

WELCOME

We are glad you chose to worship with us today. It is our hope that today's service will be a fresh encounter with God's love and grace. This folder will guide you as we worship together.

OUR PURPOSE

Cypress Ridge PCA exists to be a God centered, worshipping community that disciples God's people and extends God's kingdom.

CRPC is a member of the Presbyterian Church in America: www.pcanet.org

VISITOR/PRAYER REQUEST CARD

Visitors: We would like to get to know you. Therefore, we ask that you please fill out the Visitor Card and place it in the offering plate. If you'd like additional information about CRPC, we encourage you to look at our website for further information. Website is: www.cypressridge-pca.org.

Prayer Requests: After recording your prayer requests, please place the card in the offering plate.

CHILDREN

We offer numerous options for children during worship:

- Children are welcome to remain in the Sanctuary for the entire service. (Approximately one hour and 15 minutes.)
- There is a nursery and pre-school room. The nursery is for infants thru 1 year olds. The pre-school room is for 2-3 year olds.
- Children's Prayer: Children of all ages will be invited to come forward for prayer during our worship service. After the prayer, children may return to their seats or go to Children's Worship.
- Children's Worship is offered for those from age 4 thru 3rd grade. Children return to the Sanctuary before Communion.
- There is a cry room at the back of the Sanctuary where parents can take their child(ren) during the service.

THE LORD GATHERS THE NATIONS

We believe that God, in His three-fold person of Father, Son, and Spirit, out of His grace and love for humanity calls the world to worship Him. Each week we come not in perfection, but with our troubles and questions. As a Christian community, we meet with God in a special way on the first day of the week. Community worship is vital to a healthy relationship with God.

Prelude

(All music used by permission CCLI #3038781)

**Please silence your electronic devices*

Announcements

Reflection

Surely the first foundation of righteousness is the worship of God. – John Calvin

Prayer of Invocation

Pastor Tom Luchenbill

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Anderson Family

Call to Worship

Psalm 135:1-3

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise the name of the LORD, give praise, O servants of the LORD, who stand in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God!

Response: Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; sing to his name, for it is pleasant!

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Words and Music: John Francis Wade

O come, all ye faithful; joyful and triumphant
O come ye, O come ye; To Bethlehem
Come and behold Him; Born the King of angels

*O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him; Christ the Lord*

[Hymn continues on next page]

Sing choirs of angels; sing in exultation
O sing, all ye citizens; of heav'n above
Glory to God; all glory in the highest

*O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him; Christ the Lord*

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!

Chorus

Good Christian Men Rejoice

Words and Music: Latin Carol and German Melody (14th century)

Good Christian men, rejoice; with heart and soul and voice
Give ye heed to what we say
News! News! Jesus Christ is born today
Ox and ass before Him bow; and He is in the manger now
Christ is born today; Christ is born today

Good Christian men, rejoice; with heart and soul and voice
Now ye hear of endless bliss
Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this
He has opened heaven's door; and man is blessed evermore
Christ is born for this; Christ was born for this

Good Christian men, rejoice; with heart and soul and voice
Now ye need not fear the grave
Peace! Peace! 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

Prayer for Children

[Children ages 4 through 3rd grade may leave for Children's Church]

THE LORD REVEALS HIMSELF TO THE WORLD

God calls the nations to follow him primarily through the reading and exposition of His inspired, infallible, and inerrant word as contained in the Old and New Testaments. To help us see and understand the continuity of God's redemptive plan to save His people, each week we read from the Old and New Testaments.

Old Testament Reading (Pew Bible p. 611)

Isaiah 50:4-9

⁴ The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. ⁵ The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. ⁶ I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.

⁷ But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. ⁸ He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. ⁹ Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

New Testament Reading (Pew Bible p.807)

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

Words and Music: English Carol and English Melody, 18th century

God rest you merry, gentlemen; let nothing you dismay
Remember Christ our Saviour; was born on Christmas Day
To save us all from Satan's power; when we were gone astray

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy*

From God our heavenly 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

Chorus

Now to the Lord sing praises; all you within this place
And with true love and brotherhood; each other now embrace
This holy tide Christmas; all anger should efface

Chorus

THE LORD FORGIVES OUR SINS

We respond to God's revelation by acknowledging that we are not perfect. Therefore, we need the Savior, Jesus Christ. He invites us to bring Him all our faults and brokenness. Because of His gracious love, He forgives all our sins.

Confession of Sin

Psalm 32:1-2

Leader: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Let us confess our sins to our forgiving LORD.

Unison: Lord Jesus, you showed us true humility by becoming one of us, yet too often we practice pride. You cried alongside your friends and for the city of Jerusalem, yet too often we rush past the pain of others and are careless about our cities. You freely forgave and healed, yet too often we hold grudges and cause pain. You lived a perfectly holy life, yet too often we do not yearn for righteousness. You call us to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, yet too often we blend into or hide from our culture. Forgive us, Lord, so that we will shine with your glory. Amen.

[Silent Confession]

Assurance of Pardon

Joel 2:12-13

Leader: "Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Through the sacrificial love of God, your sins are forgiven.

Response: Thanks be to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Greet One Another in Peace

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Authors, John W. Work II & Bill Wolaver

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born*

THE LORD CALLS US TO PRAY

*God calls us to pray. Through prayer we seek His good and perfect will. Our prayer time includes praying for our **Mission of the Month**: The mission for the month of December is the PCA Ministerial Relief Fund. This fund is to provide for the widows of our pastors and missionaries. It shows that the body of Christ they served faithfully have not forgotten them.*

Report: Middle East Reformed Fellowship

Pastor Victor Atallah

Congregational Prayer

Proverbs 15:29

The LORD is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous.

[We now offer our individual prayers of thanksgiving and intercession]

The Lord's Prayer

Unison: 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 have forgiven our debtors
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For Thine is the Kingdom, the power
And the glory, forever. Amen.

THE LORD PROVIDES OUR DAILY BREAD

Worship includes returning to God and His work a portion of our material possessions as tithes and offerings. We ask Him to use the generosity of His people to continue and to advance the work of His church.

Offering

Proverbs 11:25

Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.

Special Music

Lynn Knisley
Who Would Imagine a King?

THE LORD COMMUNES WITH HIS PEOPLE

The climax of our worship is sitting at the Table with the Lord. We come to the Table full of thankfulness and joy because of His grace. As the perfect Lamb of God, Jesus' sacrifice reconciled us to the Father so that we are in a right relationship with him.

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

THE LORD SENDS US OUT INTO THE WORLD

God does not save us simply from something. He saves us to something ... to be His messengers of redemption to a lost and fallen world. He sends us out redeemed, loved, and with a purpose.

We are called to bear witness to what He is doing in our lives where we live, work, and play. Praise be to God!

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Unison Response:

Christ has died!

Christ has risen!

Christ will come again!!!

Choral Response

Tri-fold Amen

CRPC FAMILY EVENTS

TODAY ...

- **Pastor Victor Atallah serving with Middle East Reform Fellowship.**
Thank you for your presentation in our Sunday School classes this morning regarding developments in Arab and Muslim lands
- **Sunday School Classes** for all ages, weekly @ 9:15 am
- **Fellowship and Snacks** following our worship services
- **College and Career D-Group** at the Luchenbill's @ 7:00 pm

THIS WEEK ...

- **The Back Room Connect Group** –Wednesday weekly @ CRPC from 10:30-Noon. Following a time of fellowship, Don Copeland leads a time of discussion regarding Sunday's sermon.
- **Worship Team Rehearsal** – Wednesday @ 5:00 pm
- **The Boathouse Christmas Banquet** – Friday, December 18. Details TBA. Mark your calendars for a special evening! Great Food ... Great Fun!!!
- **Men's Sunrise Bible Study at CRPC** – Saturday @ 7:00 am
- **Men's Bible Study (at Brookdale)** – Saturday @ 8:00 am

ON THE HORIZON ...

- **Christmas Caroling at Brookdale** – Sunday, December 20 @ 9:15.
Come and join the Sunday School classes as we sing carols to our neighbors at Brookdale. It will be a blessed time.
- **Congregational Meeting** – Sunday, December 20 following the worship service there will be a Congregational Meeting for the purpose of voting for Paul Bacheldor as Elder and David Holdener as Deacon.
- **Christmas Eve Service** – Thursday, December 24 @ 6:30 pm

FYI ...

- **Men's Wednesday Night Group** – We will not meet again until Jan. 6. At that time we will continue with “Hard Sayings of Jesus”.
- **Back Room Connect Group** – There will be no meeting December 23 and December 30. We will resume January 6.
- **Missionary Updates** – We recently received a newsletter from the Hansen's and a Christmas letter from the Elswick's. You will find copies in their folders on the Missionary displays in the hallway.
- **Daily Devotionals** – Tabletalk magazine and the Our Daily Bread booklets are available.
- **Church Directories** are available at the information center.
- **No Sunday School** December 20th because we will be caroling at Brookdale.
- **Snacks** – Please sign up at the Coffee Bar if you'd like to serve the CRPC family by providing snacks during our fellowship time.
- **God's provision from (date last Sunday):**
General Fund Giving: **\$3,178.27**
YTD to General Fund: **\$223,207**
YTD Budgeted Needs: **\$222,385**
YTD Targeted Budget: **\$235,577**

THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

DECEMBER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Elder of the Month: Jim Andersen

Usher of the Month: Terry Schmucker

Ushers: Johnny Brown
Tim Holdener
Paul Pletcher
Steve Thornton

Greeters: 13 - Bill & Edna Kelder
20 - Wayne & Renae Anderson
27 - Ginger Andersen & Betty Jones

Nursery: 13 - Preschool: Ginger Andersen
Infant: Betty Parmerter
20 - Preschool: Shirley Burkett
Infant: Kara Jostes
27 - Preschool: Dave Holdener
Infant: Amber Smith

Snacks: 13 - Wayne & Renae Anderson
20 - Terry & Frank Kockler
27 - TBD

Communion: Garry & Walita Van Baren

Counters: 13 - Ken Harrison & Mike Sakko
20 - Charles Burkett & Jon Parmerter
27 - Charles Burkett & Jon Parmerter

Birthdays

12/4 Connie Bruno
12/7 Sharon Rice
12/9 Sandy Luchenbill
12/13 Amber Smith
12/14 Ruby Smith
12/17 Donna Luchenbill
12/20 Barb Luchenbill

Anniversaries

12/8 Tom & Sandy Luchenbill
12/20 Don & Linda Paris
12/20 Frank & Terry Kockler
12/24 David & Carolyn Holdener
12/27 Wayne & Renae Anderson
12/30 Clyde & Marlene Heath

CHURCH STAFF

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