

# A Service of the Word, Prayer, and Sacrament

## Gathering Music

**Song of Ascent** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus *Trinity Hymnal* No.196

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of ev’ry nation, joy of ev’ry longing heart.

Come to earth to taste our sadness, He whose glories knew no end;  
By His life He brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;  
This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

**Call to Worship** Psalm 98:1-9 Martin Wagner, Executive Pastor

**Leader:** Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!  
His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.  
The LORD has made known His salvation;  
He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

**People:** He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.  
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

**Leader:** Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody!  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

**All:** Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!  
Let the rivers clap their hands;  
let the hills sing for joy together before the LORD,  
for He comes to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

**Song of Praise** Joy to the World! *TH* No. 195

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.

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.

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.

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.

## Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

**Call to Confession** Psalm 130:1-2

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD! O Lord, hear my voice!  
Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

## Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus, I have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, and of neglect to seek You in my daily life. My sins and shortcomings present me with a list of accusations, but I thank You that they will not stand against me, for all have been laid on Christ. Deliver me from every evil habit, every interest of former sins, everything that dims the brightness of Your grace in me, everything that prevents me taking delight in You. In Your name, amen.

**Offer of Forgiveness** Psalm 130:3-4

**Leader:** If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities,  
O LORD, who could stand?  
But with You there is forgiveness,  
that You may be feared.

**All:** We receive Your great mercy, O God!

**Hymn of Rejoicing** My Savior Left His Throne Above

My Savior left His throne above, exchanged His wealth for poverty.  
He took my hate and gave His love; all this and more He did for me.  
Because He chose the lowly way and bowed before His Father’s will,  
I can with all assurance say, “My God is near and loves me still.”

He felt the storms of human pain; He felt temptation’s whelming seas.  
He felt the tears of sorrow’s rain; all this and more He felt for me.  
Because He knows my every strife and is acquainted with my grief,  
I can’t be shaken in this life; the Friend of Sinners walks with me.

He kept His Father’s every word; the Law He followed perfectly.  
So all God’s pleasure He secured; all this and more He earned for me.  
Because His righteous life is mine and all His merits now I own,  
I am a child of God on high; I am adopted, loved, and known.

When Jesus left His heav’nly home, His face was set on Calvary.  
The steepest hill He climbed alone; all this and more He did for me.  
Because He died once for all time and bore the curse of death and hell,  
Final forgiveness here is mine. So it is finished; all is well.

Words & Music: Zac Hicks & Julie Anne Vargas, 2015. c 2015 Unbudding Fig Music (ASCAP) & Julie Anne Vargas.

## Prayers of the People

**Worship:** that Christ would be our hope (Matthew 12:21)

**Community:** for those working in retail

**Mission:** for Ben Griffith, RUF Minister, Samford University

**All Generations:** for the architects, contractors, and others who are helping with the project

**Reading of the Scripture** Daniel 12:1-13

<sup>1</sup> “At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. <sup>2</sup> And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. <sup>3</sup> And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever. <sup>4</sup> But you, Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book, until the time of the end. Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.”

<sup>5</sup> Then I, Daniel, looked, and behold, two others stood, one on this bank of the stream and one on that bank of the stream. <sup>6</sup> And someone said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the stream, “How long shall it be till the end of these wonders?” <sup>7</sup> And I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the stream; he raised his right hand and his left hand toward heaven and swore by him who lives forever that it would be for a time, times, and half a time, and that when the shattering of the power of the holy people comes to an end all these things would be finished. <sup>8</sup> I heard, but I did not understand. Then I said, “O my lord, what shall be the outcome of these things?” <sup>9</sup> He said, “Go your way, Daniel, for the words are shut up and sealed until the time of the end. <sup>10</sup> Many shall purify themselves and make themselves white and be refined, but the wicked shall act wickedly. And none of the wicked shall understand, but those who are wise shall understand. <sup>11</sup> And from the time that the regular burnt offering is taken away and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be 1,290 days. <sup>12</sup> Blessed is he who waits and arrives at the 1,335 days. <sup>13</sup> But go your way till the end. And you shall rest and shall stand in your allotted place at the end of the days.”

**Preaching of God's Word** How Long, O Lord? Jason Sterling, Senior Pastor

**Invitation: Words, Welcome, Warning** Mark 14:22-25

And as they were eating, He took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is My body.” And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And He said to them, “This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

## Distribution of the Elements

**Communion Hymn** Immanuel arr. Melody Bober

**Closing Hymns** Where the Light Is Gone

*Refrain:* Where the light is gone, there to us be born.

Come, O come, light the shadows, unto us like an arrow.  
Make a way, O Emmanuel, through the night, through the night.

In the scars that we carry from the wars of our families,  
Make a way; do not tarry in the night, in the night. *Refrain*

In the weight of addiction, in the shame of its mission,  
Make a way from the prison in the night, in the night. *Refrain*

In the years of our sorrow, when the griefs leave us hollow,  
Make a way; we lay fallow in the night, in the night. *Refrain*

*Ending:* Where the light is gone, there to us be born.  
Where the light is gone, there may Christ be born.

Kirk Sauers | Paul Ranheim. © 2023 Mellow Toad Music; © 2023 Bold Canary Music

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing *TH* No. 203

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn 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 hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of a virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, hail th’incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

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.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

## Doxology

## Benediction

## Sending

## Partaking of the Lord’s Supper at Faith

If you know and love the Lord Jesus Christ, are earnestly repentant of your sins, are willing to renew your commitment to Christ, and are a member in good standing with a branch of Christ’s church that preaches Jesus Christ as the only way to God the Father, we welcome you to partake of this sacrament with us. An usher will dismiss rows starting at the front of each section.

Please come forward using the center aisle, and wait until an usher directs you to one of the stations. We encourage families to come together. Please take a piece of bread and a cup as the trays of elements are passed. Cups with wine and cups with juice are marked on the trays. You will consume the elements while you are at the front. Return to your seat by way of the outside aisles. If you cannot come forward, please ask someone near you to alert a server, and an elder will bring the elements to you.

Children and adults who have not yet professed their faith in Christ or been admitted to the Table are encouraged to come forward with their families for prayer. Children and adults should partake only after professing their faith publicly.

## Church Staff

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Jason Sterling**  
Senior Pastor

**Martin Wagner**  
Executive Pastor

**Jamie Peterson**  
Asst. Pastor of Discipleship

**Carl Smith**  
Senior Assistant Pastor

### MINISTRY STAFF

**Adam Shields**  
Director of Community

**Amy Henry**  
Women's Ministry Director

**Heather Conner**  
Women's Ministry  
Assistant Director

**Audrey McDonald**  
Communications Director

**Johnny Johnson**  
Missions Director

**Haley Simms**  
Volunteer and Missions  
Coordinator

**Kirk Sauers**  
Music Director

### FAITHKIDS

**Steve Hood**  
FaithKids Director

**Monica Merrill**  
Early Childhood Ministry  
Director

**Jodi Cavin**  
FaithKids Program  
Director

**Laura Murray**  
Sprouts Assistant Director

**Robyn Herring**  
Assistant Nursery Director

**Hannah Barnett**  
FaithKids Assistant

### FAITH STUDENT MINISTRIES

**Patrick Bush**  
Faith Student Ministries  
Director

**Chandler Cotton**  
Faith Student Ministries  
JrHi Girls Coordinator

**Mackenzie Williams**  
Faith Student Ministries  
SrHi Girls Coordinator

**Richard Williamson**  
Faith Student Ministries  
SrHi Guys Coordinator

**Laura Brantley**  
Faith Student Ministries  
Administrative Assistant

### OFFICE STAFF

**Aubrie Allen**  
Operations Director

**Russ Herren**  
Church Administrator

**Lisbeth Chapman**  
Administrative Assistant  
to the Executive Pastor

**Susan Beason**  
Finance Director

**Rebekka Cunningham**  
Receptionist

**Bill Boutwell**  
Facilities Manager

### SUNDAY SUPPORT

**David Crabtree**  
Technical Director

**Ruth Baldwin**  
Pianist


## Sundays at Faith


### Adults and Students

Kingdom Communities meet at 9:45 a.m. A map of classroom locations is available at the welcome desk in the upper gathering hall.


  
**FAITH STUDENT  
MINISTRIES**  
Room 234  
*7th-12th graders*


  
**MOSAIC**  
Room 168  
*Singles and married  
couples in their  
late 20s to early 30s*


  
**CORNERSTONE**  
Room 145  
*Parents of older elemen-  
tary-junior high students;  
singles and couples in  
their late 30s or 40s*


  
**GENESIS**  
Room 101  
*Singles and married  
couples in their  
early 20s*


  
**COVENANT**  
Room 144  
*Singles and married couples  
with or without young  
children in their late 20s to  
mid 30s*

  
**CROSSROADS**  
(across Buckton Road)  
*Parents of senior high  
and college students;  
singles and couples  
primarily in their mid 40s  
or 50s*

  
**TAPESTRY**  
Room 103  
*Singles and couples  
primarily in their late 60s,  
70s, or 80s*

  
**EXODUS**  
Room 102  
*Singles and married  
couples in their  
mid 20s to early 30s*

  
**COMMON GROUND**  
Room 104  
*Parents of early elementary-  
age children; singles and  
couples in their mid 30s to  
mid 40s*

  
**SOJOURNERS**  
Room 214  
*Parents of adult children;  
singles and couples  
primarily in their late 50s  
or 60s*

## A Service of the Word, Prayer, and Sacrament

December 1, 2024

## Upcoming at Faith

For more information, visit us online at [faith-pca.org](http://faith-pca.org) or on the Faith PCA app.

**Our Christmas Eve Services** are on December 23 at 6 p.m. and December 24 at 4 and 5:15 p.m.

**Hymn Sing:** Join us for a Christmas Hymn Sing at the church on Sunday evening, December 15.

**Smart Giving Conference:** Register for a Smart Giving Workshop, provided by the PCA Foundation, on January 11.