



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

December 28, 2014



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please prepare your heart for worship
and silence your mobile devices.*

Worship Reflection

Both for perplexity and for dulled conscience
the remedy is the same — sincere and spiritual worship.
For worship is the submission of all our nature to God.

It is the quickening of conscience by His holiness;
the nourishment of mind with His truth;
the purifying of imagination by His beauty;
the opening of the heart to His love;
the surrender of will to His purpose —
and all of this gathered up in adoration,
the most selfless emotion of which our nature is capable
and therefore the chief remedy for that self-centeredness
which is our original sin and the source of all actual sin.
Yes, worship in spirit and truth is the way
to the solution of perplexity and to the liberation from sin.

William Temple, *Readings in St. John's Gospel*, 1939

Prayer of Preparation

*Almighty God and Father, who pours out on all who desire it
the spirit of grace and supplication:*

*Deliver us, when we draw near to You,
from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind,
that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections
we may worship You in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE:

"Rondeau" Marin Marais
"Sonatina" from *Cantata No. 106*. J.S. Bach
"Joy to the World" Lowell Mason

Jeanne Simons, flute and penny whistle; Gabriel Statom, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP: based on Isaiah 9:2 (NIV) Michael C. Davis

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;

**on those living in the land of the shadow of death
a light has dawned.**

Jesus Christ is our life and light.

In his name and in his power, let us worship God!

♠HYMN OF CHRIST'S BIRTH: No. 214 "Angels We Have Heard on High" GLORIA

♠CORPORATE PRAYER OF ADORATION

**All glory to You, great God,
for the gift of Your Son,
light in darkness and hope of the world,
whom You sent to save us.
With singing angels,
we praise Your name
and tell the earth His story,
that all may believe, rejoice, and bow down,
acknowledging Your love
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

RENEWING OUR FAITH

✦HYMN OF CHRIST'S LOVE:

No. 199 "See, amid the Winter's Snow" SEE AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy Father,
all year long we pursue power,
yet Jesus comes in weakness.
All season long we covet material gifts,
when You alone offer what is lasting.
Through the work of our Lord Jesus,
who comes among us full of grace and truth,
forgive, restore, and heal us.
Then open our lips,
that we may sing Your praise,
and witness to Your transforming love.
For we pray in the strong name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

✦HYMN OF JOY: No. 207 "Good Christian Men, Rejoice" IN DULCI JUBILO

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS.Richard G. Cain

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "For Unto Us a Child Is Born"Keith and Kristyn Getty

For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given,
On those walking through the dark a heavenly light has broken.
O what joy He brings to us a feast of hope and wonder
From our burden we are freed as we receive the Savior.

For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given,
And the government will be upon His blameless shoulders.
And His name shall be called O Wonderful and Counselor,
Mighty God and Prince of Peace, our Everlasting Father.

*O sing Gloria, sing Gloria in excelsis.
Sing Gloria, O sing Gloria.*

For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given,
Of His reign and of His peace there'll never be an ending.
He will be on David's throne and there uphold His Kingdom
And with truth and righteousness forever rule the nations.

Amy Stanfill, soloist

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE GLORIA

**Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

✦PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

✦GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN (8:15)

RESPONDING IN THANKS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE 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 forgive 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.**

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2:22-38 Ethan Knight (8:15)
(page 857 in the church Bible) Blanche Tosh (11:00)

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field;

**The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the Word of our God will stand forever. Amen.** (Isaiah 40:6b, 8)

SERMON *Faithful and Waiting* Gerry A. Peak

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✦SENDING HYMN: No. 224 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"GO TELL IT

✦BENEDICTION

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSEADESTES FIDELES

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Noel Suisse" Louis-Claude Daquin

✦Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778

Getting Connected

To find out more about who we are and how you can become part of our church community, contact Todd Erickson at (901) 531-8895 or todd.erickson@2pc.org.

Sunday Night Worship

We gather each Sunday at 6:00 p.m. for a service of prayer, praise, and teaching from God's Word. Tonight, our Youth Worship Team will lead us in worship, and we will hear about covenant renewal and revitalization using Joshua 24:1-18. We invite you to worship with us.