

# The Lord's Service

## December 28, 2025

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

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship

## 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**

1 Chronicles 29.10-13

LEADER: Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty;

PEOPLE: For all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.

LEADER: Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.

PEOPLE: Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all.

LEADER: In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

PEOPLE: And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

### 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 Pastor Bill Massey

\*Hymns of Adoration & Praise

*What Child Is This*  
(Hymnal No.213)

What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through;  
the cross be borne for me, for you:  
hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, peasant, king, to own him;  
the King of kings salvation brings,  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
the virgin sings her lullaby:  
joy, joy for Christ is born,  
the babe, the son of Mary.

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*  
(Hymnal No.216)

Infant holy, infant lowly,  
for his bed a cattle stall;  
oxen lowing, little knowing  
Christ, the babe, is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging angels singing,  
noels ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
Christ the babe is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping: shepherds keeping  
vigil till the morning new  
saw the glory, heard the story,  
tidings of a gospel true.

Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,  
praises voicing, greet the morrow:  
Christ the babe was born for you.  
Christ the babe was born for you.

## God Cleanses Us

### 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.

### Call to Confession

Deuteronomy 6.4-6

**LEADER:** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

**PEOPLE:** And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

### Corporate Confession of Sin

from *Book of Common Prayer* (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.

### Private Confession of Sin

## Assurance of Pardon

## Psalm 33.20-22

**LEADER:** Lift up your heads and hear the Good News:

“Our soul waits for the Lord, he is our help and our shield. For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you.”

## Passing of the Peace

**LEADER:** The peace of the Lord be with you!

**PEOPLE:** And also with you!

*\*Please stand and extend God's peace to those around you.*

## \*Hymn of Assurance

## *On Christmas Night All Christians Sing*

Hymnal No.227

On Christmas night all Christians sing,  
to hear the news the angels bring;  
on Christmas night all Christians sing,  
to hear the news the angels bring:  
news of great joy, news of great mirth,  
news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should we on earth be sad,  
since our Redeemer made us glad:  
then why should we on earth be sad,  
since our Redeemer made us glad:  
when from our sin he set us free,  
all for to gain our liberty.

When sin departs before Your grace,  
then life and health come in its place;  
when sin departs before Your grace,  
then life and health come in its place;  
angels and men with joy may sing,  
all for to see the new-born King.

All out of darkness we have light  
which made the angels sing this night;  
all out of darkness we have light  
which made the angels sing this night:  
“Glory to God and peace to men,  
now and forevermore. Amen.”

## Assurance of Pardon

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

## Passing of the Peace

In Christ, we are one family. In this moment, we extend His peace with a handshake, a smile, or a simple greeting. We do this to remind one another of the grace we have received and now share with each other.

# God Consecrates Us

## Scripture Lesson

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

## 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.

## Scripture Lesson

Psalm 96 (p.499)  
read by Elder Jason Coffey

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

## Tithes and Offerings

## Offertory

*Who Would Send a Baby?*

Composed by Mary Kay Beall

Soloists: Claire and Penny James

Who would send a baby to heal a world in pain?

Who would send a baby, a tiny child?

When the world is waiting for the Promised One,

Who would send His only Son?

Who would send a baby to light a world with love?

Who would send a baby, a tiny child?

When the world is hoping for the Promised One,

Who would send His only Son?

Who would choose a manger to cradle a king?

Who would send angels to sing?

Who would hang a star in the sky above

To shine on the gift of His infinite love?

Who would send a baby to bless a world with peace?

Who would send a baby, a tiny child?

When the world is yearning for the Promised One,

Who would send a baby?

Who would send His only begotten Son?

## 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.

## \*Doxology

*OLD HUNDREDTH*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'ly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

## Prayer of the Church

by Pastor Bill Massey

## Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 61.1-3 (p.620);  
Revelation 21.1-5 (p.1041)

## Sermon

by Pastor David Stephenson

### WHEN GOD RESTORES THE WORLD

#### \*Hymn of Response

*Go, Tell It on the Mountain*  
(Hymnal No.224)

*Refrain:* Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

The shepherds feared and trembled  
when, lo! above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

Down in a lowly manger  
our humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

#### \*Confession of Faith

Westminster Confession of Faith 8.1

LEADER: Christian, what do you believe?

PEOPLE: It pleased God in His eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, His only begotten Son, to be the Mediator between God and man, the Prophet, and King, the Head and Savior of His Church, the Heir of all things, and Judge of the world. Unto whom He did from all eternity give a people to be His seed, and to be by Him in time redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified.

## 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.

#### 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.

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.

## God Commissions Us

### **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.

### \*Benediction

### Postlude

# SERMON NOTES

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**Title:** When God Restores the World

**Text:** Isaiah 61.1-3, Revelation 21.1-5

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## Mission Statement of CPC

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

### CPC Pastors

David Stephenson (*Senior Pastor*), Bill Massey (*Assistant Pastor of Discipleship*),  
Travis Hutchinson (*Interim Pastor of Youth & Families*)

### CPC Officers

ELDERS: Woody Brauer, Jason Brown, Adam Cathey, Jason Coffey, Jon Harris,  
Ken Henry, Ken Hostetler, Bill Massey, Will McDaniel, Chris Rimondi,  
Adam Sanders (Clerk of Session), Todd Smith, David Stephenson (Moderator), Rex Wagner,  
Mike Walker, Tim Warren, Tracy Wright

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

## 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).

If you are visiting or are wanting to become a member of Covenant, consider attending the *What Is Presbyterian?* Class that meets in Room 120.

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We invite you to join us next week as Pastor David preaches from Isaiah 61 & Rev. 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, 2022 (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 28**

Worship Service - Sanctuary - 9:30 am

### **Thursday, January 1**

Church Offices Closed - New Year's Day

### **Sunday, January 4**

Worship Service - Sanctuary - 9:30 am

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## NARTHEX FLOWERS

Flowers have been placed in the Narthex in memory and honor of loved ones that we will miss as we gather together this season.

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## CONGRATULATIONS

The rose placed on the chancel is in honor of the birth of Ezra James Pittman, son of Nathan and Hannah Pittman, born December 17.

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## MORE INFORMATION

All music is printed under CCLI No. 447727.

**Website:** [cpcchatt.org](http://cpcchatt.org)

**Prayer Requests:** Email your request or update to [prayer@cpcchatt.org](mailto:prayer@cpcchatt.org). These needs are shared M-F. If you have an urgent need, contact your shepherding elder.

**Online Directory:** Contact the church office to request access as a member.

# COVENANT LIFE

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## YOUTH GAME NIGHT

**Fri, Jan 9 • 6 pm • Room 100 (SFH)**

We hope you can join us for Game Night!

We will be playing a few group games.

Pizza is provided!

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## MORALES BABY SHOWER

**Sat, Jan 10 • 2 pm • Room 121-122**

Join us to celebrate and shower Grace (Morrison) Morales, who grew up at CPC, and her husband Fernando as they are expecting their first baby boy in February!

Scan the QR code to see their registry.



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## YOUTH PARENT SEMINAR

**Sun, Jan 11 • Noon • Room 100 (SFH)**

Please join us for a seminar introducing our youth ministry spring study - a Biblical Worldview series on sexuality and gender.

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## CPC BLOOD DRIVE

**Wed, Jan 14 • 4:30 pm • Parking Lot**

CPC is partnering with Blood Assurance to host the Bloodmobile in our parking lot. Scan the QR Code to sign-up online for the time you prefer.



## A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

The church staff would like to thank the congregation for their generous gifts and love offering this Christmas season. It is a pleasure working for and with such a loving and supportive congregation.

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## CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE

In the Lobby:

Please check the slot with the first letter of your last name and take your cards home today.

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## MEN'S MINISTRY CONFERENCE

**Jan 23-24 • Schum Fellowship Hall**

Our focus this year will be *Christian Men: Called to Provide and Protect*. Brian Cosby will be our speaker.

We will gather Friday evening at 6:00 pm for dinner, fellowship, and teaching.

Saturday morning at 8:30 am, we will return for breakfast and additional sessions. Cost is \$30 for men. High school students are free. Scan the QR Code to register.



# COVENANT LIFE

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

2025 Budget.....\$1,947,725.39

Giving as of 12/21/25.....\$1,505,091.31

Giving as of 12/22/24.....\$1,523,224.47

If you have questions, please contact:

- CPC Treasurer: Gary Cosby  
*cpctreasurer@cpcchatt.org*
- CPC Bookkeeper: Lauren Frye  
*lfrye@cpcchatt.org*

## END-OF-YEAR GIVING

All end-of-the-year contributions need to be in the offering or locked offering box in the Lobby by **TODAY** (or postmarked by December 31) to be counted as

tax-deductible for 2025 contributions.

Like last year, all giving statements will be sent digitally to the email address we have on record in ShelbyNext. If you would like your giving statement to be mailed or have any questions, please contact the church office at *office@cpcchatt.org*.

## HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The church offices will be closed January 1 for New Year's Day.

## CELEBRATIONS CALENDAR

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

## NURSERY SCHEDULE - TODAY

Worship - 9:15 am			Sunday School - 11 am	
Front Desk	Little Lambs	Busy Bees	Little Lambs	Busy Bees
Sherry Baierl	Dianne Cosby Barbara Leach Lauren Warren	Lois Ann Atkinson Cisse Griffin Bea Sanders	No SS	No SS

## NURSERY SCHEDULE - Jan 4

Worship - 9:15 am			Sunday School - 11 am	
Front Desk	Little Lambs	Busy Bees	Little Lambs	Busy Bees
Laura Spotts	Hannah Ingram Esther McEachern Lillie Yonkofski	Sherlyn Hobbs Calvin Ingram Tim Warren	No SS	No SS

# MISSIONS

PRAYING FOR THE GOSPEL TO BE MADE KNOWN THROUGH ME



In My Life



In My Family



In My Church



In My Neighborhood



In My Job



In My City



In My World

## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

One of RUF's (Reformed University Fellowship) core values is strong partnership with local churches. Providing food for a Tuesday night Large Group Worship at UTC is a blessing to the students and a great way for the students to meet people from local churches and get connected.

If you and your Sunday School, small group, choir, Bible study, or any group would like to provide food for one of these large RUF meetings, scan this QR code to get more information and sign up.



## LOCAL MINISTRIES TO SUPPORT

Amani Ya Juu & the Livingstone  
Chattanooga Sports Ministries  
Child Evangelism Fellowship  
Choices  
Fellowship of Christian Athletes  
Hope for the Inner City  
Love's Arm Outreach Ministries  
Metanoia Prison Ministries

More details at [cpcchatt.org/ministry/outreach](http://cpcchatt.org/ministry/outreach)

