

Covenant Church

Morning Worship — December 10, 2023

Welcome

Andrew Telthorst

Announcements

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Selection from Isaiah 12:2-6

***Sing: Hymn #218 - Angels, from the Realms of Glory**

*Invocation

*Confession of Faith (Unison)

Westminster Larger Catechism, Questions 36 + 37

Question 36

Minister: Who is the Mediator of the covenant of grace?

Congregation: The only Mediator of the covenant of grace is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, of one substance and equal with the Father, in the fullness of time became man, and so was and continues to be God and man, in two entire distinct natures, and one person, forever.

Question 37

Minister: How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

Congregation: Christ the Son of God became man, by taking to himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost in the womb of the Virgin Mary, of her substance, and born of her, yet without sin.

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We're very glad to worship with you this morning. Covenant Church is a church of **Prayer, Worship, and Love for Our City**, while rejoicing and resting in God — to his glory.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tonight — Evening Worship

You're invited to return here at 6:00 PM for the *Evening Worship* service. The sermon text this evening is 1 Peter 4:12-19.

Friday (12/15) — Christmas

Gathering. Enjoy snacks, Christmas lights, and friends. 6:00 PM at Ani Sarkisyan's house, 1039 E. Providencia Ave., Burbank. Questions? Ani - 818-429-6500.

Sunday (12/31) — Last Sunday Lunch

On the last Sunday of each month, Covenant Church enjoys a fellowship lunch immediately following the conclusion of *Morning Worship*. The Lord's Supper is celebrated in *Evening Worship* on these Sundays.

Thursday (1/4 + 1/11) — Women's Study and Fellowship. 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM at Amanda's home, 620 E Angeleno Ave., Burbank.

COMING SOON

Monthly Men's Study and Fellowship starting in January.

GOD CLEANSSES US

Confession of Sin (*Unison*)

Psalm 51:1-4 (ESV)

¹ “Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! ³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.”

*Scriptural Assurance of Pardon

Acts 10:43 (ESV)

⁴³ To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

*Sing: *Psalter 40 A (Stanzas 1 & 4)*

(Children Come Forward on Last Stanza)

Children’s Message

GOD CONSECRATES US

Worship of God with Tithes & Offerings

Jeffrey Kusumi

*Sing: Hymn #731, *The Doxology*

Pastoral Prayer (& *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.*

Reading of Scripture

Matthew 2:1-23 (ESV)

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem

of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶ “ ‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

¹³ Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴ And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

¹⁹ But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰ saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” ²¹ And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. ²³ And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

