

Covenant Church

Morning Worship — December 22, 2024

Welcome

Andrew Telthorst

Announcements

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Psalm 117

***Sing: Hymn #208, O Come, All Ye Faithful**

***Invocation**

***Confession of Faith (Unison)**

The Heidelberg Catechism, Question 1

Minister: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

Congregation: That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death, am not my own, but belong to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ, who, with His precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me, that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; yes, that all things must work together for my salvation. Wherefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me heartily willing and ready henceforth to live unto Him.

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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

Evening Worship

Tonight, 6:00 PM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

This Tuesday, December 24

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

"Last Sunday" Lunch

There is no "Last Sunday" lunch in December 2024, but we look forward to our next whole-church meal together on the last Sunday in January!

No Evening Worship Next Sunday

There is no *Evening Worship* scheduled for next Sunday, December 29, but we look forward to resuming both *Morning Worship* and *Evening Worship* on the first Sunday in January.

**Congregation standing, if able*

GOD CLEANSSES US

Confession of Sin (*Unison*)

Psalm 51:7-12 (ESV)

⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. ⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. ¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

*Scriptural Assurance of Pardon

Lamentations 3:21-24 (ESV)

²¹ But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: ²² The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; ²³ they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴ “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

*Sing: Hymn #196, *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

(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

Luke 2:1-21 (ESV)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest,

and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

²¹And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

