



REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
December 22, 2024
9:30 am Worship Service

Reformed Presbyterian Church exists to be a stream of God's refreshing grace for people from all walks of life.

Today's Speaker: Dr. David Kieffer, Senior Pastor

Worship Leader: Anthony Martin, Ruling Elder

Organist: Courtney Brooke

Choir Director: Rachel Klein

PRELUDE *Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne/* arr. J. Innes
◇ A time of quiet preparation *Christmas Medley/* C. Kohlman
Janelle Labs, piano

WORDS OF GREETING

WE CELEBRATE THE COMING OF CHRIST

THE ADVENT CANDLE: Exodus 12:3, 5-6 (ESV)
Lincoln & Jenny Fitch and family

WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD Gen. 22:1-8 (ESV)
After these things God tested Abraham and said to him,
"Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² He said, "Take your
son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of
Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the

mountains of which I shall tell you.”³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.⁴ On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar.⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.”⁶ And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together.⁷ And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”⁸ Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

IN PRAYER

***WE PRAISE OUR GOD**

HYMN OF PRAISE 200

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

***WE CONFESS OUR FAITH**

The Nicene Creed

Leader: Christian, what do you believe?

**People: We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible
and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds;
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God; begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation,
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit
of the virgin Mary, and was made man;
and was crucified also for us
under Pontius Pilate; he suffered
and was buried;
and the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;**

and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of Life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism
for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***WE EXALT OUR LORD**

WORSHIP SONGS

*On Christmas Night All Christians Sing
What Child is This
O Holy Night*

WELCOME TO ALL

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO CHILDREN'S CHOIR
CONGREGATIONAL GREETING
WELCOME TO VISITORS

WE SEEK GOD'S FACE

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERING/ OFFERTORY

Wood of the Cradle/ F. P. O'Brien

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:29-34 (ESV)

²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' ³¹ I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³² And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him." ³³ I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize

with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’³⁴ And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

SERMON

Jesus as the Lamb of God
Advent series: When God Came Near
Dr. David Kieffer

***WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Crown Him (Christmas)

WORDS OF PEACE

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO MUSIC ROOM AND SUNDAY SCHOOL
HOUR (4 years through 5th grade)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Czech Carol for Christmas/ arr. C Simone

Hymn Lyrics

200 It Came upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
from heav'n's all-gracious King";
the world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies
they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hov'ring wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hast'ning on, by prophet bards foretold,
when with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold;
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

On Christmas night all Christians sing,
to hear the news the angels bring;
On Christmas night all Christians sing,
to hear the news the angels bring
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should we on earth be so sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad;
Then why should we on earth be so sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad,
When from our sin He set us free,
all for to gain our liberty.

All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night;
All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night;
Glory to God and peace to men,
Now and for evermore Amen

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What Child Is This

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Raise, raise, the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby:
joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.

Now let our praises ring this day
All heaven and earth together
The Light of Love is born to us
Exalt His name forever.

This, this is Christ the King
Let every tongue and nation sing
Praise, praise His holy name, the saving son of Mary.

What Child Is This, Words adapted by William C. Dix, Music an English melody © Public Domain CCLI License
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O Holy Night

O Holy night, the stars are brightly shining,
it is the night of the dear Savior's birth;
Long lay the world, in sin and error pining,
till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.

A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;

Chorus:

Fall on your knees, oh, hear the angel voices!
O night divine, o night when Christ was born!
O night, O Holy night, O night divine.

Truly he taught us to love one another,
His law is love, and His gospel is peace;
Chains shall he break for the slave is our brother,
and in His name all oppression shall cease.

Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
let all within us praise His holy name;

Chorus:

Christ is the Lord,
oh praise His name forever!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!

"Crown Him (Christmas)"

Crown Him with many crowns The King who left His throne
Creator of the universe Born to the world He holds
And with that first drawn breath The Word has become flesh
Emmanuel has come to us, O crown Him, all the earth

Crowned by the angel choir They tell His royal birth
Sing glory in the highest height And peace upon the earth
They break the silent night Announcing endless worth
The King of grace and love is here, O crown Him all the world

Crowned by their royal gifts, Gold frankincense and myrrh
Wise men approach this manger throne With honors from afar
Behold the Son of God And bow down in this place
The Prince of Peace has come to us, O crown Him with your praise

Crown Him with many crowns The Lamb upon His throne
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns All music but its own
Awake, my soul, and sing God sent His Son for me
Now hail Him as thy matchless King Through all eternity

Words by Matthew Bridges, Chris Tomlin, Matthew G Maher, Matt Maher, Edward Martin Cash, Ed Cash, Music by George Elvey