

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ the King Presbyterian Church

December 18, 2011

Christian Year: The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Preparation for Worship

"And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgressions," declares the LORD.

Isaiah 59:20

No more let sins and sorrows grow, or thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found.

Isaac Watts

Very few of us have any understanding of the reason why Jesus Christ died. If sympathy is all that human beings need, then the Cross of Christ is a farce, there was no need for it. We trample the blood of the Son of God under foot if we think we are forgiven because we are sorry for our sins. The only explanation of the forgiveness of God, and of the unfathomable depth of his forgetting, is the death of Jesus Christ.

Oswald Chambers

***Call to Worship** *from Isaiah 2:2-5* The Rev. P. Clay Holland

Minister: In the days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say,

People: **"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."**

Minister: For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

People: **O house of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the LORD!**

***O Come, All Ye Faithful**
Hymn No. 208 (Stanzas 1-3)

ADESTE FIDELES

*Prayer of Adoration

Stir up your power, O Lord,
and with great might come among us,
and because we are sorely hindered by our sins,
let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*Congregation stands

‡Congregation kneels

***Affirmation of Faith**

Philippians 2:6-11

Minister: How did Christ humble himself?

People: **Though he was in the form of God, he did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he 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.**

***Angels We Have Heard on High**

GLORIA

Hymn No. 214

Prayer for Christ's Church and the World

Brad DeLoach

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Angels Candle

The Campbell Family

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, etc. Each of the candles has special significance. The final candle, the Christ candle, is lit at Christmas.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

Hymn No. 194 (Stanzas 1-4)

‡Silent Confession

‡Prayer of Confession

Richard Colquitt (9:30)

Blake Arnoult (11:00)

O promised Christ: we are a world at war.

Our peace depends on your coming.

We are a sinful people.

Our pardon depends on your coming.

We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises;

our only hope of doing God's will

is that you should come and help us do it.

Lord Christ, Word made flesh,

our world waits for your peace,

for your pardon,

and for your grace.

Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

***Words of Assurance**

Isaiah 59:20

Leader: "A Redeemer will come to God's people who turn from transgression." Thanks be to God that our Redeemer has come!

What kind of king would leave his throne
in heav'n to make this earth his home?
While men seek fame and great renown,
in loneliness our King comes down.

Refrain:

Jesus, Jesus, precious one, how we thank you that you've come.
Jesus, Jesus, precious one, a manger throne for God's own Son.

You left the sound of angels' praise to come for men with sinful ways.
And by this baby's helplessness,
the pow'r of nations is laid to rest. (*Refrain*)

What kind of King would come so small, from glory to a humble stall?
That dirty manger is my heart, too.
Come make it a royal throne for you. (*Refrain*)

*The Peace of God

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

*In the 9:30 service, children (four years old - 2nd grade) are dismissed for Children's Worship.
Parents and guardians, please escort departing children into the Gathering Hall.*

Announcements

The Offering

A Tender Shoot

Goldschmidt

Scripture Reading

Hee-Jin and Brian Yeh

Isaiah 59:12-20
Page 618 in the black Bibles

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

The Sermon

"He Comes to Forgive"
Behold, He Comes!

Clay Holland

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 come forward. If you are not a Christian, please consider spending this time in prayer using the prayers printed below.

Children who have not received their first communion should come forward with their hands folded and the wine server will pray for them.

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 and Words of Institution

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.

Minister: The gifts of God are for the people of God.

*Please let an usher know if it is difficult for you to come forward.
We would be happy to serve you at your seat.*

*If you would like gluten-free communion bread, please request it from your server.
We serve wine during communion. If you prefer grape juice, please request it when served.*

Communion Prayers

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

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 in him and he in me. Amen.

Advent Hymn (Song of Isaiah)

Priest/Keyes

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.

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 ev'ry foe is then cast down,
Christ, our Lord, will take the throne,
and reign victorious with his own.

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.

Bridge: And he shall reign forever and ever. (4x)

Arise, my soul, arise; shake off your guilty fears;
The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears.
Before the throne my Surety stands;
Before the throne my Surety stands;
My name is written on his hands.

Chorus:

Arise, arise, arise, arise my soul, arise!
Arise, arise, arise, arise my soul, arise!
Shake off your guilty fears and rise.

He ever lives above for me to intercede;
His all redeeming love, his precious blood to plead.
His blood atoned for ev'ry race; his blood atoned for ev'ry race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace. (*Chorus*)

Five bleeding wounds he bears, received on Calvary;
They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me.
"Forgive him, O, forgive," they cry;
"Forgive him, O, forgive," they cry;
"Nor let that ransomed sinner die." (*Chorus*)

My God is reconciled; his pard'ning voice I hear.
He owns me for his child; I can no longer fear.
With confidence I now draw nigh, with confidence I now draw nigh,
And, "Father, Abba, Father," cry. (*Chorus*)

***Concluding Prayer**

Eternal God,
you taught us that the night is far spent and the day is at hand.
Keep us awake and alert, watching for your kingdom,
and make us strong in faith,
so that when Christ comes in glory to judge the earth,
we may joyfully give him praise
and celebrate his love forever. Amen.

***Acclamation and Benediction**

Psalm 72:18-19

Minister: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

**People: Blessed be his glorious name forever;
may his glory fill the whole earth!**

Minister: May the blessing of God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - rest
upon you.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Serving in Worship today: Mark Austin, trumpet; Steve Begnoche, percussion; Cindy Cook, organ;
Carol Gaetke, oboe; Mark Miller, piano; Eric Priest, guitar; Amy Wiggs, flute; Steven Wiggs, cello.*

Aimee Johnson and Christopher Jachmich, vocalists

Chris Hunniford (9:30) and Mike McClure (11:00), worship assistants.

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