# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | DECEMBER 18, 2022 | 10:45 A.M.

## The Announcements

Please submit your prayer requests and/or record your attendance at worship with us:

- The Prelude
- \*The Call to Worship
- \*The Prayer of Adoration

The Presentation of New Members: Tim and Cheryl Haynes

- + Biblical Explanation
- + Vows of Membership
- + Prayer
- + Benediction
- - Q. What do you mean by saying, *He ascended to heaven*?
  - A. That Christ, while his disciples watched, was taken up from the earth into heaven and remains there on our behalf until he comes again to judge the living and the dead.
  - Q. But isn't Christ with us until the end of the world as he promised us?
  - A. Christ is true man and true God. In his human nature Christ is not now on earth; but in his divinity, majesty, grace, and Spirit he is never absent from us.

# ~ God Calls His People to Confess Their Sins ~



HIS ADVENT

### Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus Waiting for the consolation of Israel. Luke 2:25

٦ Г 1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free; 2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, ap - pear; 3. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he whose glo - ries knew no end; 4. Born thy de - liv - er, peo - ple to born a child and yet a king, re - lease us; let from our fears and sins us find rest in thee. our come, thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se, of thy birth we long to hear! by his life he brings us glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep-herd, Friend. born to reign in for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring. us Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art, hills the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings O'er the of a birth: rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in Leav - ing cat - tle a stall; By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all hearts a - lone; our Ð dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart. Christ the Lord has come to earth." "Go to him, your prais - es bring - ing; this the ev - er - last - ing won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all. by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo-rious throne. d

St. 1, 4, Charles Wesley, 1744 St. 2–3, Mark E. Hunt, 1978 Text of stanzas 2 & 3 © 1978, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Used by permission HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7.D. Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855

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The Confession of Sin

Our Creator and Redeemer, your spoken word brings order, beauty, and light where there is chaos, emptiness, and darkness. We thank you for the power of your word in creating the world and in making us a new creation in Christ.

We confess that our words are often riddled with falsehood, misrepresentation, and manipulation. Our lips lie and produce death rather than life, rivalry rather than friendship, and blame rather than repentance.

We twist, distort, and dodge the truth in order to justify ourselves, protect our interests, or tear down others. Our love for appearing right has come at the expense of the truth and of the reputation of our fellow imagebearers. Lord, may we love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Forgive us for our words that spread lifelessness and which dishonor you. May the word of Christ dwell in us richly so that the words of our mouth and the meditations of our heart please you, our Rock and our Redeemer. In the name of Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, we pray.

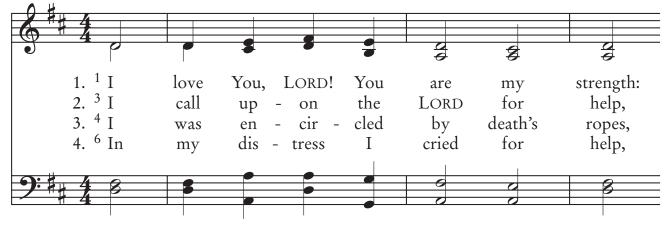
**The Silent Confession** 

~ God Assures His People of His Covenant Mercies ~

The Assurance of Pardon .....Psalm 130:7–8

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

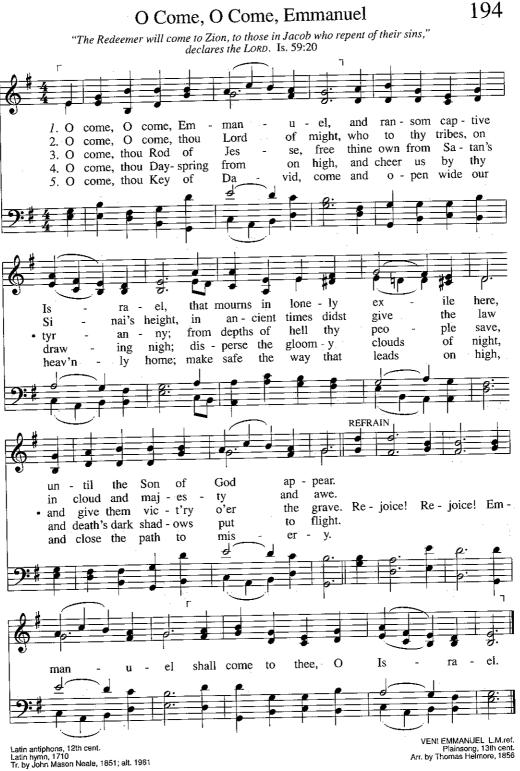
~ We Respond to God's Grace with Offerings of Ourselves and Our Needs ~



Psalm 18: Book of Psalms for Worship © 2010 Crown & Covenant Publications | CCLI #487914



HIS ADVENT



#### **SERMON NOTES**

#### I. Introduction

A. How are the songs of Mary and Zechariah different?

B. What is the occasion of this hymn?

### II. <u>Main Argument</u>

- A. Blessing God (vv. 67-68)
  - 1. Prophecy (v. 67): What question is Zechariah answering?
  - 2. <u>Praise (v. 68)</u>
    - a. What two things characterize Zechariah's praise?
    - b. Visitation: How is that term used in the Old Testament?
    - c. <u>Application</u>: Our praise of God should be specific.

#### **B.** God's Visitation (vv. 69-75)

- 1. <u>Faithfulness in Salvation (vv. 69-70, 72-74)</u>: What is the significance of a horn?
  - a. Why is David's house important?
  - b. What are the benefits of the covenant revealed in Christ?
  - c. <u>Application</u>: God's promises are certain.
- 2. Deliverance (v. 71)
  - a. How does Zechariah portray the completeness of God's deliverance?
  - b. What sort of deliverance were the Jews expecting; how is this deliverance superior to such expectations?

- 3. <u>Purpose (vv. 74b-75)</u>
  - a. Why does Zechariah desire deliverance?
  - b. How is the deliverance Zechariah anticipates similar to that of the deliverance of Israel in the exodus from Egypt?
  - c. What is meant by serve him?
  - d. Character of the worship
    - 1) Without fear:
    - 2) Holiness and righteousness:
    - 3) All our days:

#### C. The Work of the Child (vv. 76-77)

- 1. Office & Calling (v. 76)
- **2.** <u>Message (v. 77)</u>

#### 3. <u>Application</u>: The Kingdom Of God comes by gospel preaching.

#### D. The Glory of the Sunrise (vv. 78-79)

- 1. Tender Mercy (v. 78): Why is this needed?
- 2. <u>Visitation (v. 78)</u>: How does this fulfill what was promised in the blessing Aaron pronounced upon Israel?
- 3. <u>Calling</u>: What is His twofold mission?

#### III. Conclusion





# ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 18, 2022

- + Sunday school and Midweek activities are on break December 18-January 4, 2023.
- + There is a Joint Officer Meeting December 21 at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
- + The Lord's Supper will be observed as part of Evening Worship tonight
- + On Jan. 8, 2023 FPFO & MTW Missionary TE David Stoddard will be preaching in morning worship and giving an update on his work in Berlin in Sunday school.
- + *Caroling at the Crossing*: after evening worship tonight. All are welcome to join in at the Crossing Apartments (across from Neighborhood Market & Fant Drive).

## Keep Up With the Worship & Work of the Church

- + Sign up for text message alerts and updates by texting FPFO to 84576.
- + To subscribe to the prayer list, please contact the church secretary: office@fpfo.org.
- + Contributions may be received by placing your offering in the plates, mailing a check to the church office, or online: <u>FPFO.org/give</u>.

Next Lord's Day Evening: Joint Worship at Cornerstone OPC 1813 Long Street, Chattanooga

December 25 | 6:00 p.m.

# Pastor Ryan Biese, Preaching Luke 2:28-25, "Simeon's Song"

| FPFO Weekly Activities Schedule   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| The Lord's Day  | Wednesday                           |
| 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time   | 9:00 a.m. Ladies' Prayer Meeting    |
| 9:45 a.m. Sunday School   | 5:55 p.m. Covered-Dish Supper       |
| 10:45 a.m. Morning Worship  | 6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting            |
| 5:00 p.m. Sermon Broadcast  | 6:30-7:30 p.m. KidsQuest (children) |
| WAAK 94.7 FM  | 6:50-7:30 p.m. Classes & Studies    |
| 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship   | The Kings of Israel (adults)        |
| (excluding First Sundays)   | The Life of David (young men)       |
|   | Gospel of John (young women)        |
| Children are always welcome in worship, but a nursery is also available for children 3 and under. |                                     |
| Dec. 18: E. Wilson & M. Tuggle  | Dec. 25: E. Tuggle & A. Wilson      |