



CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
NEW HAVEN

**LARGE PRINT WITH SONG LYRICS**

*...so that Christ might come to have first place in all things.*

***Colossians 1:18***

22 December 2024

## I. PRAISING GOD'S GLORY

Prayer of God's Presence | Call to Worship – Luke 2:11-14

Leader: And an angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them,

**People: "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."**

Leader: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

**People: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"**

## Songs of Praise & Adoration

*Angels From The Realms of Glory (#218)*

**Angels from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:**

*Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

**Shepherds in the fields abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night.  
God with man is now residing,  
yonder shines the infant light:**

*Refrain*

**All creation, join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit, Son;  
Evermore your voices raising  
to th'eternal Three in One:**

*Refrain*

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*King of Kings*

**In the darkness we were waiting,  
without hope, without light,  
till from heaven you came running.**

**There was mercy in your eyes.**

**To fulfill the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word  
from a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt.**

*Praise the Father, praise the Son,  
praise the Spirit, three in one.*

*God of Glory, majesty,  
praise forever to the King of kings.*

**To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost,  
to redeem the whole creation you did not despise the cross.  
For even in your suff'ring, you saw to the other side.  
Knowing this was our salvation,  
Jesus, for our sake you died.**

*Chorus*

**And the morning that you rose all of heaven held its breath  
till that stone was moved for good,  
for the Lamb had conquered death.**

**And the dead rose from their tombs,  
and the angels stood in awe,  
for the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored.**

**And the Church of Christ was born,  
then the Spirit lit the flame.**

**Now this gospel truth of old shall not kneel,  
shall not faint.**

**By his blood and in his name, in his freedom I am free,  
For the love of Jesus Christ who has resurrected me.**

*Chorus*

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## II. RECEIVING GOD'S MERCY

### Song of Confession

*No, Not Despairingly*

**No, not despairingly I come to you;  
no, not distrustingly I bow to you:  
sin has gone over me, yet is this still my plea:  
Jesus has died. Jesus has died.**

**Ah! My iniquity crimson has been,  
infinite, infinite, sin upon sin;  
sin of not loving you, sin of not trusting you,  
infinite sin, infinite sin.**

*Faithful and just are you, forgiving all;  
loving and kind are you when poor ones call:  
Lord, let the cleansing blood, blood of the Lamb of God,  
pass o'er my soul. Pass o'er my soul.*

**Lord, I confess to you sadly my sin;  
all I am tell I you, all I have been:**

**Purge now my sin away, wash now my soul this day;  
Lord, make me clean. Lord, make me clean.**

*Chorus*

**Then all is peace and light this soul within;  
And shall I walk with you, the loved Unseen;  
leaning on you, my God, guided along the road,  
nothing between. Nothing between.**

*Chorus*

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## Confession of Sin

*Participants may kneel or lean forward.*

Leader: Our God and Savior, help us. We are slow to learn, prone to forget, and weak to climb; we are in the foothills when we long to be on the heights.

**People: We are pained by our graceless hearts, our prayerless days, our poverty of love, our sloth in the heavenly race, our sullied conscience, our wasted hours, our unspent opportunities, our restless spirits.**

Leader: We are blind while the light shines around us: take the scales from our eyes, grind to dust our heart of unbelief.

**People: Make it our highest joy to study you, meditate on you, gaze on you; sit, like Mary, at your feet; appeal, like Peter, to your love; count, like Paul, all things but dung. We believe, help our unbelief. Amen**

## Assurance of Forgiveness

“Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.” (Isaiah 45:22)

## Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## Song of Thanksgiving

*Oh Give Thanks!*

**We were wand'ring in the desert  
with our souls so starved and weak;  
we were hungry for a homeland  
we did not know how to seek.**

**But we lifted up our voices to the only One who hears;  
and the God of mercy came and brought us near.**

**We were locked out of the garden  
and our backs bent down with pain.  
In the shadow of death's darkness,  
we were slaves to sin and blame.**

**Then we cried out in our labor to the only One who hears,  
and the God of mercy wiped away our tears.**

*Oh give thanks to the LORD  
for his love endures forever!  
We were wandering and lost,  
and our Father brought us home,  
to a safe dwelling place,  
to a feast of joy and laughter.  
Oh give thanks to the LORD for he is good.*

**We were fools in our rebellion,  
with our hunger strike of pride.  
We were sick and growing closer  
to the death we should have died.  
Then he heard of our condition,  
and he called us by our names;  
And the God of glory took away our shame.**

*Chorus*

**We were far out on the ocean,  
making wealth and chasing dreams,  
but the waves of great destruction  
brought us trembling to our knees.  
Then we cried like desperate sailors  
to the only One who hears,  
And the God of comfort took away our fears.**

*Chorus*



### III. HEARING FROM CHRIST OUR PROPHET

#### Scripture Reading

*Old Testament: Exodus 25:1-22*

*New Testament: Hebrews 8:1-6*

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord!

*People: Thanks be to God.*

<sup>1</sup> *The LORD said to Moses,* <sup>2</sup> *“Speak to the people of Israel, that they take for me a contribution. From every man whose heart moves him you shall receive the contribution for me.”* <sup>3</sup> *And this is the contribution that you shall receive from them: gold, silver, and bronze,* <sup>4</sup> *blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen, goats’ hair,* <sup>5</sup> *tanned rams’ skins, goatskins, acacia wood,* <sup>6</sup> *oil for the lamps, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense,* <sup>7</sup> *onyx stones, and stones for setting, for the ephod and for the breastpiece.* <sup>8</sup> *And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst.* <sup>9</sup> *Exactly as I show you concerning the pattern of the tabernacle, and of all its furniture, so you shall make it.*

<sup>10</sup> *“They shall make an ark of acacia wood. Two cubits and a half shall be its length, a cubit and a half its breadth, and a cubit and a half its height.”* <sup>11</sup> *You shall overlay it with pure*

gold, inside and outside shall you overlay it, and you shall make on it a molding of gold around it.<sup>12</sup> You shall cast four rings of gold for it and put them on its four feet, two rings on the one side of it, and two rings on the other side of it.<sup>13</sup> You shall make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold.<sup>14</sup> And you shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark to carry the ark by them.<sup>15</sup> The poles shall remain in the rings of the ark; they shall not be taken from it.<sup>16</sup> And you shall put into the ark the testimony that I shall give you.

<sup>17</sup> “You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold. Two cubits and a half shall be its length, and a cubit and a half its breadth.<sup>18</sup> And you shall make two cherubim of gold; of hammered work shall you make them, on the two ends of the mercy seat.<sup>19</sup> Make one cherub on the one end, and one cherub on the other end. Of one piece with the mercy seat shall you make the cherubim on its two ends.<sup>20</sup> The cherubim shall spread out their wings above, overshadowing the mercy seat with their wings, their faces one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubim be.<sup>21</sup> And you shall put the mercy seat on the top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the testimony that I shall give you.<sup>22</sup> There I will meet with you, and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim that are on the ark of the

*testimony, I will speak with you about all that I will give you in commandment for the people of Israel. (Exodus 25: 1-22)*

Sermon | Exodus 25:1–22

*“When God Comes: Dwelling”*

*-Rev. Craig Luekens*

# Notes

## IV. COMMUNING WITH CHRIST OUR PRIEST

### Words of Institution

### Offering and Prayers

*You may virtually submit a prayer request or give toward the collection at [cpcnewhaven.org/live](http://cpcnewhaven.org/live). Or text GIVE or PRAY to 860-467-0010.*

### Doxology (#733)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below: Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host,  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

### Confession of Faith

Leader: Christians, what do you believe?

**People: I believe that God, because of Christ's atonement,  
will never hold against me any of my sins  
nor my sinful nature which I need to struggle against  
all my life.**

**Rather in his grace God grants me the righteousness  
of Christ to free me forever from judgment.**

**I am a member of Christ by faith, and thus partake  
of his anointing. He is ordained of God the Father,  
and anointed with the Holy Ghost, to be our chief**

**Prophet and Teacher, who has fully revealed to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our redemption; and to be our only High Priest, who by the one sacrifice of his body, has redeemed us, and makes continual intercession with the Father for us; and also to be our eternal King, who governs us by his word and Spirit, and who defends and preserves us in that salvation, he has purchased for us.**

(Heidelberg Catechism Questions 56, 32, 31)

## Partaking of the Elements Together

Leader: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

**People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All baptized Christians who have professed faith publicly in a gospel-believing church are invited to come forward to receive Christ's body and blood by the Holy Spirit. If you have not professed faith publicly, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing, simply indicate by crossing your arms across your chest.*

*We serve wine in the Lord's Supper, believing it to be the Biblical element used. We provide grape juice for those who, out of conscience or reasons of health, do not partake of wine. Grape juice is in the outer rim. The communion bread is gluten free. Pre-sealed elements of juice and wafer are also available.*

## Communion Song

### *Come Down O Love Divine*

**Come down, O Love Divine! Seek out this soul of mine  
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;  
O Comforter draw near, within my heart appear  
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
And let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity mine outward vesture be  
and lowliness become mine inner clothing:  
True lowliness of heart which takes the humbler part  
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling;  
For none can guess its grace, till we become the place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.**

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Tune: DOWN AMPNEY. Music; Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906.

## V. CELEBRATING CHRIST OUR KING

### Song of Coronation

*O Come All Ye Faithful (#208)*

**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;**

*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:  
Very God, begotten, not created;**

*Refrain*

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
glory to God, all glory in the highest**

*Refrain*

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning:  
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing**

*Refrain*



## Benediction

“May the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, himself restore, establish, and strengthen you. To him be the dominion for ever and ever. Amen.” (1 Peter 5:10-11)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**No Sunday School or Fellowship Lunch | Today or Next Week!**

### **Engaging with Aging | Saturday Jan. 25, 9am–12:30pm | CPC Fellowship Hall**

We're having a seminar and discussion on issues related to **aging well, end-of-life, and death**. These will include a biblical and theological survey from Pastor Craig, a presentation and Q&A with a Geriatric physician, as well as legal and financial suggestions that everyone should be aware of. All ages are welcome since this will impact everyone at some point! Light breakfast and refreshments provided, and it will be livestreamed.

### **Mission Trip Summer 2025, Sign up Now!**



## **Christmas Offering:**

Please consider giving above your regular church support to CPC's Special Christmas Offering. You may designate your gift to the funds listed below.

*Note: All other general undesignated year-end giving (not associated with the Christmas Offering) given through our normal methods of collection will be applied where there is most need.*

**Mercy Fund** | A gift to the Mercy Fund is to help meet approved financial mercy requests. This allows us to balance caring for the needs of the whole church and the needs of each congregation.

**Mission Anabaino** | Mission Anabaino is the church planting ministry that CPC founded and supports.

**Undesignated** | Your undesignated gift will be applied to our general operating budget. A gift in this category will be able to be used where there is most need.

## **Ways to Give:**

**Check:** Write your designation in the memo (see above options) and give at any time via the Sunday collections throughout December or by mail (Christ Presbyterian Church, 135 Whitney Ave., New Haven, CT 06510).

**Online:** Visit [cpcnewhaven.org/give](http://cpcnewhaven.org/give)

**Text-to-Give:** Text GIVE to 860-467-0010 and follow the prompts to accept texts, set up mobile giving, and designate funds. You may save a card or bank information for future giving. If this is your first time texting us, after you are prompted to opt-in, you will need to text GIVE again to initiate the giving process.

**Non-Cash Gifts:** CPC friends and members may utilize the PCA Foundation to assist with processing non-cash gifts (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and real estate) to support the work of the church. Simply call (800-700-3221), email ([pcaf@pcanet.org](mailto:pcaf@pcanet.org)), or visit their website ([pcafoundation.com](http://pcafoundation.com)). They've helped process more than \$150M in gifts to advance God's kingdom.

## ONGOING

**No Pastor Drop-in Office Hours** | Dec. 22–Jan. 5

### **Homeless Drive through January 2025**

We will be collecting items for those experiencing homelessness in the greater New Haven area through January 2025. Items needed: blankets, sleeping bags, hats, gloves, coats, socks, boots, tents, backpacks/duffle bags, toiletries, underwear, hand warmers. Please wash any used items and leave them in the "Homeless Drive" bin in the foyer. All items will be delivered to the CSHHC Homeless team and distributed to those in need. Contact Joshua Bird: [jdbird77@msn.com](mailto:jdbird77@msn.com)

**Pastor's Book Pick** – *Glittering Vices: A New Look at the 7 Deadly Sins and their Remedies*, by Rebecca DeYoung

This book is a great introduction to moral formation and spiritual disciplines, especially learning from the ancient and medieval church on how to fight sin and become more like Jesus. Rather than a guilt-trip or invitation to despair, this book gives practical wisdom and advice on how to be set free from sin, that we would live more fully according to

the law of love. Pick up a copy in the foyer (if you need large print, unfortunately you'll have to read it on a tablet), and pay what you can.



## THE MISSION OF CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are a church that is ambitious for the glory of God by  
**GROWING** in the truth and grace of Jesus Christ,  
**ACTING** as a faithful witness in the greater New Haven community and world,  
**TRUSTING** in the grace and power of the Holy Spirit.



### CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEW HAVEN

135 Whitney Ave. | New Haven, CT 06510 | 203.777.6960 (Text or Call)

The Office and Study Center are open by appointment with staff.

Pastoral Counseling is available by appointment.

[www.cpcnewhaven.org](http://www.cpcnewhaven.org)

### KEY LEADER CONTACTS

**Senior Pastor** | Craig Luekens | [craig.luekens@cpcnewhaven.org](mailto:craig.luekens@cpcnewhaven.org)

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