



December 14, 2025



'Adoration of the Maji in the Snow.' 1590-1638, Brueghel II



**“Preaching God’s Sovereign Grace to a World of Need”**

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128 St. Mary’s Church Road • Abingdon, MD 21009  
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# The Lord's Day

December 14, 2025

## God's Call to Us to Worship Him

**"Be still and know that I Am God"**

**Advent Reading:** Psalm 33:13-22

The Owens Family

### **\*His Call to Us to Worship Him**

from Psalm 127-128, 130

**Elder:** Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain.

**People:** **Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.**

**Elder:** But blessed are all who fear the Lord, blessed are those who walk in his ways.

**People:** **Thus is the man blessed who fears the Lord.**

**Elder:** With the Lord there is forgiveness.

**People:** **There is forgiveness that He may be feared.**

**Elder:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And with your spirit.**

**Elder:** Let us worship God.

### **\*Prayer of Invocation**

### **\*Hymns of Our Procession Into the Presence of God**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Bulletin, page 6

Ps.13: How Long Will You Forget Me, LORD? (TPH)

Bulletin, page 7

## The Father Reaffirms His Covenant with Us

**Reading of the Moral Law**

Bulletin, pages 8-9

*Responsive Reading: Words of Jesus from the Gospels*

**Call to Confession**

Romans 8:39

**Prayer of Adoration & Confession**

Elder led prayer

**Assurance of His Pardon**

—based on Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A's 17-18

**Elder:** Our Lord Jesus Christ— truly God and at the same time truly human and truly righteous— is the mediator who was given to set us completely free and to make us right with God.

**People:** By the power of his divinity, he bore the weight of God's anger in his humanity, restoring us to righteousness and life.

**\*Hymn of Thanksgiving**

Fairest Lord Jesus

Bulletin, page 10

**Intercessory Prayer**

**Christ is Made Known to Us**

**Hymn of Prayer**

Ps.20b: The LORD in Your Distress Attend

Bulletin, page 11

**His Word is Opened to Us**

Dr. David G. Barker

**Scripture: Hebrews 2:1-4**

*"The grass withers, the flower fades,  
but the Word of our God will stand forever."*

**Message: Christmas in Hebrews: Escaping Salvation?**

**Prayer for Response and Obedience**

**We Depart with His Blessing  
And Sending of His Spirit**

**Presenting His Tithes and Our Offerings**

Offertory

\*Doxology

**\*Hymn of Our Procession Into the World**

The Lord Will Come and Not Be Slow

Bulletin, page 12

**\*Charge and Benediction** (Trinity Hymn Book #368, vs.3)

Both rich and poor, both bond and free, shall worship him  
on bended knee, and children's children shall proclaim  
the glorious honor of his name. All earth to him  
her homage brings, the Lord of lords, the King of kings.

**Postlude**

\*Congregation Standing

# The Coming Messiah

## A “Great” Salvation?

### Hebrews 2:1-4

(see also: Dt. 33:2; Is. 6; Mt. 7:24-27; 13:18ff; Jn. 3:16; Acts 7:53; Gal. 3:19)

The book of Hebrews was written to:

- a) people who had never heard the gospel before.
- b) people who were confused about the gospel
- c) people who knew the gospel but who had laid it aside.

### #1 – He stresses the \_\_\_\_\_ of this salvation.

How do we re-enact the coming of Christ every year?

*“Peace on earth, good will to men” (Lk. 2:14)*

What does this really mean?

### #2 – He stresses the \_\_\_\_\_ of the judgment.

How are we to appreciate the book of Leviticus?

Why was Isaiah so terrified by the vision of God’s holiness?

So, can the salvation of Christ be anything but \_\_\_\_\_?

can anything else deliver us from so \_\_\_\_\_ a judgment?

### #3 - What does “neglect” look like?

the parable of the soils –

the analogy of the house-builder –

Have I embraced or am I neglecting so great a salvation?

New Covenant Presbyterian Church, OPC, Abingdon, MD (410) 569-0289

# *My Own Thoughts*



Adoration of the Kings, 1556, Brueghel

# Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

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*Waiting for the consolation of Israel. Luke 2:25*

1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
 2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, ap - pear;  
 3. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he whose glo - ries knew no end;  
 4. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
 come, thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se, of thy birth we long to hear!  
 by his life he brings us glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend.  
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
 O'er the hills the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings of a birth:  
 Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in a cat - tle stall;  
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
 "Go to him, your prais - es bring - ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."  
 this the ev - er - last - ing won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.  
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

St. 1, 4, Charles Wesley, 1744

St. 2-3, Mark E. Hunt, 1978


Text of verses 2 & 3 © 1978, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Used by permission

HYFRYDQL 87.87.D.  
 Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855

# Psalm 13



1. <sup>1</sup>How long will you for - get me, LORD? For - ev - er will it be?  
 2. <sup>2</sup>How long must I be sad each day in deep per - plex - it - y?  
 3. <sup>3</sup>O LORD my God, con - sid - er me and give me your re - ply.  
 4. <sup>4</sup>Then would my en - e - my de - clare, "At last I brought him low!"  
 5. <sup>5</sup>But still I trust your stead - fast love; your sav - ing pow'r I praise.



How long, LORD, will you hide your face and turn your gaze from me?  
 How long will my op - po - nent stand in tri - umph o - ver me?  
 • Light up my eyes or I will sleep the sleep of those who die.  
 And so my foes would sing for joy to see my o - ver - throw.  
<sup>6</sup>The LORD has rich - ly dealt with me; my songs to him I raise.

## Responsive Reading of the Moral Law

### *Words of Jesus from the Gospels*

Leader: I am the Lord your God, ... 'Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. ... You shall have no other gods before me. (Is. 43:1; Ex. 20:2)

People: **"It is written: 'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" (Mt. 4:10)**

Leader: You shall not make for yourself a carved image ... You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your god am a jealous God ... . (Ex. 20:4-5)

People: **"God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." (Jn. 4:24)**

Leader: You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, ... . (Ex. 20:7)

People: **"Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, ... And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil. (Mt. 5:34-37)**

Leader: Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ... the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. (Ex. 20:8, 11)

People: **"The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath. ... It is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.'" (Mk. 2:27-28; Mt. 12:12)**

Leader: Honor your father and your mother ... . (Ex. 20:12)

People: **"Jesus said, 'You know the commandments: ... 'Honor your father and mother.'" (Mk. 10:19)**



Leader: You shall not murder. (Ex. 20:13)

**People:** “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; (Mt. 5:21-22)

Leader: You shall not commit adultery. (Ex. 20:14)

**People:** “I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.” (Mt. 5:28)

Leader: You shall not steal. (Ex. 20:15)

**People:** “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” (Jn. 10:10)

Leader: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. (Ex. 20:16)

**People:** “Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.” (Mt. 12:34-35)

Leader: You shall not covet ... anything that belongs to your neighbor. (Ex. 20:17)

**People:** And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions. ... But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” (Lk. 12:15; Mt. 6:33)

all quotations are taken from the English Standard Version

# Fairest Lord Jesus

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*You are the most excellent of men and your lips have been anointed with grace, since  
God has blessed you forever. Ps. 45:2*

Capo 1: F (D) (Em) (A) (D) 7 (Bm) (B<sup>7</sup>) (Em) (A) (D)

1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Rul - er of all na - ture,  
2. Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
3. Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! Lord of the na - tions!

(G) (D) (A<sup>7</sup>) (D) (A<sup>7</sup>) (D) (A) (D) (G) (D) (B<sup>7</sup>) (Em)

Son of God and Son of Man! Thee will I cher - ish,  
robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,  
and all the twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,  
Son of God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or,

(B<sup>7</sup>) (Em) (A<sup>7</sup>) (D) 7 (Bm) (D<sup>7</sup>) (G) (D) (A<sup>7</sup>) (D) 7

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.  
Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.  
Je - sus shines pur - er than all the an - gels heav'n can boast.  
praise, ad - o - ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be thine.


Münster Gesangbuch, 1677  
Tr. 1850, 1873

CRUSADER'S HYMN 5.6.8.5.5.8.  
Silesian folk song  
Schlesische Volkslieder, Leipzig, 1842

# Psalm 20B



1. <sup>1</sup>The LORD in your dis - tress at - tend; may Ja - cob's  
 2. <sup>3</sup>May he re - gard your sac - ri - fice, and all your  
 3. <sup>5</sup>May we in your sal - va - tion joy, our ban - ners  
 4. <sup>6</sup>And this I know: the LORD will save and his a -



God pro - tect you well, <sup>2</sup>and from his ho - ly  
 of - f'nings bear in mind; <sup>4</sup>O may he grant your  
 raise in God's great name. O may the LORD ful -  
 nain - ted one de - fend with sav - ing might of



place send help and strength - en you from Zi - on's hill.  
 heart's de - sire, ful - fill - ing all that you de - signed.  
 fill your prayers and grant you all you ask of him.  
 his right hand, from ho - ly heav'n an an - swer send.

5. <sup>7</sup>In chariots some have confidence,  
 and some in horses take their pride,  
 but we boast only one defense—  
 the name of God, the LORD Most High.

6. <sup>8</sup>Now we arise and stand upright,  
 while they, subdued and helpless, fall.  
<sup>9</sup>O by your hand, LORD, save the king,  
 and may he answer when we call.

# The Lord Will Come and Not Be Slow

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*He comes to judge ... the world in righteousness and the peoples in his truth.*

Ps. 96:13

1. The Lord will come and not be slow, his foot-steps can - not err;  
 2. Truth from the earth, like to a flow'r, shall bud and blos - som then,  
 3. Rise, God, and judge the earth in might, this wick - ed earth re - dress;  
 4. For great you are, and won - ders great by your strong hand are done:

be - fore him righ - teous - ness shall go, his roy - al har - bin - ger.  
 and jus - tice, from her heav'n - ly bow'r, look down on mor - tal men.  
 for you are he who shall by right the na - tions all pos - sess.  
 you in your ev - er - last - ing seat re - main the Lord a - lone.

John Milton, 1608-1684  
 Arr. 1990, mod.

ST. MAGNUS C.M.  
 Arr. to Jeremiah Clarke, 1701

# **New Covenant Presbyterian Church**

## **Lord's Day Evening Service**

**December 14, 2025**

Welcome, Announcements

Call to Re-Gather at the close of the Lord's Day Ps. 56:10-11

Prayer of Adoration

Hymns to the glory and praise of our Covenant God

Scriptural Warning

of the Human Condition Ps. 56:1-2, 5-7

and the Way of Salvation Ps. 56:8-11

Unison Prayer

*Remember, O my soul, it is thy duty and privilege to rejoice in God; He requires it of thee for all his factors of grace. Rejoice then in the giver and his goodness, Be happy in him, O my heart, and in nothing but God, for whatever a man trusts in from that he expects happiness. He who is the ground of thy faith would be the substance of thy joy.*

*Why am I heavy and dejected, when joy is promised by the Father, bestowed by the Son, accomplished by the Holy Spirit? I have nothing of my own but sin, nothing to move God to be gracious. If I forget this, I will lose my joy. Let godly sorrow work repentance for sin, as the true spirit which the Lord blesses, and which creates fullest joy; Sorrow for self opens rejoicing in God, Self-loathing decreases divine delights. Am I seeking joy in some creature comfort?*

*Let me not look below God for happiness. O my soul, let God be all in all to thee and joy in the fountain that is always full. In the name of Christ, Amen.*

Assurance of Pardon and Encouragement

to Hope and Obedience Ps. 56:12-13

Psalms 56 Bulletin, pages 15-16

Prayers of Supplication and Thanksgiving

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-56

Message: Mary's Prayer

Closing Hymn: Mary's Prayer Bulletin, page 17

Prayer of Benediction

## **Jesus – From Christmas to Easter**

### ***Mary's Prayer***

*Luke 1:26-56*

**God's saving mercy is for the lowly. God's humbling censure is for the lofty.**

Why is Mary so happy?

God's mercy

God's savior

God's remembrance

How can she be so sure?

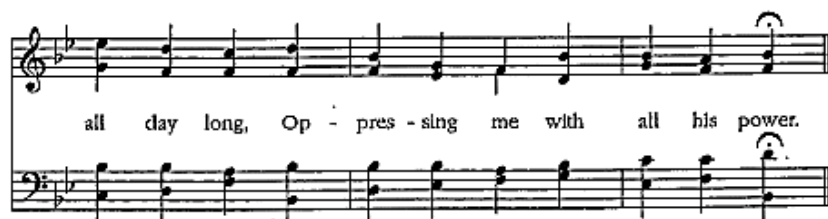
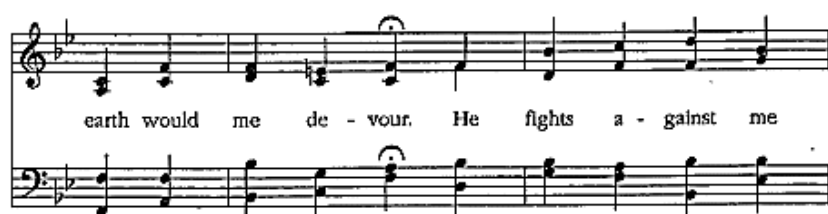
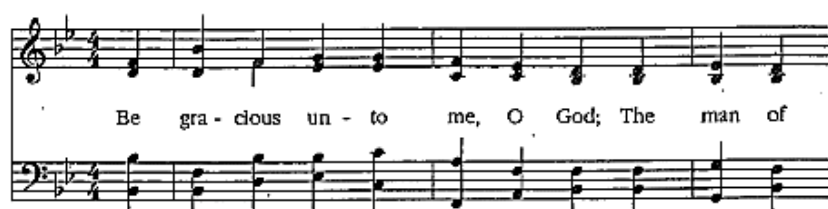
proud minds

mighty thrones

empty rich

# Psalm 56

## Verse 1



TUNE: WINCHESTER NEW LM  
(NTH, p. 58)  
("O Splendor of God's Glory")

*Verses 4b-5*

In God I trust; I will not fear,  
For what can mere flesh do to me?  
All day they twist my words; their thoughts  
Are all of schemes to injure me.

*Verses 8-11*

You count my wanderings; my tears  
You keep in precious mem-o-ry.  
My foes shall, when I call, turn back;  
Long I have known God is for me.

In God, Whose word I'll always praise.  
The LORD, Whose word my praise shall be  
In God I trust; I will not fear,  
For what can mere man do to me?



# Mary's Prayer

*Unison*

1. My soul will shout "The Lord is great!" My Sav - ior saw my  
2. A - gainst the proud God's strength is shown. He dragged the might - y

*Harmony*

low es - tate. All gen - er - a - tions call me blessed and  
from their throne. He lift - ed those of low es - tate. The

*Unison*

of His works I can at - test. His mer - cy  
hun - ger of the poor did sate. He makes the

*Harmony*

is for those who fear from one year to an - oth - er year.  
rich be those in need. Helped us through Ab - ra - ham - ic seed.

Traditional English carol  
Mod.

SUSSEX CAROL 8.8.8.8.8.  
Traditional English carol  
Arr. by Nicholas C. Hathaway, 2025