

Christ Church

Worshiping 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 18, 2016

Meditation

"Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world." – From The Last Battle, by C.S. Lewis

God Calls Us To Worship

"On that day I will raise up the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, and repair its damages; I will raise up its ruins, and rebuild it as in the days of old; that they may possess the remnant of Edom, and all the gentiles who are called by My name," Says the Lord who does this thing. AMEN
Amos 9:11-12

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

ISAIAH 9:2-7

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a
light has shined.

**Congregation: You have multiplied the nation and increased its joy; they rejoice before You
according to the joy of harvest, as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.**

Leader: For You have broken the yoke of his burden and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his
oppressor, as in the day of Midian. For every warrior's sandal from the noisy battle, and
garments rolled in blood, will be used for burning and fuel of fire.

**Congregation: For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government will be upon
His shoulder, and His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Leader: Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David
and over His kingdom,

**Congregation: To order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even
forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.
AMEN**

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

TRINITY HYMNAL 203

1 Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain:
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King."

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come,
offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with men to dwell,

Jesus, our Emmanuel. Refrain

3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth. Refrain
AMEN

Confession of Sin

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear. AMEN
Isaiah 59:1-2

Silent Confession Followed by Corporate Confession

Leader: Let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

**Congregation: O almighty God, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus;
we acknowledge that we are unworthy of Your redeeming grace.
We have not believed Your promises; nor trusted in our living Lord. Through
worldliness of spirit,
our eyes have been kept from discerning His presence with us.
Through disappointment of mind and dejection of spirit,
our hearts have not burned within us as we have heard His Word.
We have not trusted in His redeeming power,
and have been overcome of evil.
We have forgotten the glad tidings of His peace.
But now in penitence we come to you, beseeching Your forgiveness.
Mercifully grant us absolution from all our sins,
and restore unto us the joy of Your salvation;
for Jesus Christ's sake, our only mediator and advocate. AMEN**

Assurance of Pardon

“When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him. “The Redeemer will come to Zion, and to those who turn from transgression in Jacob,” says the Lord.” AMEN
Isaiah 59:19b-20

Leader: Our sins are forgiven!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

JOY TO THE WORLD! THE LORD IS COME

TRINITY HYMNAL 195

1 Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns:
let men their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.
AMEN

Confession of Faith

Selections from the Westminster Creed

**Congregation: I believe God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable,
in His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth;
I believe there is but one true and living God;
that there are three persons in the Godhead:
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost;
and that these three are one God,
the same in substance, equal in power and glory;
I believe God has foreordained whatever comes to pass;
that God made all things of nothing, by the word of His power,
in the space of six days, and all very good;
and that God preserves and governs all His creatures
and all their actions. AMEN**

Intercessory Prayer

And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.

For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation. AMEN
Luke 1:46-50

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

God Consecrates Us With His Word

The Reading of The Scriptures: ISAIAH 40:21-31

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon: "Maintaining a Healthy Wait"

MATTHEW CARPENTER

GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH

TRINITY HYMNAL 598

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy pow'rful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through;
strong Deliv'rer, strong Deliv'rer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee. AMEN

God Communes With Us

Elder: God is good!

Congregation: All the time!

Elder: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Let us pray.

**Congregation: O Lord our God, thank you for lifting our heads, raising us up,
and seating us at this your table as royal sons and daughters of your
kingdom.**

Thank you for the grace that is given here.

**Thank you for this reminder of our redemption,
this food for our faith, and this hope for our future.**

**Fix our eyes on the One who invites us here
and gives Himself to us that we may feed on and with Him.**

**May we eat this bread with joy and drink this wine with a merry heart
knowing that God has already accepted our works.**

May we taste and see that the Lord is good. AMEN

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

TRINITY HYMNAL 208

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the King of angel.

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2 God of God, Light of Light;
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created. Refrain

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:
glory to God in the highest. Refrain

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. Refrain
AMEN

God Commissions Us

In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
AMEN 1 John 4:9-11

Benediction

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

TRINITY HYMNAL 385

God be with you till we meet again;
by his counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you:
God be with you till we meet again. AMEN