joy was set before Your eyes  
You knew that You would give your life  
You saw it all and said that was good

Behold, behold the One our Love has come  
Behold, behold the One our King has come

The heavens warred the earth stood still  
His final breath He tore the veil  
The angels sang Holy is His name  
Defeated death He broke the grave  
Our Hope returned the lost are saved  
We lift our voice in never-ending praise

Behold, behold the One our Love has come  
Behold, behold the One our King has come  
Behold, behold the One our King has come  
Behold, behold the One our King has come

Emmanuel God with us forever  
Emmanuel Savior of the world  
Emmanuel Emmanuel (Repeat)

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,  
on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil:  
For Thine is the Kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever.  
Amen.

## DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen. Amen. Amen.



## BENEDICTION

## STAFF

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## WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Lesson 1: Genesis 3

*The Serpent Crusher*

Lesson 2: Genesis 15

*The Smoking Firepot & the Flaming Torch*

Lesson 3: Genesis 22

*The Ram Caught in the Thicket*

Lesson 4: Psalm 1 & 2

*The Refuge of the Blessed*

Lesson 5: Isaiah 53

*The Suffering Servant*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**No Youth Group** – No Youth Group Tonight. Check the announcements about our upcoming parties!

**CovBoys Bible Club** – We are back this Wednesday from 3:15-4:15 p.m. All 1st-4th grade boys are welcome!

**Save the Date for RYM** – All middle and high schoolers, add RYM dates to your summer calendar. RYM Florida Middle School is June 22-26, and RYM Florida High School is July 7 - 12.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Churchwide Christmas Party** – Join us out at Camp Grace Sunday, December 7th at 4:30 p.m. for dinner, s'mores, interactive bingo, and more!

**Christmas Eve Service** – Make plans to join us for worship on Christmas Eve at 3:30 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. Invite the whole family!

**Christmas Decorating** – Join us Friday, December 5th at 9:00 a.m. to serve in decorating the church for advent season. There will be Christmas music playing and hot chocolate and coffee. Email [jena@covenantpresmobile.org](mailto:jena@covenantpresmobile.org) or just show up!

**Youth Christmas Parties** – Middle schoolers, join us for our Christmas Party on Sunday, December 14th from 5:00-7:00 at church. High schoolers, join us Friday, December 5th from 5:30-8:00 at the Parker's (4962 Carmel Drive North).

**Polar Thang** – Middle schoolers, registration is open for our Winter Retreat at Twin Lakes Conference Center in Florence, Mississippi January 16-18 (MLK weekend). Visit the website to register.

**High School Glamping Trip** – High schoolers, save the date February 27–March 1! More information to come.