

Christ Church

**Worshipping Christ and equipping God's people to extend His Lordship
down through our generations
and out into the world.**

Covenant Renewal Worship, Lord's Day, December 27, AD 2020 10:00 AM

Meditation

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

God Calls Us to Worship

Praise the Lord! I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation. The works of the Lord are great, studied by all who have pleasure in them. His work is honorable and glorious, and His righteousness endures forever. He has made His wonderful works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and full of compassion. He has given food to those who fear Him; He will ever be mindful of His covenant. He has declared to His people the power of His works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. The works of His hands are verity and justice; all His precepts are sure. They stand fast forever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness. He has sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever: holy and awesome is His name. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever. **AMEN**

Psalm 111

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

Trinity Hymnal 211

1 God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior
Was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r
When we were gone astray;

Refrain:

O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

2 From God our heav'nly Father,
A blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name. *Refrain*

3 "Fear not, then," said the angel,
"Let nothing you affright;
This day is born a Savior
Of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in Him
From Satan's pow'r and might." *Refrain*

4 The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding,
In tempest, storm, and wind:
And went to Bethlehem straightway,
The Son of God to find. *Refrain*
AMEN

Responsive Reading

Psalm 8

Leader: O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth,

Congregation: Who have set Your glory above the heavens!

Leader: Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength,

Congregation: Because of Your enemies, that You may silence the enemy and the avenger.

Leader: When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,

Congregation: The moon and the stars, which You have ordained,

Leader: What is man that You are mindful of him,

Congregation: And the son of man that You visit him?

Leader: For You have made him a little lower than the angels,

Congregation: And You have crowned him with glory and honor.

Leader: You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet,

Congregation: O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth! AMEN

Psalm 8B

Amsterdam

1 Lord, our Lord, in all the earth
How excellent Your name!
You above the heav'ns have set
The splendor of Your fame.
From the mouths of infants young
You the power of praise compose
In the face of enemies
To stop avenging foes.

2 When I view the skies above
Which Your own fingers made,
When I see the moon and stars
Which You in order laid,
What is man so frail and weak
That You should remember him?
What can be the son of man
That You should care for him?

3 You made man just less than God
With radiant glory crowned.
You placed him above Your works;
Beneath him all is found:
Oxen, sheep, and all wild beasts,
Birds, and fish the oceans claim.
Lord, our Lord, in all the earth
How excellent Your name! **AMEN**

Confession of Sin

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ. **AMEN**
Galatians 4:4-7

Silent Confession followed by Corporate Confession

Leader: Let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

**Congregation: Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own
hearts. We confess that we have sinned against You in thought,
word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left
undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways,
to the glory of Your Name. AMEN**

Assurance of Pardon

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its bud, as the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns. The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, and all kings your glory. You shall be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord will name. You shall also be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. **AMEN**
Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Leader: Our sins are forgiven!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Trinity Hymnal 201

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by:
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary;
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth.

3 How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still,
The dear Christ enters in.

4 O holy child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel. **AMEN**

Luther's Commentary on the Second Article of the Apostles Creed

Congregation: We believe that Jesus Christ
—true God, Son of the Father from eternity,
and true Man, born of the Virgin Mary—is our Lord.
He has redeemed us, lost and condemned persons,
saved us at great cost from sin, death, and the power of the devil,
not with silver or gold, but with His holy and precious blood

**and His innocent suffering and death.
All this He has done that we may be His own,
live under Him in His kingdom,
and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and
blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead and lives and rules
eternally. This is most certainly true. AMEN**

Intercessory Prayer

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever. As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people from this time forth and forever. For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, lest the righteous reach out their hands to iniquity. Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts. As for such as turn aside to their crooked ways, the Lord shall lead them away with the workers of iniquity. Peace be upon Israel! **AMEN** *Psalm 125*

Leader Prays

**Congregation: Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your 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 do not lead us into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. AMEN**

Tithes and Offerings

Doxology

God Consecrates Us with His Word

The Reading of the Scriptures

Luke 2:21-40

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

The Presentation of Salvation
Justin Wallick

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Trinity Hymnal 207

1 Good Christian men, rejoice,
With heart, and soul, and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
Earth and heav'n before Him bow,
And He is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

2 Good Christian men, rejoice,
With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door,
And man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

3 Good Christian men, rejoice,
With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain His everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save! **AMEN**

God Communes With Us

Elder: God is good!

Congregation: All the time!

**Congregation: Thanks be to You, O God,
for Your presence and Your purpose,
for Your lovingkindness and Your steadfast Spirit.
May the blessings of this table strengthen our faith,
increase our generosity, and unify our hearts,
for we pray in the name of Jesus, the Risen One. AMEN**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Trinity Hymnal 224

Refrain:
Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.

1 While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. *Refrain*

2 The shepherds feared and trembled When, lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

3 Down in a lowly manger
Our humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain* **AMEN**

God Commissions Us

Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

AMEN

Colossians 3:12-17

Benediction

Christ, We Do All Adore Thee

Trinity Hymnal 737

Christ, we do all adore Thee,
And we do praise Thee forever;
Christ, we do all adore Thee,
And we do praise Thee forever;
For on the holy cross hast Thou
The world from sin redeemed.
Christ, we do all adore Thee,
And we do praise Thee forever.
Christ, we do all adore Thee. **AMEN**