

December 21, 2025

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Angels, from the Realms Dobrinsky

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 118:1, 15, 24

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

People: His love endures forever!

Leader: Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the
righteous:

People: The LORD's right hand has done mighty things!

Leader: This is the day the LORD has made;

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

INVOCATION

*HYMN 218 Angels, from the Realms of Glory

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Unison: Our Father, we confess that adoration is often one of the elements most lacking in our worship and prayer lives. We tend to more frequently engage in thanksgiving, confession, and supplication, while adoration is often minimal or absent. You are a great God and greatly to be praised! Forgive us our lack of exaltation, worship, acclamation, homage, and honor. Help us to grow in this aspect of our Christian lives this Advent season through the adoration of your Son, our incarnate Savior, Jesus Christ. For we pray in His Name. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON John 5:24

Leader: Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.”

*GLORIA PATRI 734

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 145 (responsive, hymnal p. 838)

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY A Call to Christmas Miller

*DOXOLOGY 731

NEW TESTAMENT READING Luke 1:26–38 (p. 855)

**HYMN 201 O Little Town of Bethlehem

SERMON

O COME, LET US ADORE HIM
Luke 2:15–21 (p. 857)
Dr. John Muhlfeld

*HYMN 208 O Come, All Ye Faithful

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Joy to the World! Limbaugh

**Please stand if able*

***Children may proceed to Jr. Church (age 5–grade 1: Room 112; grades 2–3: Room 110)*

Kindly silence all electronic devices

Activity bags for young children are available in the narthex.

Please see an usher if you would like to utilize an assisted listening device

*Welcome to everyone worshipping with us today.
We trust the Lord will strengthen and encourage you
through our fellowship together.*

*If you are a visitor, please complete the attendance register in full.
Upon exiting the main lobby doors,
please accept a gift of welcome bread.*

Serving this morning:

Worship Leaders – Jeff Currier, Juan Estevez

Musician – Adult Choir, Adult Bell Choir, Covenant Musicians, Helen Ro

Audio/Visual Technicians – Steve Bikle, Jeff Currier, Tyler Delk,
Greg Fisher

Covenant Church Office: (215) 256-1007

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

218

They saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.
 Matt. 2:11

1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
 2. Shep - herds in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
 3. Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
 4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in hope and fear,
 5. All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;

ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 God with man is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant Light:
 • seek the great De - sire of na - tions; ye have seen his na - tal star:
 sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:
 ev - er - more your voice - es rais - ing to th'e - ter - nal Three in One;

REFRAIN
 Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

James Montgomery, 1816, 1825

 REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7
 Henry Smart, 1907

PSALM 145

I will exalt you, my God the King; I will
 praise your name for ever and ever.

**Every day I will praise you and extol
 your name for ever and ever.**

Great is the LORD and most worthy of
 praise;

his greatness no one can fathom.

One generation will commend your
 works to another; they will tell of your
 mighty acts.

**They will speak of the glorious
 splendor of your majesty, and I will
 meditate on your wonderful works.**

They will tell of the power of your awe-
 some works, and I will proclaim your great
 deeds.

**They will celebrate your abundant
 goodness and joyfully sing of your righ-
 teousness.**

The LORD is gracious and compassion-
 ate, slow to anger and rich in love.

**The LORD is good to all; he has com-
 passion on all he has made.**

All you have made will praise you, O
 LORD; your saints will extol you.

**They will tell of the glory of your
 kingdom and speak of your might,**

so that all men may know of your
 mighty acts and the glorious splendor of
 your kingdom.

**Your kingdom is an everlasting king-
 dom, and your dominion endures
 through all generations.**

The LORD is faithful to all his promises
 and loving toward all he has made.

**The LORD upholds all those who fall
 and lifts up all who are bowed down.**

The eyes of all look to you, and you
 give them their food at the proper time.

**You open your hand and satisfy the
 desires of every living thing.**

The LORD is righteous in all his ways
 and loving toward all he has made.

**The LORD is near to all who call on
 him, to all who call on him in truth.**

He fulfills the desires of those who fear
 him; he hears their cry and saves them.

**The LORD watches over all who love
 him, but all the wicked he will destroy.**

My mouth will speak in praise of the
 LORD.

**Let every creature praise his holy
 name for ever and ever.**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

JESUS CHRIST:

Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small ... out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. Mic. 5:2

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie;
 2. For Christ is born of Mar - y; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4. O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

a - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by:
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 And prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 where meek souls will re - ceive him still, the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el.

Phillips Brooks, 1868

ST. LOUIS, C.M.D. reg.
Lewis H. Redner, 1968

HIS BIRTH

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about. Luke 2:15

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,
 2. God of God, Light of Light;
 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing:

O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem; come and be - hold him
 lo, he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb: ver - y God, be -
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove; glo - ry to God
 Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n; Word of the Fa - ther,

REFRAIN
 born the King of an - gels;
 got - ten, not cre - a - ted;
 in the high - est; O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let
 late in flesh ap - pear - ing;

us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Latin hymn
 Attr. to John Francis Wade, 1751
 Tr. by Frederick Oakley, 1941; alt.

ADESTE FIDELES 6.6.10.5.6 ref.
 John Francis Wade's Cantus Diversi, 1751

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lighting the fourth Advent candle this morning and reading from God's Word is Collier Kirkland.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this morning's Christmas breakfast! Please be sure to pick up any dishes you brought before leaving today.

All women are invited to take two envelopes containing names of Covenant sisters from the narthex Christmas tree and then pray for them throughout the busy Advent season.

Everyone is invited tonight to an evening of Christmas caroling and fellowship. Please meet at the church at 4:30 p.m. to carpool to the homes of various members, followed by refreshments back at Covenant around 6:30 p.m.

Please join us for our Christmas Eve Service on December 24 at 7:00 p.m. Invitation postcards may be found in the narthex.

Free childcare for ages one to eleven is available on Saturday, January 10 from 4:30–7:00 p.m., courtesy of Covenant's youth group. You may register online using the link in *Covenant Update* or use the forms found in the narthex by Sunday, January 4.

The Senior Fellowship will begin the new year with breakfast at the Franconia Heritage Restaurant on Tuesday, January 13 at 9:30 a.m. Please sign up in the narthex by January 4.

Help us invite visitors with spiritual questions to our free, low-pressure three-week course, *Hope Explored*, on January 24, January 31, and February 7 at 10:00 a.m. Invitation postcards may be found in the narthex. Contact Bob Witmer (215-872-6231) with questions.

The youth group's progressive dinner is Sunday, January 25 from 5:00–8:00 p.m. We are looking for volunteers to host one course: appetizer, dinner, or dessert. Hosting can be in your home or at the church. Contact Juan Estevez (jestevez@covpreschurch.org) by December 26 to volunteer.

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday 12/21	9:00	a.m.	Christmas Breakfast
	10:30	a.m.	Worship Service
	11:45	a.m.	Adult Choir Practice
	11:45	a.m.	Adult Bell Choir Practice
	3:30	p.m.	Junior Choir Practice
	4:30	p.m.	Christmas Caroling

Monday 12/22

Tuesday 12/23

Wednesday 12/24			Office Closed
	7:00	p.m.	Christmas Eve Service

Thursday 12/25

Office Closed

Friday 12/26

Office Closed

Saturday 12/27

Sunday 12/28	9:15	a.m.	Sunday School & Year-End Prayer and Praise
	10:00	a.m.	Heart Hiders
	10:30	a.m.	Worship Service

For a complete listing of events at Covenant, or for more information on ministries, please visit www.covpreschurch.org



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)
310 Covenant Lane, Harleysville, PA 19438
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www.covpreschurch.org
(215) 256-1007

CONGREGATIONAL MATTERS
FOR PRAYER AND PRAISE

Health Related

Charlotte Huff

Barbara Kolbe

Expecting

Sade Lemoine (Due Apr 10)

Steph Balmer (Due June 21)

Missions

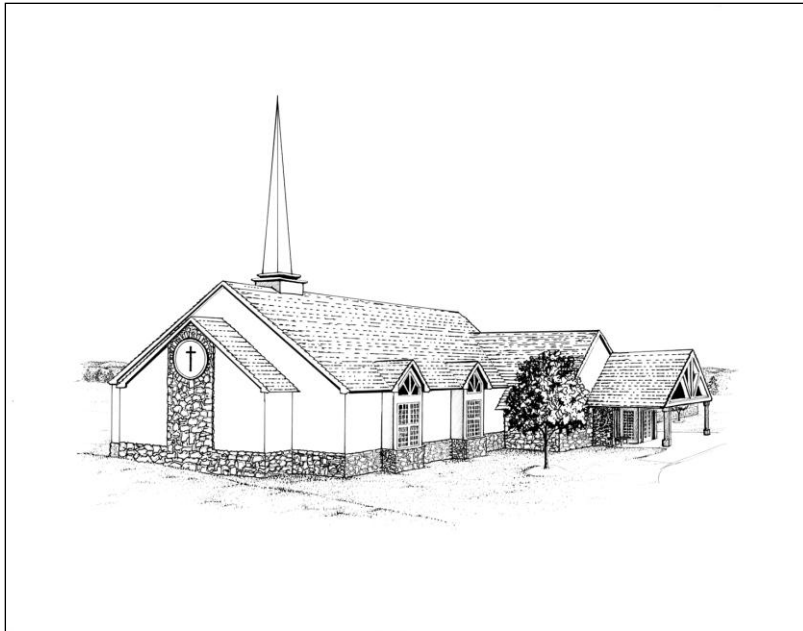
Bruce and Anne McDowell are PCA missionaries serving the Reformed Theological Seminary (STS) in Santiago, Dominican Republic where Bruce is cofounder and President. The McDowells share the following praises and prayer requests:

- praise for a fantastic symposium on theological education with 143 pastors from a wide range of churches in attendance
- praise the Lord for providing a volunteer fundraiser for STS
- praise for progress being made towards offering certification for their Biblical Counseling graduates
- praise for 60 students enrolled in their new two-year Diploma in Theology
- praise for a recent mission’s conference attended by about 300 from many churches
- praise for good progress on construction of a new classroom, four offices and a cafe
- praise for a new missionary partner who will be coordinating a diploma program in Missions, Evangelism and Church Planting
- praise that Kaleah is having a much better year academically in second grade, as new leadership has implemented a better plan
- pray for preparations for a Biblical Counseling Conference to be held August 21-22 in Santo Domingo
- pray for a growing mission’s movement in Dominican churches
- pray for how STS can be responsive to the pastors who attended their symposium on theological education
- pray for Anne’s heavy teaching load in ESL, with many more students than last year

SUNDAY MORNING
VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	Dec 21	Dec 28	Jan 4	Jan 11
Sunday School Nursery Room 120	Christmas Breakfast	Abigail English	Ella Clement	Ashely Benoit
Heart Hiders Room 110	Christmas Breakfast	L. Barbadoro	Sharon Muhlfeld	Lydia Putnam
Worship Service Infants Room 120	George & Cathy Schmidt	Kelly Little	Kristen Jones	Cathy Nagy
Worship Service 1s-2s Room 123	Pam Taylor D. Rutkowski	M. Medendorp Jasmine Muhlfeld	Becky Snyder Lily Snyder	Caroline Smith Amy Muhlfeld
Worship Service 3s-4s Room 122	Danielle Moyer Jesse Moyer	Laura Wambold Maggie Wambold	Yvonne Marshall Jayda Marshall	Abigail English Luke Snyder
Junior Church 5s – grade 1 Room 112	A. McMillan	A. McMillan	Jonathan & Ashley O’Hara	Kathy McHale
Junior Church Grades 2-3 Room 110	Steve Rutkowski	Mark & Rebecca Kleeman	David & Joy Schmidt	Phil & Kerri Hoogenhuis
Welcome Bread Bakers	Nancy Hillman	Debbie Schultz	Sarah Keating	Erna Fenchel
Greeters	Rick & Martha Moody	Larry & Pat Stoner	Jason & Ella Clement	Ken & Diane Dietterich
Ushers	Dan Benoit Rick Castor Brandon Jones Kris Malysz Jeremy Riggall Henry Schultz Jim Taylor	Tom Buhay Mark Kleeman Jake Barbadoro Noah Keating Jack Kane John Kane Bob McClurken Shahil Patel	Byron Childs David Schmidt Charlie Burger Sam Kleeman Jim Lowery Bill Propsner D. Rutkowski	Dan Benoit Andy Ford D. Dietterich Ed Gottschalk Dan Hillman Bob Kenderdine Ed Wilson

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*The mission of Covenant Presbyterian Church
is to help people know Christ,
grow together in the grace of Christ,
and advance the kingdom of Christ,
all to the glory and worship of God forever.*