

Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church

December 10, 2023 10:30 a.m. Second Sunday of Advent

Order of Worship

**indicates to stand as you are able.

Prelude

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

arr. M. Hayes

Isaiah 61:1: The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners.

"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!"

(words: C. Wesley, 1744 (music (Hyfrydol)): R.H. Prichard, 1830; public domain)

(this piano solo: The Lorenz Corporation, 2010)

Introit

Surely the Presence of the Lord

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.
I can hear the brush of angel's wings
I see glory on each face;

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candles

BJ and Nancy Walworth

Response - 103

Come Now, O Prince of Peace
Come now, O God of love; make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile all people.

Passing of the Peace (L: Leader; P: People)

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

**Call to Worship

Mollie Thomas

L: There will be signs in the heavens and distress among the nations.

P: When Christ returns in power and glory people will faint with fear.

L: But when you see these things, lift up your heads:

P: our redemption is drawing near!

L: Heaven and earth may pass away,

P: but the Word of God will stand unshaken.

L: Let us worship God!

**Silent Prayer of Confession

**Common Prayer of Confession

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon

L: Friends, this is the Good News of the Gospel...

P: ...in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

**Response - insert

Come and Fill our Hearts

Moment with Children Sarah Trodden

*Please note that any children who come forward for the moment with children will likely be seen on the worship livestream on Facebook

Children ages preschool—third grade dismissed to Sunday Experience
Please see the following page for special instructions

Word in Music

O Little Town of Bethlehem Bells of Joy

arr. J. Phillips

Matthew 2: 6: But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.

"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." (words by P. Brooks, 1868; music (St. Louis) by L. L.H. Redner, 1868; public domain)

(this handbell arrangement: Agape (a division of Hope Publishing), 2008)

Prayer for Illumination

Scriptures Isaiah 40:1-11 James Board

Mark 1:1-8

L: The Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Preparations Rev. Scott Hoffman

****Hymn** - 104 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

Invitation to Offering

There are numerous ways to give to the work of CMPC. Offering plates will be passed through the pews during the offertory for checks or cash to be left today. Cards with a QR code that will direct you to our online giving page are located in the pew racks. Donations can always be mailed to the church at any time using the address on the back page of the bulletin. Thank you for your support!

Offertory

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

Isaiah 21: 6: For thus hath the Lord said unto me, "Go, set a watchman, let him declare what he sees."

"Watchman, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are. Traveler, what a wondrous sight: see that glory-beaming star. Watchman, does its beauteous ray news of joy or hope foretell?

Traveler, yes; it brings the day, promised day of Israel."

(words: J. Bowring, 1825; music (Aberystwyth), 1876; public domain)

(this organ solo: Lorenz Publishing Co., 1993)

**Doxology - insert

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Prayers of Thanksgiving with The Lord's Prayer (using "debts")

**Hymn - 105 People, Look East

**Benediction

Postlude

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

arr. H. Balacombe

arr. D. Wells

1 John 4: 16: And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son! Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun! He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free; to take away transgression, and rule in equity." (words: J. Montgomery, 1821; music (Ellacombe): W.H. Monk, 1784; public domain)

(this organ solo: Lorena Publishing Co., 2002)

Thank you to Jeff Bruce and John Kim for providing audio support this week! Thank you to Rachael Bis for operating the sanctuary cameras this week!

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Women for Women Ornament Exchange

When: Sunday, December 17, 2023

Time: 1pm - 3pm

Where: Clemens' Residence; 9710 Deep Smoke, Columbia, MD. 21046

We're reinstating the annual ornament exchange! Following church, come for a bite to eat, lively conversation, and mimosas! Of course, bring a wrapped ornament and a small bite to share....It's brunch so anything goes! Please RSVP by Wednesday, December 13, 2023 with a note of what you're bringing so we don't end up with 10 coffee cakes. Hope you can join us!! This is for all adult women of the church. To RSVP or ask questions contact Shelley Clemens at 443-756-2345 or shelleyclemens57@gmail.com.

Cold Weather Shelter

Later this month, CMPC joins with local churches and partner organizations to support the Grassroots Cold Weather Shelter (CWS) program.

For the past couple of years, the CWS program has kept many families housed and fed in a local hotel during the winter season. We had hoped to host the shelter at CMPC this season but due to scheduling complications Grassroots will again use local hotels to accommodate their guests during our seasonal mission. Grassroots is asking congregations to supply daily meals for approximately 35 guests and to provide volunteers to help Grassroots staff deliver meals to guest rooms.

CMPC continues the tradition of supporting the CWS program this year from Tuesday, December 26th through Tuesday, January 2nd. We will need 3 volunteers each day to serve and others to provide 35 breakfasts, 35 lunches, and 35 dinners for program guests residing at the hotel. Packaging for meals will be available after service on December 17th. If you are interested in volunteering and/or donating meals, please visit the SignUp Genius page below. If you have questions, please contact Todd Stubbs at todd.stubbs@gmail.com.



Each year, Grassroots helps individuals and families find permanent housing in the area. Let us come together and share a portion of ourselves in support of this transformational ministry.

Many blessings,

CMPC Mission & Local Outreach

Angel Tree and Food Drive

Once again, the church will be hosting two holiday giving opportunities. The Angel tree, which will run November 27th through December 15th, is meant to deliver wants and needs to families who may not be able to have gifts during Christmas. This year, ornaments with donation needs will be on the tree in the downstairs lobby way. Please return all donations unwrapped to the church office.

The Food Drive will run December 1st through December 17th, after worship. Most needed items include canned goods(fruits, vegetables, proteins), powdered milk, cereal, condiments, diapers, formula, grains (pasta, bread, rice), and feminine products. Collection bins will be in the narthex, downstairs entry, and outside of the preschool. This year Food Drive items will be sent to Columbia Community Care.

"Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none and anyone who has food shall do the same." Luke 3:10. We are called to care for our brothers and sisters and love our neighbors. Have a joyous holiday and happy giving!

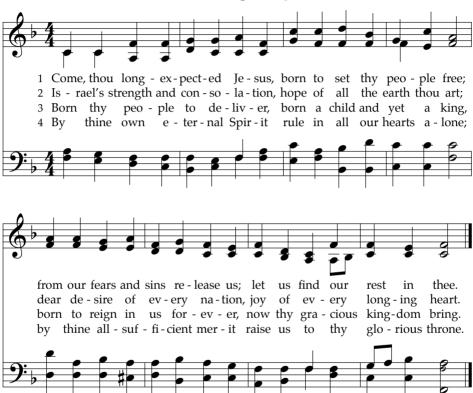
FISH babysitting

The LOGOS FISH high school youth will be bringing back babysitting night, Friday, December 15 from 5:30 to 8:30. Whether you have some Christmas shopping or want an adults night out, the FISH youth will be available to watch your children that evening at CMPC. Pizza and snacks will be provided. \$20 per child and the proceeds will be going towards purchasing presents for families this holiday season. Please sign up below.





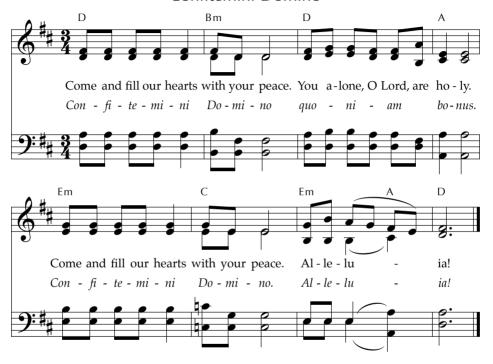
83 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

Come and Fill Our Hearts

Confitemini Domino



This prayer chant—intended for repeated singing—was originally created for a Latin text (Psalm 106:1a and Psalm 118:1a, 29a) on which the present English text is loosely based. Chants at Taizé often use Latin because it is a language free of political overtones.

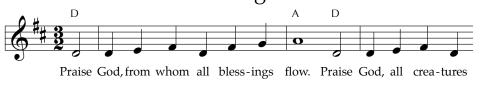
O Lord, How Shall I Meet You



Though many Advent hymns address Christ with entreaty and invitation, this more contemplative text considers how an individual prepares for and responds to Christ's coming. It also brings together a recollection of the First Coming with an anticipation of the Second Coming.

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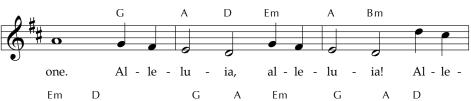
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow







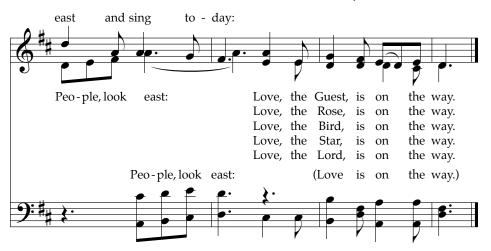
God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it







This text was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.



December 2023 at Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church

Christmas Cantata

December 17th, 10:30 am

The Christmas cantata, *Darkness into Light*, by Mary McDonald, will be offered during worship on Sunday, December 17th. The composer calls it "A Christmas Musical Journey." In addition to the Trinity Choir, there will be guest musicians and narrators, and the congregation will sing along during two songs in the work. Come and be blessed!

Longest Night Service

December 17th, 7 p.m.

"The most wonderful time of the year" can often be difficult for some due to loss, illness, or other hardships. Come for a quiet meditative service of remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ.

Christmas Eve Services

There will be NO morning service

5:00 Family Friendly

This service features a favorite tradition at CMPC, the participatory retelling of the Christmas Story, as well as carols and scripture readings. This is a more casual service and though it is appropriate for all ages, children in particular are encouraged to attend.

8:30 Traditional

For our evening service, there will be plenty of carol singing as well as special music from our choir. The service will conclude with the singing of Silent Night by candlelight!