Covenant Presbyterian Church, PCA

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COVENANT PCA

For the glory of God, Covenant Presbyterian Church exists to worship God and equip His people for service.

2101 Kanuga Rd. Hendersonville, NC 28739 (828) 693-8651 Office Hours: Monday-Thursday: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM Closed on Friday

Sunday, December 29, 2024

www.covpca.org

May you be still as we trust in our Heavenly Father and rest in the peace Christ has purchased for us and given to us in the gift of the Holy Spirit. Please prepare yourself for worship by prayerfully reading and meditating on the Scriptures and quotes below.

Preparation for Worship

Pre-Prelude	Angels, from the Realms of Glory arr. Julie Lind Josh Macdonald, piano
Prelude	<i>Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow</i> arr. Lloyd Larson Greg Hostetler, trumpet and Katie Stuckey piano

Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to Him. Matthew 4:11

And there appeared to Him an angel from Heaven, strengthening Him. Luke 22:43

For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels, and to men. 1 Corinthians 4:9

Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory. 1 Timothy 3:16

It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from Heaven, things into which angels long to look. 1 Peter 1:12

"Praising God is one of the highest and purest acts of religion. In prayer we act like men; in praise we act like angels." Thomas Watson

"Pause, then, and contemplate. The eternal Son of God, Creator of the universe, worshiped and adored by angels and archangels, has offered Himself in your place. He has offered Himself freely, willingly, and gladly, to endure the judgment that your sin deserves, and to endure it in a holy way – saying the perfect "yea and Amen!" to the holiness of the judgment, which your corrupt heart could never have said. As far as atoning for your sins is concerned, the only thing you owe God is endless gratitude." Nick Needham

"Search Scripture through, and you must, if you read it with a candid mind, be persuaded that the doctrine of salvation by grace alone is the great doctrine of the Word of God." C.H. Spurgeon

"Worship is adoring contemplation of God." R.A. Torrey

"The person who never meditates with delight on the glory of Christ in the Scriptures now will not have any real desire to see that glory in Heaven. What sort of faith and love do people have who find time to think about many other things but make no time for meditating on this glorious subject?" John Owen

"The Almighty appeared on Earth as a helpless human baby, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child. The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as this truth of the Incarnation." J.I. Packer

Order of Worship - December 29, 2024

Welcome and Announcements

Adoration of God

*Call to Worship

Psalm 148 (selected verses)

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the Heavens; praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts! Praise Him, sun and moon, praise Him, all you shining stars! Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the Heavens! Let them praise the Name of the Lord! For He commanded and they were created. Young men and maidens together, old men and children! Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted; His majesty is above Earth and Heaven. Praise the Lord!

*Carol of Adoration No. 208

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Elder Joe Maxey

Invocation

Westminster Shorter Catechism

Affirmation of Our Faith <u>Westm</u> Q. 101. What do we pray for in the first petition?

A. "In the first petition, which is, *'Hallowed be Thy name,'* we pray, that God would enable us, and others, to glorify Him in all that whereby He maketh Himself known, and that He would dispose all things to His own glory."

*Carol of Joy No. 224 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Confession of Sin and Means of Grace

Pastoral Prayer

Musical Reflection Were You There on That Christmas Night by Natalie Sleeth Wendy Garcia, mezzo-soprano and Glenn Crawford, piano

*The Reading of God's Word	Luke 2:8-15
The Message from God's Word	"The Gospel According to Angels" Pastor Steve Mirich
*Hymn of Response	Agnus Dei (with 0 Come Let Us Adore Him)
Offertory Prayer	
Offertory	<i>God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen</i> arr. John Innes Brett Levi, organ

Response and Blessing

*Closing Carol No. 218	Angels, from the Realms of Glory (verse 5)
*Christmas Doxology	THE FIRST NOEL

*Benediction

Ephesians 3:17-19

So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Postlude

Postlude on Gloria arr. Jason D. Payne Brett Levi, organ