

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christ the King Presbyterian Church

December 25, 2011

*Christian Year: Christmas Day*

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## Preparation for Worship

The LORD himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name *God with Us*.

*Isaiah 7:14*

We cannot too often meditate of these things. It is the life and soul of a Christian. It is the marrow of the gospel. It is the wonder of wonders. We need not wonder at anything after this.

*Richard Sibbes*

This little Babe so few days old  
Is come to rifle Satan's fold.  
All hell doth at his presence quake,  
Though he himself for cold do shake;  
For in this weak unarmed wise  
The gates of hell he will surprise.

With tears he fights and wins the field,  
His naked breast stands for a shield;  
His battering shot are babish cries,  
His arrows looks of weeping eyes;  
His martial ensigns Cold and Need,  
And feeble Flesh his warriors steed.

*"This Little Babe", Robert Southwell*

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## \*Call to Worship

*from John 1:14*

The Rev. Eric Priest

Minister: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

People: **Glory be to you, our Lord Jesus Christ!**

## \*O Come, All Ye Faithful

*Hymn No. 208*

*ADESTE FIDELES*

## \*Prayer of Adoration

All glory to you, great God, for the gift of your Son,  
light in darkness and hope of the world,  
whom you sent to save us.

With singing angels let us praise your name  
and tell the earth his story,  
that all may believe, rejoice, and bow down,  
acknowledging your love  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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\*Congregation stands

‡Congregation kneels

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

*Heidelberg Catechism, Question 36*

Minister: What does it mean that Jesus “was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary”?

**People: That the eternal Son of God,  
who is and remains true and eternal God,  
took to himself, through the working of the Holy Spirit,  
from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary,  
a truly human nature  
so that he might become David’s true descendant,  
in all things like us except for sin.**

**\*Angels, from the Realms of Glory**

*REGENT SQUARE*

*Hymn No. 218 (Stanzas 1-2, 4-5)*

**Prayer for Christ’s Church and the World**

The Rev. P. Clay Holland

***Here I Am to Worship***

*Hughes*

Light of the World, you stepped down into darkness,  
Opened my eyes let me see  
Beauty that made this heart adore you,  
Hope of a life spent with you.

*Refrain:*

Here I am to worship.  
Here I am to bow down.  
Here I am to say that you’re my God.  
You’re altogether lovely, altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh, so highly exalted,  
Glorious in heaven above.  
Humbly you cam to the earth you created –  
All for love’s sake became poor. (*Refrain*)

**‡Prayer of Confession**

Clay Holland

Generous God,  
you give us the greatest gift of all, yourself,  
but often we find it hard to take notice;  
we are caught up with our own gifts, given and received.  
Forgive us, generous God,  
for the casual way we treat your gift of love.  
Cast our our sin and enter in,  
be born in us today. Amen.

**\*Words of Assurance**

*2 Corinthians 4:6*

Leader: God has caused light to shine in our hearts, the light that is the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

*I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In*

*Spanish carol*

#### Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:18-25  
*Page 807 in the black Bibles*

Linda Murray

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

#### The Sermon

*"He Has Come"  
Behold, He Comes!*

Eric Priest

## 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.*

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## 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.*

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## God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

Hymn No. 211

English Carol

## Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Hymn No. 207

IN DULCI JUBILO

## From the Squalor of a Borrowed Stable

Townend & Getty

From the squalor of a borrowed stable,  
By the Spirit and a virgin's faith;  
To the anguish and the shame of scandal,  
Came the savior of the human race!  
But the skies were filled with the praise of heaven,  
Shepherds listen as the angels tell  
Of the gift of God come down to man  
At the dawning of Emmanuel.

King of heaven now the friend of sinners,  
Humble servant in the Father's hands,  
Filled with power and the Holy Spirit,  
Filled with mercy for the broken man.  
Yes, he walked my road and he felt my pain,

Joys and sorrows that I know so well;  
Yet his righteous steps give me hope again -  
I will follow my Emmanuel!

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal,  
He was lifted on a cruel cross;  
He was punished for a world's transgressions,  
He was suffering to save the lost.  
He fights for breath, he fights for me,  
Loosing sinners from the claims of hell;  
And with a shout our souls are free -  
Death defeated by Emmanuel!

Now he's standing in the place of honor,  
Crowned with glory on the highest throne,  
Interceding for his own beloved  
Till his Father calls to bring them home!  
Then the skies will part as the trumpet sounds  
Hope of heaven or the fear of hell;  
But the Bride will run to her Lover's arms,  
Giving glory to Emmanuel!

#### **\*Concluding Prayer**

God and Father of Jesus,  
    you have sent your Son to be our Savior:  
    our light in the midst of darkness,  
    our hope in the face of threats,  
    our peace amid turmoil.  
In your Word and sacrament we have seen him  
    and know that your promises are true.  
Send us forth from this gathering  
    to live in hope and peace  
    until we gather again.  
This we ask in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

#### **\*Benediction**

Minister:    May Jesus Christ, the sun of righteousness,  
                  who comes with healing in his wings,  
                  fill you with joy and peace  
                  that passes all understanding.  
                  The blessing of God Almighty,  
                  Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
                  be upon you and remain with you always.

People:       **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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*Serving in Worship today: Mark Austin, trumpet; Steve Begnoche, percussion; Tim Brown, piano;  
Cindy Cook, organ; Christine Elston, violin; Amy Wiggs, flute; Steven Wiggs, cello.  
Meg McClure and Christopher Jachmich, vocalists.*

*Lyrics printed by permission: CCLI #1268735*

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