



HARVEST Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 23, 2018

A Service of Worship



Why did Jesus come? What was his life and ministry all about? And further, what are the areas of our lives today that need to be exposed to and engaged in Jesus' ongoing mission in the world?

During our observance of Advent this year, we will allow the book of Isaiah to guide us, paying particular attention to the theme of why the Messiah would come. Written about 600 years before Jesus' birth, these prophecies gives us a window into the eternal purposes of God, as well as the longings of God's people.

What is THE MESSIAH'S MISSION & how do we fit in to it?



Beginning with the Sunday nearest November 30 and ending on the day before Christmas, the season of Advent is observed for the four Sundays prior to Christmas. This is a season in which the Church, rejoicing in Christ's first coming, eagerly looks forward to Christ's coming again. It is also common for Advent to be observed, in addition to the regular corporate worship services of the Church, through a special service of Lessons & Carols, often on Christmas Eve.



The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

(Luke 19.10)

When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.”

(Galatians 4.4-5 & 3.13)

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

(Titus 2.11-14)

4th Sunday of Advent
Corporate Worship

The Welcome & Announcements

see page 7

The Corporate Invocation Come Thou Redeemer of the Earth

Come, Thou Redeemer of the earth, and manifest Thy virgin birth:
Let every age adoring fall; such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will, but of the Spirit, Thou art still
The Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised Fruit to man displayed.

O equal to the Father, Thou! Gird on Thy fleshly mantle now;
The weakness of our mortal state with deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright, and darkness breathe a newer light,
Where endless faith shall shine serene, and twilight never intervene.

O Jesu, Virgin born, to thee eternal praise and glory be,
Who with the Father we adore, and Holy Spirit evermore.

Words: Ambrose of Milan, d. 397

Trans. by J.M. Neale, d. 1866

Music: Michael Praetorius, 1609

The Call to Worship

from Ephesians 1.3-10

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who
has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the
heavenly places.

**In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons
through Jesus Christ, to the praise of his glorious grace.**

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness
of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which
he lavished upon us.

Let us therefore worship God.

Beautiful Savior

All my days I will sing this song of gladness;
Give my praise to the fountain of delights.
For in my helplessness you heard my cry,
And waves of mercy poured down on my life.

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer.
I will sing of the blood that never fails;
Of sins forgiven; of conscience cleansed;
Of death defeated and life without end.

*Beautiful Savior, Wonderful Counselor,
Clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the way, the truth, the life.
Star of the morning glorious in holiness,
You're the risen One, heaven's champion
And you reign, you reign over all.*

I long to be where the praise is never ending;
Yearn to dwell where the glory never fades;
Where countless worshipers will share one song,
And cries of 'worthy' will honor the Lamb!

Stuart Townend, 1998

There Is A Fountain

no. 253

There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains:
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day;
And there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins away:
Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away;
And there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins away.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream your flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die:
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

(song continues on the next page ...)

Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing your pow'r to save,
When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue lies silent in the grave:
Lies silent in the grave, lies silent in the grave;
When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue lies silent in the grave.

Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood shall never lose its pow'r,
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more:
Be saved to sin no more, be saved to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more.

Words: William Cowper, 1707

Music: Lowell Mason, 1830

The Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who 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 hell*. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated 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 saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* 'hell' here means the realm of death, not 'place of eternal torment'

** 'catholic' here means 'universal'

Membership

The New Testament Reading

Luke 1.57-80

The Pastoral Prayer

Tom Phillips, elder

The Offering

Isaiah 52.13 – 53.12
(page 613-614)

The Lord's Supper

For singing together during the Lord's Supper ...

Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted no. 257

Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, see him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ by man rejected; yes, my soul, 'tis he! 'tis he!
'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's son, yet David's Lord;
By his son God now has spoken: 'tis the true and faithful Word.

Tell me, ye who hear him groaning, was there ever grief like his?
Friends through fear his cause disowning, foes insulting his distress;
Many hands were raised to wound him, none would interpose to save;
But the deepest stroke that pierced him was the stroke that Justice gave.

Ye who think of sin but lightly nor suppose the evil great
Here may view its nature rightly, here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed, see who bears the awful load;
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.

Here we have a firm foundation; here the refuge of the lost;
Christ's the Rock of our salvation, his the name of which we boast.

Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded who on him their hope have built.

Words: Thomas Kelly, 1804

Music: German tune, 1850

The Benediction

Numbers 6.24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.



Announcements & Reminders

Harvest Pictorial Directory

We are currently updating the church directory. Check it out using the “Instant Church Directory” app. Contact Jim Turner to submit your photo or update your info (*turner.james55@yahoo.com*).

Holiday Schedule

Please note our service of *Lessons & Carols* on Christmas Eve, beginning at 5pm with a meal to follow. Please arrive no later than 4:45 so that you may get your food dropped off and enter the sanctuary to enjoy the musical prelude. Also note that there will be *no Sunday School* December 30th.

Introduction to Harvest Seminar

Saturday, January 12, we will host our Intro Seminar. If you’re interested to join Harvest or are just curious to know more about Presbyterianism or Christianity, we’d love to have you. Contact Grant to sign up or with questions (*gmbeachy@gmail.com*).

Our Deployed Personnel & Their Families

Chip & Laura Raybon (Chloe, Samuel & Gabriel)

Wes & Tammy Scholtz (Elijah & Jude)

Chris & Aubrey Maldonado

Billy & Kristin Gunther

Harvest Communications

To stay connected with upcoming events & information concerning our life together as a church, send an email to Grant to be included in the **Harvest distro list** (*gmbeachy@gmail.com*). In addition to this ‘official’ distribution list, there is a **Google Group** for communicating needs or opportunities among the congregation - things like needing a ride to the airport, a freezer

you want to get rid of, etc. To be added to this Harvest Google Group, please contact Micah Roush at mroush1@live.com.

Nursery Reminders

Dec 23 – SS: Denny Phillips, Nate Phillips & Deb Roush

Worship Infant: Matt & Katrina Schilling, Noey Roush

Worship Toddler: John & Elisa Mabus, Anna Catherine Beachy & Katie Schilling

Dec 30 – SS: Mary Respass, Joy Tomsen & Audrey Jurina

Worship Infant: Sara Beachy, Megan & Isabell Jurina

Worship Toddler: Zack & Amy Millsaps, Savanna Hovies & David Zimbelman



HARVEST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- PCA -

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*Harvest Presbyterian Church
exists by the providence and grace of God
to develop and equip God's people for their calling
to glorify and enjoy him in all of life through
worship, nurture & service.*

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