

The Lord's Service

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

**Standing together is our ordinary practice,
but you are welcome to remain seated.*

Welcome and Announcements

Silence in Preparation for Worship

Lighting of the Advent Candle - The Tim Schoap &
Thomas Blackburn Families

God Calls Us

Call to Worship

Only God Himself can call
us into worship. He sets
the terms for worship
because, through His Son,
He makes worship possible.

*Call to Worship

Psalms 46.10-11

LEADER: Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!

PEOPLE: The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

*Hymn of Adoration

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Words: Liturgy of St. James (5th century);

adapted by Gerald Moultrie (1864)

Music: PICARDY, French melody (17th century);

arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1906)

Hymnal No. 193

Invocation

This prayer addresses God
in three persons, asking
Him to be present with
us in worship to help
us worship Him according
to His will.

*Invocation

by Elder Jim Hildebrand

Call to Confession

As we see God in His
invitation and our praise,
we cannot help but see how
we have fallen short. God's
Holy Scripture has the
authority to reveal us to
ourselves and transition
our hearts to confession.

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession

Proverbs 3.7

LEADER: Be not wise in your own eyes;
PEOPLE: Fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.

Private Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

from the *Book of Common Prayer*, London (1552)

**Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost
sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires
of our hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things which we ought to
have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to
have done,
and there is no health in us.
But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable
offenders.
Spare those, O God, who confess their faults.
Restore those who are repentant,
according to your promises declared to mankind in
Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and
sober life,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 103.1-5

LEADER: Lift up your heads and hear the Good News:
“Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is
within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord,
O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who
forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your
diseases, who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

Corporate Confession of Sin

We sin in thought, word,
and deed every week. This
prayer begins with silent
confession, followed by
corporate confession as
people equally in need of
God's grace.

Assurance of Pardon

Holy Scripture assures
Christians, sinners saved
by grace, that they
are united to Jesus in His
death and resurrection.

who satisfies you with good so that your youth
is renewed like the eagle's."

The peace of the Lord be with you!

PEOPLE: And also with you!

*Hymn of Assurance

When Love Came Down to Earth

Text and Music: Stuart Townend (2001)

see Page 10

God Consecrates Us

Scripture Lesson

We hear and read Holy
Scripture throughout the
service. Listen to this
reading (lesson) to
prepare for the sermon.

Scripture Lesson

2 Samuel 7.4-17 (p. 259)

read by Elder Ken Henry

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

We set aside a tithe and
additional offering of
our resources for the
purposes of God, for His
glory. Both are a display of
our joyful dependence upon
God rather than ourselves.

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Zion Hears the Watchmen Singing

by Johann Sebastian Bach (1731)

Sanctuary Choir

Zion hears the watchmen singing,
And all her heart with joy is springing;
She wakes, she rises from her gloom:

Ah, come, thou blessed Lord;
O Jesus, Son of God, alleluia!
We follow till the halls we see
Where thou hast bid us sup with thee.

For her Lord comes down all-glorious,
The strong in grace, in truth victorious;
Her Star is risen, her Light is come!

*Doxology

WACHET AUF

Now let all the heav'ns a - dore thee, and men and an - gels
of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, where we are with_ the

sing be - fore_ thee, with harp and cym - bal's clear - est tone;
choir im - mor - tal of an - gels round thy daz - zling throne;

nor eye hath seen, nor ear hath yet at - tained to hear what there is

ours; but we re - joice, and_ sing to thee our hymn of joy e - ter - nal - ly.

Prayer of the Church

by Pastor Eric Mullinax

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 1.1-17 (p. 807)

- ¹ The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.
- ² Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,
- ³ and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, ⁴ and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, ⁵ and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, ⁶ and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, ⁷ and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of

Doxology

A doxology is a hymn or word of praise to God for His goodness and glory. The *Gloria Patri* is another example of a doxology.

Prayer of the Church

We share in our health and sickness, happiness and sorrow, assurance and doubt, as we bring our prayers to God, together. Holy Scripture commands elders to pray with and for God's people, not just publicly, but privately.

Scripture Lesson

We hear and read Holy Scripture throughout the service. Follow along with this text (lesson) that directs the sermon.

Asaph, ⁸ and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, ⁹ and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, ¹⁰ and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, ¹¹ and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

¹² And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, ¹³ and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, ¹⁴ and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, ¹⁵ and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, ¹⁶ and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

¹⁷ So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

Sermon

A preacher is commanded
to faithfully steward
God's Word by submitting
to it, studying it, and
expositing it (holding it
forth), bearing witness to
Jesus, by the power of the
Holy Spirit.

Sermon

by Pastor Bill Massey

THE HOPES AND FEARS OF ALL THE YEARS

*Hymn of Response

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Words: stanzas 1, 4 by Charles Wesley (1744);
stanzas 2-3 by Mark E. Hunt (1978)

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland Hugh Pritchard (1855)

Hymnal No. 196

The Lord's Table

*Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed
(215)

LEADER: Christian, what do you believe?

PEOPLE: I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son,
our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of
God the Father Almighty.
From there He will come to judge the
living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic[†] church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Confession of Faith

By confessing our faith
together using statements
believed by Christians
over the ages, we join
in the sweep of Christian
history even as we await
the return of Jesus.

[†] "catholic" -- universal

*Gloria Patri

MEINEKE

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

Instruction

Please approach using the outer aisles and return using the center aisle. Juice is served in clear cups. Wine is served in tinted cups. Allergy-sensitive bread is available next to the tray (see page 12 for ingredients). An elder will offer to bring the meal to those who prefer to remain seated.

Sursum Corda

We don't fixate on the table, bread, and wine, but lift our hearts to Jesus in the glory of His Father.

Sursum Corda

LEADER: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: We lift them up to the Lord.

LEADER: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

PEOPLE: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

The Institution and Prayer

Hymn for Distribution

Alleluia! He is Coming

Words and Music: Martha Butler (1979)



1. I	looked up	and I	saw my Lord	a - com - ing,	I	looked up	and I
2. I	looked up	and I	saw my Lord	a - weep - ing,___	I	looked up	and I
3. I	looked up	and I	saw my Lord	a - dy - ing,___	I	looked up	and I
4. I	looked up	and I	saw my Lord	a - ris - ing,___	I	looked up	and I



saw	my Lord	a - com - ing	down the	road.
saw	my Lord	a - weep - ing	for my	sins._____
saw	my Lord	a - dy - ing	on a	cross._____
saw	my Lord	a - ris - ing	from the	grave._____



Al - le - lu - ia, he is com - ing,_____ al - le - lu - ia, he is here.



Al - le - lu - ia, he is com - ing,_____ al - le - lu - ia, he is here.

Hymn

Amazing Grace, vs. 1-3, 6

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

*When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.

God Commissions Us

*Benediction

Postlude

Benediction

Just as God calls us to
worship at the beginning of
the service, He graciously
sends us into our week
with a blessing (good
word) founded on the
redeeming work of Jesus.

SERMON NOTES

Title: The Hopes and Fears of All the Years

Text: Matthew 1.1-17

Intro: Matthew's genealogy moves forward from Abraham to Jesus rather than backwards from Jesus (as in Luke 3.23-38). Why? Matthew's point is this: from the very beginning, God knew exactly where He was going. Throughout the centuries, He was directing history towards this glorious moment. Despite His people's failures and trials, despite world-wide upheavals (think of the Babylonian exile), the longest standing and most difficult to keep promise of God had really come to fulfillment!

Mission Statement of CPC

Covenant Presbyterian Church exists to love God and our neighbors by making Christ known in all of life.

CPC Pastors

Bill Massey (*Interim Senior Pastor*), Travis Hutchinson (*Interim Pastor of Youth & Families*),
Eric Mullinax (*Elder Emeritus-Volunteer for Congregational Care*)

CPC Officers

ELDERS: Woody Brauer, Ernie Brown, Jason Brown, Adam Cathey, Jason Coffey, Todd Gaither,
Danny Grant, Jon Harris, Ken Henry, Jim Hildebrand, Dee Hobbs, Ken Hostetler, Bill Massey (Moderator),
Will McDaniel, Chris Rimondi, Adam Sanders (Clerk of Session), Todd Smith, Rex Wagner,
Mike Walker, Tim Warren, Tracy Wright

DEACONS: Geff Adams, Mike Bacon, Paul Baierl, Thomas Blackburn, Jonathan Calloway, David Close,
Jason Collins, Rich Denkinger, Mike Evatt, David Gernhard, Jon Griffin, James Hall, Steven James,
Steve Leach, Eric Mantel, Mike Mason (Chairman of Diaconate), Richard Mauroner, Jared McCurry,
John Morrison, Vince Pereski, Caleb Ray, Phil Wade (Clerk of Diaconate), Matt Wright

When Love Came Down to Earth



1. When love came down to earth and made His home with
2. When ev - ery un-clean thought, and ev - ery sin - ful
3. Come lay your heav - y load down at the Mas - ter's



men, the hope - less found a hope, the sin - ner found a
deed was scourged up - on His back and ham - mered through His
feet; your shame will be removed. Your joy will be com -



friend. Not to the pow - er - ful but to the poor He
feet. The in - no - cent is cursed, the guilt - y are re -
plete. Come cru - ci - fy your pride, and en - ter as a



came, and hum - ble hun - gry hearts were sat - is - fied a
leased; the pun - ish - ment of God, on God, has brought us
child; For those who bow down low He'll lift up to His



gain.
peace. What joy, what peace has come to
side.



us! What hope, what help, what love! _____

WELCOME

We are glad you joined us this morning! If this is your first visit with us, please fill out a Connection Card (located in each pew).

Join us in Room 100 today for the Churchwide Christmas Celebration and Reception for brunch and fellowship after the Congregational Meeting.

We invite you to join us next week, as Pastor Massey preaches from Matthew 1.18-21.

Finding your way:

Scan the QR code to view a map of our campus. Printed maps can be found on the bulletin board just off the Lobby and outside the Nursery.



For those with children:

Your children are welcome and wanted in worship! Little ones sometimes have a hard time sitting quietly through a service. Please take advantage of these helpful tools:

- **Special Bulletin** - designed for our Little Theologians (available in Narthex)
- **Family Worship Room** - where children can be a little louder and more active (windowed room in Sanctuary)
- **Family Restroom and Nursing Mother's Room** (in Family Worship Room)
- **Nursery** - available to children born after September 1, 2021 (deacons can direct you)
- **Calm Kit Bags** - borrow fidgets and tools to help soothe the wiggles during worship (in the Family Worship Room)

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, December 1

Worship Service - Sanctuary - 9:30 am
Lord's Supper Celebrated
Congregational Meeting - Sanctuary - immediately after worship
CPC Christmas Fellowship & Steere Retirement Reception - Room 100 - after Congregational Meeting

Tuesday, December 3

Moms of Teens Study - Room 120 - 10:30 am
Women's Ministry Team Mtg - Room 119 - 6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 4

Midweek Meal - Room 100 - 5:30 pm
Children, Youth, & Adult Midweek Classes - see website for class list
Session Mtg - Room 105 - 8:15 pm

Friday, December 6

Men's Treasury of David Study - Room 105 - 8:30 am
MS Christmas Party - Hostetlers' home - 6 pm

Saturday, December 7

Men's Breakfast - Room 100 - 8:30 am
Youth Jesus Birthday Party - meet at church - 5 pm

Sunday, December 8

Worship Service - Sanctuary - 9:30 am
Sunday School
Youth Parent Mtg - Room 100 - 12:05 pm

MORE INFORMATION

All music is printed under CCLI No. 447727.

Website: cpcchatt.org

Online Directory: Contact the church office to request access

Prayer Requests: Email your request or update to prayer@cpcchatt.org

COVENANT LIFE

ALLERGY-SENSITIVE BREAD FOR LORD'S SUPPER

Allergy-sensitive bread ingredients:
tapioca starch, water, potato starch,
potato flakes, palm oil, honey, egg yolks,
natural vinegar, salt

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

following worship • Sanctuary

Please plan to attend our annual Congregational Meeting directly after worship today. Sunday School will be canceled for this meeting.

During this time, we will receive our annual report and vote on CPC's 2025 Board of Directors.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Sat, Dec 7 • 8:30 am • Room 100

We look forward to you joining us for this encouraging time of fellowship. Our speaker will be Pastor Joe Novenson, who was most recently the Senior Teaching Pastor at Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church. He will be helping us answer the question: *What does it mean to be made in the image of God?* Young men in High School are also invited to join us. Cost: \$5.

Churchwide Christmas Fellowship

AND RECEPTION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1 - ROOM 100

Join us for fellowship and brunch favorites "potluck style" following the Congregational Meeting.

We will be honoring Dan and Susan Steere in their retirement from Equipping Leaders International (ELI).



CELEBRATIONS CALENDAR

The December birthday/anniversary calendar is now available outside the Church Office.

COVENANT LIFE

LADIES' CHRISTMAS DINNER

Fri, Dec 13 • 6 pm • Room 100

You are warmly invited to our annual Christmas dinner. This year's theme, *The Grace of God Has Appeared*, focuses on God's grace to us, along with the grace we can extend to others, particularly through the ministry of foster care.

Ryan Hostetler will be sharing with us about local foster care ministries.



Scan the QR Code to register by December 8.

Cost: \$10/ adult

\$8 children up to 12 years old

\$30 cap per household,

(extended family members not included in that price)



FOOD DRIVE REPORT AND THANKS

It was a Truly Grateful Harvest!

CPC collected 884 pounds of nonperishable food items, which equates to 737 meals.

Additionally, \$1,343.20 was donated, which provides 4,030 meals.

That's a total of 4766 meals - the Chattanooga Area Food Bank is truly grateful to all who supported this food drive.

OCC REPORT AND THANKS

The OCC Committee wants to thank all of you who helped with Operation Christmas Child this year, to those who packed boxes, brought items, packed on packing day, volunteered during collection week, baked cookies, and prayed.

CPC collected **659 boxes** this year, and as a Collection Drop-Off location, we received 2,220 shoeboxes!

Thank you, and God bless you.

Judy Foster, John & Debby Gardner, Mike & Cindy Dunlap, Cisse Griffin, Mary Caudle, Fiona Wade, Linda Sartain, and Michelle Miller

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Through November 24:

2024 Budget: \$1,780,340.00

Giving To Date: \$1,413,705.10

Diaconate Fund Balance: \$47,436.20

Diaconate account funds are managed by the Mercy Committee and are used to care for individuals within our church and community.

If you have questions, please contact these individuals:

- Chairman of the Diaconate: Mike Mason
mmason89@comcast.net
- Mercy Committee Chair: Geff Adams
mercy@cpcchatt.org
- Bookkeeper: Lauren Frye
lfrye@cpcchatt.org

Meet our Senior Pastor Candidate



David & Kelly Stephenson
Graham, Hudson, & Deacon

Dec 4 – Churchwide Dinner

David & Kelly will share about their journey since May and their continued interest in CPC.

Dec 15 – Worship Service

9:30 am – David will preach during the morning worship service.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

DEC 1 NURSERY SCHEDULE

Front Desk

Stacy Collins

Worship - 9:15 am

Wesley & Grace Durgin (Little Lambs)

Kristin & Abby Sotelo (Busy Bees)

Congregational Meeting

DEC 8 NURSERY SCHEDULE

Front Desk

Tammy Bacon

Worship - 9:15 am

Dianne Cosby & Sophia Cross (Little Lambs)

Sherlyn Hobbs & Shirley Jones (Busy Bees)

Sunday School - 11 am

Maria Lopez Tello & Raul Romero Núñez
(Little Lambs)

Sarah McCurry & Abby Knecht (Busy Bees)

MS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Fri, Dec 6 • 6 pm • Hostetler home

We will have dinner, games, and a white elephant gift exchange! Wear your best “funny Christmas sweater”! Please RSVP to Heather Morrison by Thursday, December 5.

ADVENT CALENDARS

If your family has a child between 3 years old-5th grade, please stop by the Lobby to pick an Advent calendar book to use with your family as we look forward to Christmas and celebrating the coming of Jesus, our Savior.

JESUS BIRTHDAY PARTY

Sat, Dec 7 • meet at CPC at 5 pm

Linda Summer, director of Agape Puppets Ministry, has invited our Youth students to attend the Jesus Birthday Party at her home. Transportation will be provided. We will return at 9 pm. Scan the QR Code to register by Wednesday, December 4!



HS PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Sat, Dec 14 • 5:30 pm • Lobby

We are so excited for the Progressive Dinner this year! We will stop by different church members' homes for the various courses of the meal and end with a white elephant gift exchange. Scan the QR Code to register by Thursday, December 12.



MIDWEEK

UPCOMING MIDWEEK MENU



December 4: Soup Night, Challah, Salad Bar, Bread Pudding

December 11: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Caesar Salad, Focaccia Bread, Cheesecake

December 18 Christmas Feast: Cherry Pork Roast, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Dinner Rolls, Chocolate Peppermint Cake

- Adult: \$6 / Child (5-11): \$4
- Family Max: \$20
- Cash or Check (Put in Cash Box)
- Pay Online (cpcchatt.org/give or scan QR code)



The cost per meal is suggested only. If you don't have the full amount, don't worry. Pay what you can. Visitors enjoy a free meal.

LAST MIDWEEK OF 2024

Wed, Dec 18

No Midweek meal or classes are scheduled after December 18. Midweek will resume on January 15, 2025. Be watching for new classes and opportunities in the new year.

FOOD ALLERGY INFO

If you want to know Midweek meal ingredients beforehand, please email our Hospitality Coordinator, Nicky Lewin, at NLewin@cpcchatt.org.

MIDWEEK KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS & CLEAN UP HELP

Midweek suppers are delicious, but they don't just appear on their own. If you would like to volunteer to help in the kitchen before supper, email our Hospitality Coordinator, Nicky Lewin, at NLewin@cpcchatt.org.

We always are looking for helpers to pitch in and clean up after supper.

OUTREACH

AGAPE PUPPETS

the
**Agape
Puppets**



**Linda Summer,
director**

Each year, Agape Puppets shares the true love of Jesus Christ with over 70,000 children, teenagers, and adults across five continents. In recent updates this fall, Linda Summer shared this about recent ministry in Egypt: *"Every day we heard the Muslim call to prayer. We worked in churches that were built nearly a thousand years ago...In the traffic of Cairo, we still saw donkeys! I will remember the children I saw on the streets. I will remember looking into the eyes of seas of children and praying that they would trust in Jesus. Many people would think that poverty is the greatest problem, but their greatest problem is also our greatest problem: We all need Jesus! [At] three women's conferences, we had the opportunity to share with hundreds of mothers, grandmothers, and young women. We also had many children at every*

program, so we included a shortened puppet show during these conferences. At these shows and conferences, we heard hundreds of women and children ask Jesus to rescue them!"

Please pray for Linda and this ministry in these particular ways:

- For Linda Summer, her health, and the new teams that are trained all over the world
- For the needed finances to travel as well as the ability to gain access to desired locations
- For Holy Spirit power with all of the teams sharing the Gospel through puppets and storytelling
- For new believers to grow and be connected to a local church for discipleship/encouragement

CPC MISSIONARIES TO FRANCE



Pete & Ruth Mitchell

Pete and Ruth serve in Toulouse, France with Mission to the World (MTW). This fall, they have seen encouraging growth in some of their outreaches in their community (a children's rally, Bible study on John, and a Reformation celebration). They have also witnessed church members under spiritual attack and their community hosting a "Door of Darkness" festival that has echoes of demonic symbolism. Pete and Ruth recently wrote, *"It's been pretty gloomy and rainy over here in France. We've had floods in certain regions similar to those in North Carolina. Church attendance has been low as it's school vacation...yet David calls us to praise God because your loving kindness is better than life! It is our spiritual life, and that is better than our temporal life. It's so easy to get caught up with what we have or don't have."*

Please pray for them and their ministry in these particular ways:

- For increased hunger and thirst for Bible study and prayer in our community
- For their adult children and their families who are stateside
- For couples in church plant who need to reconcile, learn to forgive