

Church of the King

The Lord's Day Service

Christmas Sunday 2023



Our Call to Worship From God's Word

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:1-4; 14

Come Worship the Triune God Revealed in Jesus Christ!

God's People Respond with a Hymn of Adoration:

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Based on Luke 2:15

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels;**

*Refrain:
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.*

**God of God, Light of Light,
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten not created;**

Refrain

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God, glory in the highest;**

Refrain

**Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;**

Refrain

Salutation and Response: [based on Matthew 28:19; Ruth 2:4; Isaiah 9:6]

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit **Amen!**

Jehovah be with you, **And also with you!**

Unto us a child is born, **Unto us a Son is given!**

May all kings fall down before Him **All nations serve Him!**

Confession of Sins: Where God Cleanses Us in Christ

The Call for Confession from God's Word:

"If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear. But certainly God has heard me; He has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer, nor His mercy from me!"
Psalm 66:18,19

God's People Join in a Hymn of Confession: [congregation standing]

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY (8 7. 8 7. 8 7)

French traditional carol, 17th century
arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Liturgy of St. James
tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1864

Unison

1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, And with fear and
2. King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, As of old on
3. Rank on rank the host of heav - en Spreads its van - guard
4. At His feet the six - winged ser - aph, Cher - u - bim with

trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
earth He stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man ves - ture,
on the way, As the Light of light de - scend - eth
sleep - less eye, Veil their fac - es to the pres - ence,

For with bless - ing in His hand, Christ our God to
In the bod - y and the blood, He will give to
From the realms of end - less day, That the pow'rs of
As with cease - less voice they cry: Al - le - lu - ia,

earth de - scend - eth, Our full hom - age to de - mand.
all the faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.
hell may van - ish As the dark - ness clears a - way.
Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!

Silent Confession: *"This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief." 1 Timothy 1:15*

Those who are willing and able are invited to kneel for our time of confession.

Corporate Prayer of Confession:

Gracious Heavenly Father, we confess that we often live as if your Son, the light of the world, had never come to defeat the darkness in the world or in us. We walk in sin and blindness and ignore Christ whom you sent to be among us, and to be in us. Forgive us, O Lord, for not receiving You and not opening our eyes to your coming. Father, forgive us our sins, we beseech You, and cleanse us, for the sake of Jesus whom You sent to be our Savior and Lord. Renew a right spirit within us as we remember His coming! Assist us to receive Him with the joy of the shepherds; Help us to show the gratitude of Simeon; Teach us the obedience of humble Mary; Help us to love as you have loved us. Even so: Come, Lord Jesus. Deliver us from the darkness of this present generation. Vindicate all those that call upon Your Mighty Name. AMEN!

Arise and Receive the Assurance of Pardon & Forgiveness:

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation." Romans 5:9-11

Congregation of the Lord Jesus Christ, Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for our sins and to be raised for our justification; and for His sake forgives us all our sins. This I declare in the name and authority of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Having confessed our sins with faith in the completed work of Christ on our behalf, we are forgiven; we have been cleansed and clothed in the righteousness of Jesus. And not only that, we are now in Christ and in Him we are in the heavenly places, in the very midst of the blessed Trinity, with the Saints of all the ages, from every tongue, tribe and nation prepared to worship in the beauty of holiness.

Come, let us worship the Lord!

Come bless the Fath - er, all you ser - vants of the Son, who stand by the Spir - it in the House of the Lord. Lift up your hands to the Ho - ly Place and bless your God. May the Lord _____ bless you from Zi - on, He Who made hea - ven and earth. _____

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up un - to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

It is pro - per and right to do so.

Truly it is proper and right that we should at all times and in all places give praise to you O Lord, so with the angels and all the company of heaven and with the Church on earth, we praise and magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you & singing:

God's People Sing a Hymn of Thanks:

[congregation standing]

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

1 On Christ-mas night all Chris - tians sing To hear the news the
2 Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since our Re - deem - er
3 When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then life and health come
4 All out of dark-ness we have light, Which made the an - gels

an - gels bring, On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing To
made us glad, Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since
in its place, When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then
sing this night, All out of dark - ness we have light, Which

hear the news the an - gels bring, News of great joy, news of great
our Re - deem - er made us glad, When from our sin He set us
life and health come in its place; An - gels and men with joy may
made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry to God and peace to

mirth, News of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.
free, All for to gain our lib - er - ty?
sing, All for to see the new - born King,
men Now and for - ev - er - more. A - men."

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system contains the next four lines. The fourth system contains the final four lines. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

The Sacrament of Baptism:

The Calvin Family presents **Giacomo John and Judah Isaiah**
for Baptism into the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

"Then they also brought infants to Him that He might touch them; but when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to Him and said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. "Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." Luke 18:15-17

"Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." Acts 2:38, 39

Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. I Corinthians 10:1-4

Hymn of Thanks: *Beneath the Blood-Stained Doorpost*

Based on Exodus 12, words attributed to Harry Ironside, sung to the tune of O Sacred Head Now Wounded

***Beneath the blood-stained doorpost I with my children stand;
A messenger of evil is passing through the land.
There is no other refuge from the destroyer's face;
Beneath the blood-stained doorpost shall be our hiding place.***

***My Savior, for my dear ones I claim Thy promise true.
The Lamb is "for the household"—the children's Savior too.
On earth the little children once felt Thy touch divine;
Beneath the blood-stained doorpost Thy blessing give to mine.***

***O Thou who gave them, guard them, those wayward little feet,
The wilderness before them, the ills of life to meet.
My mother love is helpless, I trust them to Thy care!
Beneath the blood-stained doorpost, oh, keep me ever there!***

Consecration: Where God Equips & Prepares His People

“Hear, O Israel: Jehovah our God, Jehovah is one! “You shall love Jehovah your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. Deuteronomy 6:4-6

THE LORD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD:

Luke 2:21-38

And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the Child, His name was called JESUS, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present *Him* to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “*Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to Jehovah*”), and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, “*A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.*”

And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law,

He took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said: “Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, According to Your word; For my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, A light to *bring* revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel.”

And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother,

“Behold, this *Child* is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against “(yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”

Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher.

She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman *was* a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served *God* with fastings and prayers night and day. And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

God's People Respond with a Hymn of Faith:

This Little Babe

This Little Babe

Chorale Tune (8 8. 8 8. 8 8)

Robert Southwell, c.1661-1695

1. This lit - tle Babe so few days old Is come to
 2. With tears He fights and wins the field, His nak - ed
 3. His camp is pitch - ed in a stall, His bul - wark
 4. My soul with Christ join thou in fight; Stick to the

rif - le Sa - tan's fold; All hell doth at
 breast stands for a shield; His bat - tering shot
 but tents a bro - ken wall; The crib His trench,
 that He hath pight. With - in His crib

His pres - ence quake, Though He him - self for cold do
 are bab - ish cries, His ar - rows looks of weep - ing
 hay - stalks his stakes; Of shep - herds he his mus - ter
 is sur - est ward; This lit - tle Babe will be thy

shake; For in this weak un - arm - ed wise
 eyes, His mar - tial en - - signs Cold and Need,
 makes; And thus, as sure his foe and to wound,
 Guard. If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy,

The gates of hell he will sur - prise.
 And fee - ble Flesh his war - rior's stead.
 The an - gels' trumps a lar - um sound.
 Then flit not from this heav'n - ly Boy.

God Speaks to Us Through His Word: Scripture, Prayer for Illumination, and Sermon

"Blessed is the man whom You instruct, O Lord, And teach out of Your law." Psalm 94:12

"The Joshua Report"

From Pastor Paul Liberati

Based on Numbers 14:1-10

God's People Sing a Hymn of Praise:

[congregation standing]

O Little Town of Bethlehem

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.

The Heidelberg Catechism — Holding forth faith in Jesus Christ as our only comfort in life and in death, we read responsively the weekly questions from the Heidelberg Catechism as a personal and eloquent reminder of what we must know to live and die in that comfort. Lord's Day 53

1. What is your only comfort in life and in death? **That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death,[1] am not my own,[2] but belong to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ,[3] who with His precious blood [4] has fully satisfied for all my sins,[5] and redeemed me from all the power of the devil;[6] and so preserves me [7] that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head;[8] indeed, that all things must work together for my salvation.[9] Wherefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life,[10] and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live unto Him.[11]**
[1] Rom. 14:7–8. [2] 1 Cor. 6:19. [3] 1 Cor. 3:23. [4] 1 Pet. 1:18–19. [5] 1 Jn. 1:7; 2:2. [6] 1 Jn. 3:8. [7] Jn. 6:39. [8] Matt. 10:29–30; Lk. 21:18. [9] Rom. 8:28. [10] 2 Cor. 1:21–22; Eph. 1:13–14; Rom. 8:16. [11] Rom. 8:1.

God Receives our Tithes and Gifts as a Tribute Offering: [read in unison]

“Give to Jehovah the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come into His courts. Oh, worship Jehovah in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth. Say among the nations, "Jehovah reigns; The world also is firmly established, It shall not be moved; He shall judge the peoples righteously.” Psalm 96:8-10

Presenting our Tithes and Offerings

With the Singing of Psalm 24:3-6 & the Doxology

Words composed by Brenda Fisher

| | |
|--|--|
| 1: Who may stand in God's Holy place? Who may ascend before His face? He has a pure heart and clean hands. He worships God, keeps His commands. | 2: He shall have blessing from the Lord. Righteousness is his sure reward. Jacob you are who seek God's place. True sons are you who seek God's face. |
|--|--|

**3: Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

The Great Prayer, Concluding with the Lord's Prayer

“Jehovah has heard my supplication; Jehovah will receive my prayer.” Psalm 6:9

**Our Father, which 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 forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one,
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory forever: AMEN**

[Matthew 6:9-13]

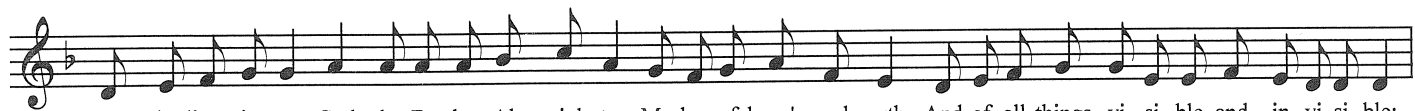
Communion: Where God Communes With His People

Preparation for Communion:

Congregation of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared His table for all who love and trust Him for their salvation. All those who have repented of their sins, have been baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and are not under discipline from Christ's Church, are welcome at this table. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as our Lord our God will call.

Our Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed



I be-lieve in one God the Fa-ther Al - migh-ty, Ma-ker of heav'n and earth, And of all things vi - si - ble and in - vi - si - ble:



And in one Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly be - got - ten Son of God; Be - got - ten of His Fa - ther be - fore all worlds,



God of God, Light of Light, ve - ry God of ve - ry God; Be - got - ten, not made; Be - ing of one sub - stance with the Fa - ther;



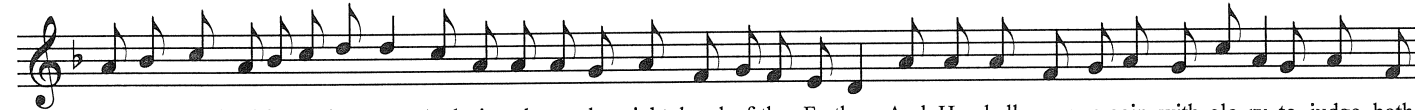
By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our sal - va - tion came down from hea - ven,



And was in - car - nate by the Ho - ly Ghost of the Vir - gin Ma - ry, And was made man; And was cru - ci - fied al - so for us



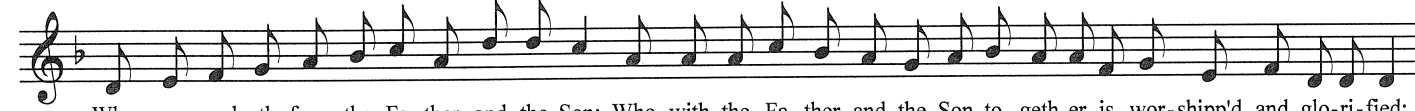
Un - der Pon - tius Pi - late; He suf - fer'd and was bur - ied; And the third day He rose a - gain ac - cor - ding to the Scrip - tures:



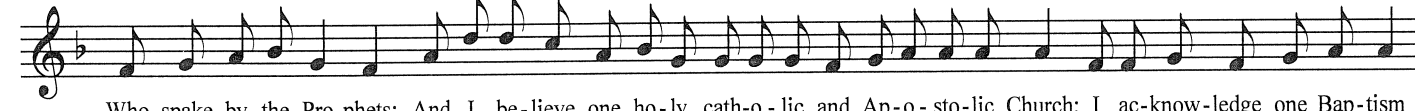
And a - scend - ed in - to hea - ven, And sit - teth at the right hand of the Fa - ther: And He shall come a - gain, with glo - ry, to judge both



the quick and the dead: Whose king - dom shall have no end. And I be - lieve in the Ho - ly Ghost, the Lord, and Giv - er of Life,



Who pro - ceed - eth from the Fa - ther and the Son; Who with the Fa - ther and the Son to - geth - er is wor - shipp'd and glo - ri - fied;



Who spake by the Pro - phets: And I be - lieve one ho - ly cath - o - lic and Ap - o - sto - lic Church; I ac - know - ledge one Bap - tism



For the re - mis - sion of sins: And I look for the re - sur - rec - tion of the dead; And the Life of the world to come. A - men.

THE LORD COMMUNES WITH US AT HIS TABLE (Peace Offering, Gift of Life)

A Word of Encouragement -- Giving of Thanks -- Breaking of the Bread

God's People Sing a Hymn of Thanks and Celebration:

Silent Night, Holy Night

STILLE NACHT (Irregular)
Franz Gruber, 1818

Joseph Mohr, 1818
tr. John Freeman Young, 1863

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, All is calm, all is bright Round yon
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Shep - herds quake at the sight; Glo - ries
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light Ra - diant
4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Won - drous star, lend thy light; With the

vir - gin moth - er and Child. Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild,
stream from heav - en a - far, Heav'n - ly hosts sing Al - le - lu - ia!
beams from Thy ho - ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
an - gels let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia to our King;

Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
Christ, the Sav - ior is born, Christ, the Sav - ior is born!
Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.
Christ, the Sav - ior is born, Christ, the Sav - ior is born!

Feasting At The Lord's Table: A simple act of obedience on the 1st day of a new Week

Partaking of the Bread Together -- Giving Thanks -- Partaking of the Wine

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes." 1 Corinthians 11:26

Commissioning: The LORD Blesses and Sends Forth His People

“When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen” [Matthew 28:17-20]

Final Responsive Reading: Matthew 2:1-12 Wise Men from the East

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,

Saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”

When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.’”

Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found *Him*, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.”

When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him.

And when they had opened their treasures,

They presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

God’s People Prepare to be Sent Forth to Serve our Risen & Reigning Savior

Saw You Never, in the Twilight

Saw You Never, in the Twilight

The star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. Matt. 2:9

1. Saw you nev - er, in the twi - light, when the sun had left the skies,
2. Heard you nev - er of the sto - ry how they crossed the des - ert wild,
3. Know ye not that low - ly ba - by was the bright and morn - ing Star?

up in heav'n the clear stars shin - ing through the gloom, like sil - ver eyes?
jour - neyed on by plain and moun - tain, till they found the ho - ly child?
He who came to light the Gen - tiles and the dark - ened isles a - far?

So of old the wise men, watch - ing, saw a lit - tle strang - er star,
How they o - pened all their trea - sure, kneel - ing to that in - fant King;
And we, too, may seek his cra - dle; there our hearts' best trea - sures bring:

and they knew the King was giv - en, and they fol - lowed it from far.
gave the gold and fra - grant in - cense, gave the myrrh in of - fer - ing?
love and faith and true de - vo - tion for our Sav - ior, God, and King.

God Empowers Us – The Benediction: *Colossians 4:5,6, 2 Corinthians 13:14*

"Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one." "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit *be* with you all. Amen."

The Response to God's Commission –

2 pages

Joy to the World to the tune of Psalm 98

DESERT [LYNGHAM](C.M. rep.)
Isaac Watts

1. Joy to the world ----- the Lord ----- is ----- come! Let

earth re- ceive her King, Let earth re- ceive her King

Let ev'- ry heart pre- pare Him room

And

And heav'n and na- ture sing And heav'n and na- ture
And heav'n and na- ture sing And
And heav'n and na- ture
heav'n and na- ture sing and heav'n and na- ture sing And

sing _____ and heaven _____ and na- ture sing

hea- v'n and nature sing

sing _____ And hea- v'n and nature sing

heav'n _____ and heav'n _____ and nat- ture sing

2. Joy to the world! The Savior reigns
 Let men their songs employ.
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
 Repeat the sounding joy,
 Repeat the sounding joy,
 Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,
 Nor thorns infest the ground;
 He comes to make His blessings flow
 Far as the curse is found,
 Far as the curse is found,
 Far as, far as, the curse is found.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace
 And makes the nations prove
 The glories of His righteousness
 And wonders of His love,
 And wonders of His love,
 And wonders, wonders of His love.

December 31st, 2023

Church of the King

www.COTKS.org

(916) 897-3689

~Worship begins promptly at 1:00 p.m. ~ Today's pulpit supply ~ Pastor Paul Liberati ~

PRAYER REQUESTS

- For all who claim the Name of Jesus, that we would live in a manner worthy of our calling, serving one another to the glory of God. May we be humble in all our interactions, having patience & bearing with one another in love, uniting in the bond of our Savior, worshipping Him in spirit & in truth, seeking His face in prayer, & faithfully studying His Word.
- For our expectant mothers, Claire Smith, Sarah Sifford, Sindy Kendrick, Brianna Whitted, Brittany Harrold, Robyn Ferguson, & Alma Ryan, that their babies would continue to grow healthy & strong, & for renewed energy & strength for all of the mothers in our midst.
- For Ryan Holst, that our Lord would put His healing hand on him, & wisdom for the doctors as they care for him.
- For all who are dealing with illness, injury, other health issues, grief, or personal trials, that our Lord would grant patience, healing, wisdom, comfort, & trust in the perfect will of the One Who does all things well.
- For family members & friends who are under discipline, unsaved, or have strayed from the faith, that our Lord would bring them to repentance & restore them to the fellowship of Christ's church; & that we would boldly & lovingly proclaim the truth to them at every opportunity, standing strong in the Lord & in the power of His might.
- For churches who are in need of pastors, elders, & deacons, that our Lord would continue to raise up Godly men to lead these flocks, & for those men who are currently serving, that they may have strengthened faith & abundant wisdom as they minister to their congregations.
- For the saints throughout the world who are suffering & dying in the Name of Jesus, that they would find strength, comfort, & hope as they fully trust in God's goodness. And also for their persecutors, that their hearts would be softened to the Gospel.
- For all elected & appointed officials, that they would recognize their need to depend on God for knowledge, wisdom, & the courage to do what is right, reject all counsel that violates righteousness, & bring dignity, honor, trustworthiness, & integrity to their positions, remembering their accountability to Almighty God, Who is angry with the wicked every day.
- For the Church worldwide, that the Word of God would be faithfully preached, believed, & obeyed, giving glory to the Name of our only Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Our fellowship lunch follows today's worship service. We welcome all to be our guests & to sing as we ask the Lord's blessing:

Be present at our table Lord.
Be here and everywhere adored.
These mercies bless and grant that we
May feast in Paradise with Thee.

We thank Thee Lord for this our food,
For life and health and every good.
By Thine own hand may we be fed.
Give us this day our daily bread.

Weekly Meetings (also detailed on our website):

Men's Fellowship Breakfast:

~ Meets at 8:00am on Wednesdays at Denny's on Sunrise; reading *By This Standard: The Authority of God's Law Today* by Greg Bahnsen Contact Pastor Stoops.

Sacramento Area Bible Study:

~ Meets at 7:00pm on Tuesdays. Contact Patrick Avanto.

Grass Valley Area Book Study:

~ Meets for potluck at 6:00pm, study starts at 7:00pm on Wednesdays at rotating locations; reading *No Mere Mortals* by Toby Sumpter. Contact Nathaniel Pettyjohn. (530)205-5162

Ladies' Book Study:

~ Meets at 9:00am on Saturdays at the Stoops home. Reading *Flourish: How the Love of Christ Frees Us From Self-Focus* by Lydia Brownback. Contact Linda Stoops.

Vallejo Area Study:

~ Meets at the Kendrick home every two weeks. Contact Damell Kendrick.

Birthdays

James Ryan ~ December 23rd
Augustine Smith ~ December 26th

Anniversaries

Tim & Brianna Whitted ~ December 21st
John & Linda Stoops ~ December 28th

Hall Takedown Today

Nate & Spencer Pettyjohn, Damell Kendrick,
Johathan Liberati, Sean VanNess

Playground Duty Today

Kendrick