

Calvary Presbyterian Church

January 4, 2026



Our Mission - We exist to know, worship, serve, and enjoy the one true God.

Our Vision - We seek to love God completely, love others selflessly, and everywhere proclaim Christ: crucified, risen, and reigning forever.



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We Enter into Worship...

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Call to Worship

Chris Holmberg

Choir

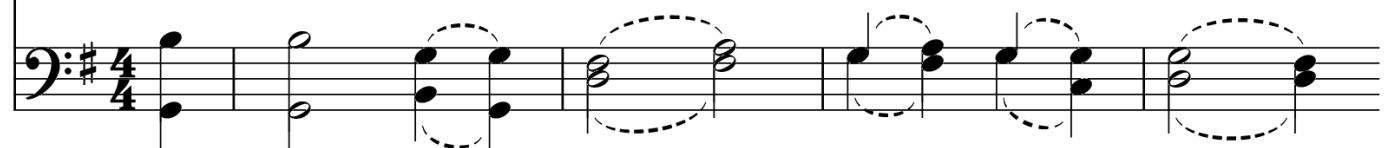
Luke 2:11-14

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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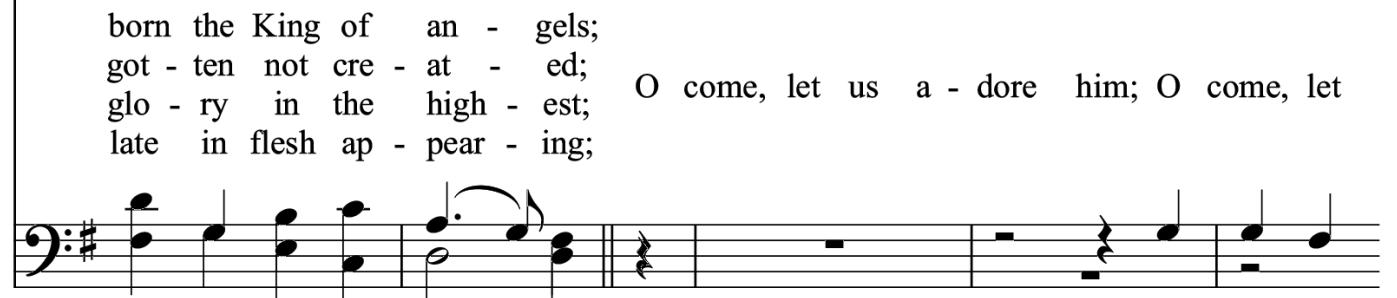
1. O come, all ye faithful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,
2. God of God, Light of Light;
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing:



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, all Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n; Word of the Fa - ther,



Refrain



(continued on next page)

Latin hymn
Attr. to John Francis Wade, 1751
Tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1841; alt.

ADESTE FIDELES Irreg., ref.
John Francis Wade, *Cantus Diversi*, 1751
CCLI# 594962

We Meet with God through Prayer, Scripture & Song...

Corporate Prayer of Confession & Silent Confession

Our Heavenly Father, we bow before you today, awed by your holiness and grieved by our sin. You are both source and object of all true joy; your kingdom a matter of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, yet as we constantly turn elsewhere, our laughter is turned to mourning and our joy is turned to gloom. In your great mercies you did not make an end of us or forsake us, for you are a gracious and merciful God. Forgive us, instruct us and strengthen us that we might walk in your ways and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible, filled with the glory of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Luke 15:7

The Doxology

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

Prayer of Dedication

Elder Randy Heidtman

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Unison Scripture Reading

Acts 2:36-41

³⁶ Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷ Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" ³⁸ And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."

⁴⁰ And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." ⁴¹ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Anthem

Choir

Run, Shepherds

Sacrament of Baptism

Featured Element of Worship: Baptism

At Calvary, we follow Presbyterian tradition in conducting baptisms in the context of our corporate worship services as opposed to doing so in private ceremonies. One of the reasons we do this is because the power in baptism comes not from the waters involved nor the act itself, but from the promises of God which we find in the Scriptures. Therefore, baptism is accompanied by the preaching of the word of God. Beyond this, we acknowledge that baptism, as a sign and a seal of the Covenant of Grace, marks us out as belonging to the people of God. When someone is baptized at Calvary, they become a member of this church. This alone does not save them, but it does speak to their privileged position, for within baptism, God is promising to be faithful to his covenantal promises. And we too, as God's people, are making promises: We commit that we will pray for this child, that we will set a godly example before her in word and deed, and that we will do all that we can that this she might one day embrace saving faith for herself. Finally, by conducting baptisms in the midst of the covenant community, we are all given the opportunity to be reminded once more of our own baptism, and thus encouraged to improve upon it as we seek to walk by faith, clinging to the promises of God. Baptism truly is in many ways a community event!

1. God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may,
 2. From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther, a bless - ed an - gel came;
 3. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "let noth - ing you af - right;
 4. The shep - herds at those tid - ings re - joic - ed much in mind,

re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas day,
 and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:
 this day is born a Sav - ior of a pure vir - gin bright,
 and left their flocks a - feed - ing, in tem - pest, storm, and wind,

to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray;
 how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name,
 to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might."
 and went to Beth - le - hem straight - way, the Son of God to find.

Refrain

O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy,
 O tid - ings of com - fort and joy.

Sermon

Rev. Pete Scribner

John 3:1-15

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³ Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"You must be born again."

Being born again is not:

- A matter of labels or reputation
- A matter of intelligence or learning
- A matter of religious duties or activities

Being born again is:

- Something God does
- Something that's all about Jesus
- Something for all of us

We Respond to the Word of God Preached...

Statement of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from there he shall 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.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

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Hark! the Herald Angels Sing



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
Late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

(continued on next page)

Charles Wesley, 1739, 1753; alt.
CCLI# 594962

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, 1840 MENDELSSOHN 7.7.7.7.D.ref.
Arr. William H. Cummings, 1856

We Depart into the World...

Benediction

Parting Hymn

God be with you till we meet again; By his counsels guide, uphold you, with his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again. Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet; Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude

WELCOME to this morning's service of corporate worship!

The Flowers adorning our worship service this morning have been provided by Calvary's Diaconate to the glory of God with thanks for a blessed 2025 and looking forward to his experiencing his blessings to his church in 2026!

A Flower Chart is posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. You can sign up to provide flowers for either one or both vases at a cost of \$15/vase. The church office will reach out to you to arrange for your payment and to find out if you have a specific message that you would like included in the bulletin. You are then free to take those flowers home after worship, or leave them for the Deacons to take to brighten someone's day.

Christmas Cards: Throughout Advent and Christmas, we have our Friendship Tree in the narthex, decorated with Christmas cards sent to the church. Names of senders will be listed weekly in the bulletin, and any donations included in those cards will be used to support the ministry of Calvary's Deacons.

Christmas greetings have been received from: Mike & Janet Adema, Sharon Atchison, Rozie Aube, Shirley Burghardt, Jim & Chris Campbell, Jim & Marsha Davis, Al & Karen Dipzinski, Lil & Laurie Goff, Vicky Haughey, Jim & Karen Hayden, Scott & Jan Herriman, Bob & Marion Isaacson, Madeline Jens, Jim & Ellen Jones, Phil & Sharon Koerber, Mary Jo Lorenz, Hazel Mardlin, Larry & Janet Nichols, Andrea O'Hara & Karl Williams, Pat Reedy, Pete & Erin Scribner, Chuck Stevens, Lois Stockford, Randy & Ginny Sturm, Mick & Ann Tulgetske, Joe & Esma Walker, Sam & Mary Winegarden, Dorothy & Mark Younce, Waterbrook Christian Academy.

Christmas Decorations - After worship today, the Diaconate will lead us in taking down Christmas decorations in the Sanctuary and Narthex. Please consider helping out.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast - Our next breakfast will be this Saturday, January 10th at 9am. All boys and men are welcome, and feel free to bring a friend or family member, too! If you are planning on attending, please let us know either by calling the office or signing the sheet in front of the office.

Offerings are received each week in the wooden donation box in the Narthex. We have placed it there as a convenience for our members and friends. If you are visiting us this Sunday, please feel no pressure to make any donation. We are glad to have you simply be our guest today, and invite you to join us for a donut and coffee in the Fellowship Hall after worship.

Thank you so much to everyone for your generous giving throughout the year!

Communion at Calvary

If you are our guest in worship today, we welcome you both to Calvary and to the Lord's Table. Our celebration of the Lord's Supper is open to all who have trusted in Christ as their Savior and follow Him as their Lord, that in partaking they might experience spiritual nourishment and growth in grace.

Mindful not only of Scripture's promises, but also of its cautions regarding the Lord's Supper, we generally discourage children from partaking of the sacrament. Regardless of age, it should be shared only by those people who understand and give assent to the historical and personal significance of the cross of Jesus Christ.

When the bread is passed to us by the Elders, each person wishing to participate is asked to remove a piece from the tray and hold it while others are being served. Then, as a symbol of our common union with Christ as one body, we shall all partake together.

When the cups are distributed, each person wishing to participate is asked to remove a cup from the tray and, as a symbol of our individual trust in Christ, to drink on our own.

We encourage worshippers to use the time during which others are being served for the thoughtful reading of Scriptures or quiet meditation and prayer.

May God nourish our spirits as we worship Him through partaking of these elements in faith, as a sign and a seal of the covenant of grace.

Meditation for the Week

Was it unjust for God to say to Adam and Eve that they would die when they sinned? Think about it. Was it evil for God to impose the death penalty for all sin? If you say yes, be careful. If you say yes, you are saying it as an expression of the very fallen, sinful nature that exposes you to the death penalty in the first place. If you say yes, you slander the character of God. If you say yes, you do violence to His holiness. If you say yes, you assail the righteous Judge of all the earth. If you say yes, you have never come to grips with what sin is. We must not say yes. We must say no and say it with conviction.

R.C. Sproul

The Holiness of God

This Week at Calvary

Today	9:40	Prayer in Office Conference Room (All Welcome)
	10:00	Worship Service with Communion followed by coffee, donuts & fellowship meal
	11:45	Sunday School
Monday		Office Closed
Tuesday	2:00	Tuesdays at Two
Thursday	10:00	Martha Mary Circle
	6:30	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday	9:00	Men's Breakfast
Next Sunday	9:40	Prayer in Office Conference Room (All Welcome)
	10:00	Worship Service followed by coffee, donuts & fellowship
	11:30	Sunday School

As you prepare your heart for worship next Sunday, be sure to read through John 4:1-30 (which will be our sermon text), and spend some time with our Meditation for the Week (printed inside the bulletin).

