

ALL SAINTS Presbyterian Church

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

OUR LORD CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle
Membership of the Brantley Family
Baptisms of Shane, Corinna, Lainey & Ada Brantley

† *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**

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing—236-237

OUR LORD CLEANSSES US FROM OUR SIN

A Corporate Reading of Our Lord's Instruction

Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.

Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:1-11



AN INVITATION TO CONFESS
OUR SINS:

† The congregation is invited to stand

‡ CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER
We Confess Our Sins, Together & Individually

Merciful Father, we confess that we have not reflected the mind of Christ. Instead of honoring the preference of others, we have satisfied our own interests. Because we consider ourselves more important than others, we have fought for our agendas. We are puffed with pride and have not humbles ourselves as we ought. Lord, we believe that you oppose the proud but give grace to the humble. Humble us, therefore, through the example of Christ Jesus, who emptied himself and took the form of a servant to save us. By your grace, enable us to forsake our pride and our conceit. Hear and forgive, as we continue in prayer, confessing these our 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: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*—242



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**
2 Samuel 7:1-17

**Scripture Lesson from
the Epistles**
Revelation 22:6-21

“This is the Word of the Lord”
“Thanks be to God!”

† **Gospel Lesson**—Matthew 22:41-46

“This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ”
“Praise be to Christ!”

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: *Gloria Patri*—436

Sermon Text

Matthew 1:1-17

Sermon

Who Jesus Comes From Tells Us Who He Came For

Pastor Geoff Shaw

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*—226

‡ The congregation is invited to kneel

† The congregation is invited to stand

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: *God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen*—234-235

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR

TODAY

New Members — The Brantley family will be presented for membership just prior to our service.

Baptism — Shane Titus, Corinna May, Lainey Wren, and Ada Ruth Brantley will be baptized at the beginning of our service.

There will be no baptism reception today. The Fellowship Hall will be used by the Lessons & Carols Choir for a meal.

THIS WEEK

No Midweek at All Saints. Midweek resumes January 10, 2024

Lessons and Carols — Friday, December 22, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.



PLEASE NOTE

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 - for babies: diapers, baby wash, pacifiers, baby toys & books, and baby clothes; for moms: Bibles, socks, chapstick, maternity clothes, lotion, and gift cards for gas or food. Strollers and playpens are always great as well. Donations can be placed in the back corner of the foyer by the main entrance. Gathering items begins today.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Gloria Sancta – January 3-6, 2024 at Timberline Camp and Conference Center. Gloria Sancta is a retreat for Christian young adults ages 18-28. This year's teaching will be provided by Pastor Randy Booth (Grace Covenant, Nacogdoches, TX), Pastor Rob Hadding (Covenant Presbyterian, Sulphur, LA), Pastor Niell, and Pastor Jeffery. **Register soon at <https://www.gloriasancta.org> while space is still available.**



Today is the Third Sunday of Advent. Advent is the time of the Church year in which we confess that God's purposes have come to fulfillment in some of the most unlikely ways. In this, the Gospel of the kingdom is proclaimed; the very kingdom which is likened to a small mustard seed. The wondrous works of God are displayed. They confound the wisdom of this age and place demands upon the rulers of every age. During Advent, we acknowledge not merely the expectant precipice of God's plan being fulfilled, but also the sheer reality that His Word cannot be thwarted. The Lord has fulfilled His Word with *The Word* (John 1:1, 14). The Lord has chosen to confound the rulers of all ages through the birth of His Son, the ruler of the kings of the earth (Revelation 1:5). The decree of Caesar Augustus went forth, but so did a greater Word. The earthly ruler called for a census of the inhabited earth, not knowing that the Creator and the Ruler of the inhabited earth had come to inhabit the earth.

ALL SAINTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN (7777.7777.77)
 Felix Mendelssohn, 1840
 arr. William Hayman Cummings, 1855

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.

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. *Come, De - sire of na - tions, come, Fix in us Thy hum - ble home;*
 4. Ad - am's like - ness, Lord, ef - face, Stamp Thine im - age in its place:
 5. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous - 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 a vir - gin's womb.
Rise, the wom - an's con - qu'ring Seed, Bruise in us the ser - pent's head.
 Sec - ond Ad - am from a - bove, Re - in - state us in Thy love.
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,
Now dis - play Thy sav - ing pow'r, Ru - ined na - ture now re - store;
 Let us Thee, though lost, re - gain, Thee, the Life, the in - ner man:
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,

With th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
Now in mys - tic un - ion join Thine to ours, and ours to Thine.
 O, to all Thy - self im - part, Formed in each be - liev - ing heart.
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Psalm 51:10-12

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

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of five systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pres - ence: and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with Thy free Spir - it."

Gloria Patri

GLORIA PATRI (Irreg.)
Charles Meineke, 1844

2nd century

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the

The first system of musical notation for 'Gloria Patri'. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in the key of D major (one sharp). The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics: 'Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the'. The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment with chords and some moving lines.

Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

The second system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the vocal line with lyrics: 'Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er'. The bass staff continues the piano accompaniment.

shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

The third and final system of musical notation. The treble staff concludes the vocal line with lyrics: 'shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.'. The bass staff concludes the piano accompaniment with a final chord.

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

FREU DICH SEHR [AINSI QU'ON OIT LE CERF BRUIRE] (8 7. 8 7. 7 7. 8 8)
Genevan Psalter, 1551
 harm. Johann Crüger, 1658

Johannes Olearius, 1671
 tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863; alt.

1. Com-fort, com-fort ye My peo-ple, Speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
 2. Yea, her sins our God will par-don, Blot-ting out each dark mis-deed;
 3. For the her-ald's voice is cry-ing In the des-ert far and near,
 4. Make ye straight what long was crook-ed, Make the rough-er plac-es plain:

Com-fort those who sit in dark-ness, Bowed be-neath their sor-row's load;
 All that well de-served His an-ger He will no more see nor heed.
 Bid-ding all men to re-pen-tance, Since the king-dom now is here,
 Let your hearts be true and hum-ble, As be-fits His ho-ly reign,

Speak ye to Je-ru-sa-lem Of the peace that waits for them;
 She has suf-fered man-y a day, Now her griefs have passed a-way;
 O that warn-ing cry o-bey! Now pre-pare for God a way!
 For the glo-ry of the Lord Now o'er earth is shed a-broad,

Tell her that her sins I cov-er, And her war-fare now is o-ver.
 God will change her pin-ing sad-ness In-to ev-er-spring-ing glad-ness.
 Let the val-leys rise to meet Him, And the hills bow down to greet Him.
 And all flesh shall see the to-ken That His Word is nev-er bro-ken.

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

GOD REST YE MERRY (8 6. 8 6. 8 6. 8 4 8)
English melody, 18th century

English carol, 18th century

1. God rest ye mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may,
2. In Beth - le - hem, in Is - ra - el, this bless - ed Babe was born,
3. *From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came,*
4. *"Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you a - fright;*
5. The shep - herds at those ti - dings re - joic - ed much in mind,
6. Now to the Lord sing prais - es all you with - in this place,

Re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas Day,
And laid with - in a man - ger up - on this bless - ed morn;
And un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought ti - dings 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,
And with true love and broth - er - hood each oth - er now em - brace;

To save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray;
The which His moth - er Mar - y did noth - ing take in scorn.
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 this bless - ed Babe to find.
This ho - ly tide of Christ - mas all oth - ers doth de - face.

O ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy;

O ti - dings of com - fort and joy.