

Order of Worship

December 9, 2018

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements Taylor King, Youth Director

Preparation for Worship

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” Luke 2:14 ESV

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Luke 1:26-33 ESV

Call to Worship

Pastor: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

People: The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Pastor: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

People: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Psalm 98:1-4 ESV

Invocation

Praise and Adoration

Angels From The Realms Of Glory

Angels from the realms of glory/Wing your flight o'er all the earth
Ye who sang creation's story/Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

*(Chorus) Come and worship come and worship
Worship Christ the newborn King.*

Shepherds in the field abiding/Watching o'er your flocks by night
God with us is now residing/Yonder shines the infant light.

Sages, leave your contemplations/Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations/Ye have seen his natal star.

Saints before the altar bending/Watching long in hope and fear
Suddenly the Lord descending/In His temple shall appear.

All creation join in praising/God the Father Spirit Son
Evermore your voices raising/To the eternal Three in One.

“Angels From The Realms Of Glory”
Henry Thomas Smart | James Montgomery
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The First Noel

The first Noel, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*(Chorus) Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!*

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
Who hath made heaven and earth of naught
And with his blood our life hath bought.

“The First Noel”
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Scripture Reading

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

(1 Peter 1:3–12 ESV)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

O Little Town of Bethlehem

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 wond'ring love.
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King and peace upon the earth.

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

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.

“O Little Town Of Bethlehem”
Phillips Brooks
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Pastoral Prayer

John Hinson, Elder

Offertory**

Preaching of the Word Rev. Wilson A. Shirley, Senior Pastor

“The Wonder of Christmas: The Wonder of the Angels”

*Luke 2:8-14
p. 857*

Song of Preparation

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come let us adore Him!
O come let us adore Him!
O come let us adore Him!
Christ the Lord!

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”
C. Frederick Oakeley | John Francis Wade
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Profession of Faith: Philippians 2:8-11

And being found in human form, Christ humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

(Please hold the elements to take corporately. Please feel free to pray, sing or quietly meditate as the elements are passed. Gluten-free bread is available on the right side of the sanctuary.)

****Please register your attendance on the Connect Card and place in offering plate.**

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.

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.

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.

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"
John Mason Neale | Thomas Helmore
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Song of Response

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing "Glory to the newborn King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild; God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise! Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, Risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that man no more may die.
Born to raise the sons of earth. Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Benediction

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guests: Welcome to Cornerstone Presbyterian Church. We are glad you are here! If you would like more information about our church and its ministries, please speak to one of the greeters, fill out the Blue Connect Card, and visit our website at cornerstone-pres.org.

New Member Class - Continues today in Room 103 downstairs.

Officer Nominations - Cornerstone members will have the opportunity to nominate men for office until Sunday, December 30th. Please see the nomination brochure inserted in your bulletin and place nominations in the offering plate or give to a church officer.

Christmas Poinsettias - If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in honor or in memory of someone, please complete the Connect Card. Cost is \$12.00. Please designate your payment as "Poinsettias". You may take it home following the Candlelight Christmas Eve Service.

Cornerstone Christmas Events:

12/23 @ 10:45 a.m. - Christmas Brunch (No Sunday School)
12/24 @ 5:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Disaster Relief Opportunity - Please see the electronic newsletter for an opportunity to participate in a disaster relief trip in January. See Rick and Wendy Dillon for more information.

Providence Presbytery Youth Retreat - January 25-27, 2019. Please join us at CampToKnowHim for the ROOTS Retreat January 25-27, 2019. Cost is \$85/student. Registration is now open. Register during Sunday School.

Women's Bible Study - Registration is open for our next study which will begin January 15th. We will be using Nancy Guthrie's *The Son of David, Seeing Jesus in the Historical Books*. Registration cards are available in the narthex and in the adult Sunday School rooms. If you were with us in Bible study in the Fall, there is no need to register. Please see Debbie Jones or Heidi Honeywell for more information.

Women's Winter Retreat - February 1-2, 2019. DoubleTree Hilton Perimeter Park, Birmingham, AL. Our speaker this year is Christina Fox. She will be leading us through her book, "Closer Than A Sister: How Union With Christ Helps Friendships to Flourish". Registration is open now in the narthex or online at cornerstone-pres.org/women. If you have any questions, please contact Heidi Honeywell at heidi@cornerstone-pres.org.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for church members caring for family - Lora Abernathy, Karen Conners, Bryan Gassaway, Emily Hinson, Mark Hundscheid, Alan Patterson, Randy and Dee Petcher, David & Margaret Powell, Earl and Jean Wells.

Pray for our expectant mom - Jennie Stanford (May).

Serving Overseas - John Hinshaw, son of Johnny and Karen Hinshaw.

Pray for God's will on future plans for the new church property.

Ministries - Sacred Road Ministries, Valley Presbyterian Church (William Plott)

Officers

Session: Wilson A. Shirley, Brian Russ, John Bise, Frank Cohee,
John Hinson, Mike Honeywell, and Shep Park

Deacons: Gary Abernathy, Paul Dupre', Matt Harrison, David Hoover, Craig Martin,
Kyle Mosier and Alan Patterson

Staff

Wilson A. Shirley, Sr., Senior Pastor

Bob Boerner, Men's Ministry Coordinator

John Chisum, Building Manager

Heidi Honeywell, Women's Ministry Coordinator

Cynthia Keen, Administrative Assistant

Taylor King, Youth Director

Gail Kimrey, Hospitality Coordinator

Paige McClure, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Dee Petcher, Nursery Coordinator

Brian Russ, Associate Pastor