ALL SAINTS Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 18, 2022

OUR LORD CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM

Lighting of the 1st through 4th Advent Candles

† *Pastor*: Let us worship God! We are gathered in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Let us give thanks to the Lord.

Congregation: We give thanks to the Lord.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined.

There will come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse; and a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.

Isaiah 9:2 & 60:1



Lift up your hearts...

We lift them up to the Lord!

† COLLECT & 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,
and forgive us our debts,
as we have forgiven 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.

† Congregational Singing O Come, All Ye Faithful—243

OUR LORD CLEANSES US FROM OUR SIN

A Corporate Reading of Our Lord's Instruction

The earth is the LORD'S and all it contains, the world, and those who dwell in it.

For He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? And who may stand in His holy place?

He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood and has not sworn deceitfully.

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

This is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek Your face—even Jacob.

Psalm 24:1-6

AN INVITATION TO CONFESS OUR SINS:

‡ CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

We Confess Our Sins, Together & Individually

Heavenly Father, we come to You through Jesus, the Word made flesh. We confess our sins because all things are open and exposed before You; nothing is hidden from Your gaze. You know our thoughts fully and You know a word before it is on our tongues. You know our sinful thoughts of others. You know our sinful speech to others and of others. Apart from Your grace and mercy, we have no hope and no forgiveness. Grant us the humility to confess our sins; grant us Your grace which is greater than our sins. Hear us, and cover us with Your mercy, even now, as we continue in prayer, confessing these sins...

[We pause in prayer, and then conclude together...]

O Lord, we give You thanks for Your kindness and abundant pardon; provided through Your Son who has died for us, taking the penalty which was our due, and You have received us in Him. Now grant, most merciful Lord, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, and this to the glory of Thy holy name. Amen.

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God-415

† ABSOLUTION: Our Assurance of Forgiveness is declared "In the Name of God the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit"

"Thanks be to God!"

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly—insert



THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

We join together praying for the church, one another, and the world

OUR LORD TEACHES US FROM HIS WORD

Scripture Lesson from the Old Testament Isaiah 35 Scripture Lesson from the Epistles Philippians 2:1-11

"This is the Word of the Lord"
"Thanks be to God!"

† Gospel Lesson—Luke 2:1-7

"This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ"

"Praise be to Christ!"

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: Gloria Patri—436

Sermon Text **Joshua 22:1-9**

Sermon
An Advent Exhortation for Wandering Souls
Pastor Steve Jeffery

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: Of the Father's Love Begotten —246 (vv. 1-4)

IN GRATEFUL RESPONSE

We Present the Lord's Tithes & Our Offerings

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: *The Doxology* As the offering is brought forward, we lift our hearts, hands, and voices in thankful praise...

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication

OUR LORD INVITES US TO HIS TABLE

We Confess Our Faith: The Apostles' Creed

† Pastor: Christians, in whom do you believe?

I believe in God the Father Almighty; maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord, He 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 Hades.

On 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 will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
The communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper We commune with the Lord & with one another

The Lord's Supper should not be observed in individual homes.

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: Of the Father's Love Begotten —247 (vv. 5-7)

OUR LORD COMMISSIONS US

† Benediction & Singing

Doxology from Of the Father's Love Begotten (p. 247)

Christ, to Thee with God the Father, and O Holy Ghost to Thee, Hymn and chant with high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be: Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, Evermore and evermore! Amen.

THIS WEEK

LESSONS & CAROLS – This Wednesday, December 21, 2022, 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.





Pregnancy Help Center of Fort Worth – Giving Response

During Advent and through Epiphany we will be gathering items to support the Pregnancy Help Center of Fort Worth. Particular items of need this year are diapers (sizes 2, 3 & 4), baby wipes, baby shampoo, lotion, and soap. Of course items like car seats, strollers, baby blankets, baby clothes, pack n' plays, are always welcome. Donations can be placed in the back corner of the foyer by the main entrance.

Please note: We've become aware that there is a great need for little boys' clothes this year.

Gloria Sancta — January 4-7, 2023 at the Timberline Baptist Camp in Lindale, Texas. Unmarried young adults aged 18 to 30 are strongly encouraged to check it out at www.GloriaSancta.org. This year's theme is "Holiness" and will be led by Pastors Randy Booth and Roy Bradley (Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Nacogdoches, TX), Pastor Rob Hadding (Covenant Presbyterian Church in Sulphur, LA), and Pastor Steve Jeffery (All Saints Presbyterian Church in Fort Worth, TX). Deadline to register: Monday, December 19th



Today is the **Fourth**—and final—**Sunday of Advent**. During Advent we confess that Jesus is the Savior of all. Mary confessed her need of a Savior. The shepherds left their flocks in order to see this Shepherd. Magi came from the East acknowledging this Child as royalty. As Savior He was adored *and* opposed, loved *and* hated, worshipped *and* an object of murder. He is the fulfillment of the Scriptures; He came unto His own and His own did not receive Him. Rejection and acceptance were encountered in and around the Person of the Savior, and through it all we see that He is the Savior of the nations. He is the Savior of those who, like Simeon, had long awaited and expected one to arise who was greater than Moses, Solomon, and all the prophets. Jesus is the Savior of the lovely and elderly Anna, and He is the Savior the little children who were welcomed into His presence. He is the only Savior, and He is our Savior.

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is observed every Lord's Day at All Saints, and we warmly invite to the Lord's Table all who are baptized disciples of the Lord Jesus, under the authority of Christ and His body, the Church, and this includes covenant children. By eating the bread and drinking the wine with us, you are acknowledging that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. You also acknowledge to the overseers of this congregation that you are in covenant with God, being an active member of a congregation which belongs to the Triune God and is marked by the Word and sacraments. If you have any questions about your participation, please speak to one of the elders before or after the service.

ALL SAINTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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O Come, All Ye Faithful



Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Psalm 51:10-12

From a melody by J. A. Freylinghausen, 1704 adapted, Harold W. Gilbert



Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



Text: Polish; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1921 Tune: Polish; harm. *Psalter Hymnal*, 1987



Gloria Patri



Of the Father's Love Begotten



CHRISTMAS

Of the Father's Love Begotten

