



THE LORD'S DAY IN WORSHIP

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DECEMBER 12, 2021

MORNING WORSHIP

THE SILENT MEDITATION UPON ENTERING THE SANCTUARY

What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. The history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion, and man's spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God. Worship is pure or base as the worshiper entertains high or low thoughts of God. For this reason the gravest question before the Church is always God Himself, and the most portentous fact about any man is not what he at a given time may say or do, but what he in his deep heart conceives God to be like. We tend, by a secret law of the soul, to move toward our mental image of God. This is true not only of the individual Christian, but of the company of Christians that composes the Church. Always the most revealing thing about the Church is her idea of God.

– A.W. TOZER, *THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE HOLY*



APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

The Christian Greeting and Call to Preparation

8:25 and 10:55 a.m.

The Prelude

Fugue on a Russian Noel

Reinhold Gliere

Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon...

For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Isaiah 55:6-7; 12

Please maintain social distancing. Masks are requested in the sanctuary; masks are mandatory in the Westminster Room and in the Spires Room.

The Striking of the Hour

May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in His works, Who looks on the earth and it trembles, Who touches the mountains and they smoke! I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to Him, for I rejoice in the Lord. Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord!

† The Hymn No. 208

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

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;
very God, begotten, not created; [*Refrain*]

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

† The Prayer of Invocation

✠ The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father Which art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in 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, for ever. Amen.**

✠ The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Silent, Personal Prayer of Confession

The Corporate Prayer of Lament and Hope

**God of love, all year long we pursue power and money, yet You come in weakness.
All season long we covet great material gifts, when You alone offer what is lasting.
Through the work of the Lord Jesus, Who comes among us full of grace and truth,
forgive us, heal us, correct us. Open our lips that we may sing Your praise with the
angels. Remake our lives, that we may witness to Your transforming love. Through
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Assurance of God's Pardon

People of God, through the coming of Jesus Christ, Whose birth we celebrate, the Lord
has comforted and redeemed us! In Christ we receive the salvation of our God. Glory to
God in the highest!

The Offering of His Tithes and Our Gifts Beyond the Tithe

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

The Anthem

Wexford Carol
Derrick Muraya, *oboe*

Trad. Irish, arr. Hagenberg

Good people all, this Christmas time, consider well, and bear in mind,
What our good God for us has done, in sending His beloved Son.
With Mary holy, we should pray to God with love this Christmas day;
In Bethlehem upon that morn, there was a blessed Messiah born.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep their flocks of lambs, and feeding sheep;
To whom God's angels did appear, which put the shepherds in great fear.
“Prepare and go,” the angels said, “To Bethlehem. Be not afraid.
For there you'll find this happy morn a princely Babe sweet Jesus born.”

With thankful heart and joyful mind, the shepherds went the Babe to find,
And as God's angels had foretold, they did our Savior Christ behold.
Within a manger He was laid, and by His side the virgin maid
Attending on the Lord of Life Who came to earth to end all strife.

With Mary holy we should pray to God with love this Christmas day;
In Bethlehem upon that morn, there was a blessed Messiah born.

The Children's Message ~ Heidelberg Catechism Question Number 33

*Children in 3rd grade and younger are invited to the front steps of the Chancel
for the children's message.*

Q. Why is He called God's “only begotten Son” when we also are God's children?

A. Because Christ alone is the eternal, natural Son of God. We, however, are adopted children of God—adopted by grace through Christ.

† The Hymn of Preparation No. 194 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*
(stanzas 1-3)

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe. [*Refrain*]

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell Thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. [*Refrain*]

Children age four through kindergarten may leave to attend Children's Church.

† The Reading of God's Word

The Old Testament Lesson

Psalms 4:1-8

Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer! 2 O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? Selah 3 But know that the Lord has set apart the godly for Himself; the Lord hears when I call to Him. 4 Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. Selah 5 Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord. 6 There are many who say, "Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O Lord!" 7 You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound. 8 In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field.

**The grass withers and the flowers fade,
but the Word of our God shall stand forever. Amen.**

The Sermon

**CHRISTMAS ISN'T CHRISTMAS
'TIL IT HAPPENS IN YOUR HEART**
Philippians 4:4-9

Mr. Cooper

—
A sermon outline can be found on page 10.

The Closing Prayer

**COMMUNING WITH THE LORD JESUS CHRIST
AND HIS PEOPLE**

The Invitation to and Fencing of the Table

Participation requires your reverence and attention, discernment of the Lord's Body, a clear understanding of the meaning of the Lord's Supper, meditation on Christ's suffering and death, self-judgment, sorrow for sin, desire for Christ, feeding on Him in faith, trusting in Him, rejoicing in His love, giving thanks for His grace, renewal of your covenant with God and commitment to Christ, and your special love to all Christians.

† The Communion Hymn No. 194 *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*
(stanzas 4-5)

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. [*Refrain*]

† The Confession of Our Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

† The Prayer of Humble Access

The Words of Institution

The Serving of the Meal

Greensleeves
Derrick Muraya, *oboe*

Dennis Janzer

FOLLOWING GOD'S SPIRIT

† The Hymn No. 691

It Is Well With My Soul

VILLE DU HAVRE

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."

Refrain: It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed His own blood for my soul. [*Refrain*]

My sin— O the bliss of this glorious thought!— my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more; praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! [*Refrain*]

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend; "Even so"— it is well with my soul. [*Refrain*]

† The Benediction of God's Grace

Minister: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and
minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son, Jesus Christ, our
Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

The Threefold Amen (*sung by all*):



The Postlude

Noel Suisse (Swiss Noel)

Claude Daquin

**CHRISTMAS ISN'T CHRISTMAS
'TIL IT HAPPENS IN YOUR HEART**

Philippians 4:4-9

INTRODUCTION

I. THE INDICATIVE (WHO ARE WE?)

A. Who we are (Philippians 3:4-5)

B. What we've done (Philippians 3:5-6)

II. THE IMPERATIVES (HOW DO WE RESPOND?)

A. Rejoice (Philippians 4:4)

1. Circumstantial Happiness

2. Solid Joy & Lasting Treasure

B. Reasonableness (Philippians 4:5)

1. Forbearance

2. Forgive Us Our Debts

C. Requests (Philippians 4:6)

1. Anxiety vs. Anxiousness

2. What a Friend We Have in Jesus

D. Rest (Philippians 4:7)

1. Temporary Cessation of Hostilities

2. It Is Well with My Soul

E. Rumination (Philippians 4:8-9)

1. Garbage In, Gospel Out

2. Where E'er the Sun Does His Successive Journeys Run