

A Service of the Word, Prayer, and Sacrament

Gathering Music

Song of Ascent

O Come, All You Unfaithful

O come, all you unfaithful, come, weak and unstable.
Come, know you are not alone.

O come, barren and waiting ones, weary of praying, come.
See what your God has done.

Refrain: Christ is born, Christ is born. Christ is born for you.
O come, bitter and broken, come with fears unspoken.
Come, taste of His perfect love.

O come, guilty and hiding ones, there is no need to run.
See what your God has done. *Refrain*

He's the Lamb who was given, slain for our pardon.
His promise is peace for those who believe.

So come, though you have nothing, come, He is the offering.
Come, see what your God has done. *Refrain*

Bob Kauflin | Lisa Clow © 2020 Sovereign Grace Praise.

Call to Worship

Revelation 15:3b-4

Martin Wagner, Executive Pastor

Leader: “Great and amazing are your deeds,
O Lord God the Almighty!
Just and true are your ways,
O King of the nations!

All: Who will not fear, O Lord,
and glorify your name?
For you alone are holy.
All nations will come and worship you,
for your righteous acts have been revealed.”

Song of Praise

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o’er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation’s story now proclaim Messiah’s birth:

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o’er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant Light: *Refrain*

Though and infant now we view Him, He shall fill His Father’s throne.
Gather all the nations to Him! Every knee shall then bow down. *Refrain*

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear;
God with man is now residing, yonder shines the infant Light: *Refrain*

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;
Evermore your voices raising to th’ eternal Three in One: *Refrain*

James Montgomery | Henry Smart | Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Call to Confession

Hebrews 13:5

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for He has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

Prayer of Confession

Father of mercy, we have been anxious and unsatisfied, believing a little more wealth will give us the joy and freedom we long for. Forgive us for our covetous hearts and liberate us from this idolatry. Forgive us for not resting content with Your provision and care. We repent and collapse upon Jesus as our true joy, perfect righteousness and enduring peace. Spirit, help us find our deepest satisfaction in knowing and serving Christ, for we will always be restless until we rest in Him. Amen.

Offer of Forgiveness

Isaiah 40:1-2

Leader: Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her
that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.

All: We receive Your great mercy, O God!

Hymn of Rejoicing

See, amid the Winter’s Snow

Trinity Hymnal (TH) No. 199

See, amid the winter’s snow, born for us on earth below,
See the Lamb of God appears, promised from eternal years.

Refrain: Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, redemption’s happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Lo, within a manger lies; He who built the starry skies;
He who, throned in height sublime, sits amid the cherubim! *Refrain*

Sacred infant, all divine, what a tender love was Thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this! *Refrain*

Teach, O teach us, holy Child, by Thy face so meek and mild,
Teach us to resemble Thee, in Thy sweet humility. *Refrain*

Missionary Report

Ty and Ginna Nash, Mission to the World, Thailand

Prayers of the People

Steve Hood, FaithKids Director

Worship: that Christ would fill us with joy and peace in believing (Romans 15:13)

Community: for our pastoral and ministry staff

Mission: for Ty and Ginna Nash with MTW, Thailand

All Generations: that we as a congregation would be generous and ready to share

Reading of the Scripture

John 1:1-14

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. ¹¹ He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. ¹² But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Preaching of God's Word

The Light of Men

Jason Sterling, Senior Pastor

Invitation: Words, Welcome, Warning

Luke 22:14-20

And when the hour came, He reclined at table, and the apostles with Him. And He said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” And He took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.” And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood.”

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Distribution of the Elements

Communion Hymn

What Child Is This?

arr. Craig Duncan

Closing Hymns

Mary's Song (Our King of Peace)

My soul magnifies the Lord; My spirit rejoices in God;
My Savior has seen His servant in need, and behold the great things He has done.

He scatters the proud and rich; He lifts up the humble and weak;
The kings of the earth He casts from their thrones, and the hungry He welcomes to feast.

Refrain: Oh behold my Savior has come,
And my soul will tell of His praise;
For He who is strong has come to the weak,
And at last He will reign as our King of Peace.

From now to the end of time, the nations will know me as blest;
For God has made new His promise of love and mercy through Abraham’s seed. *Refrain*
Wendell Kimbrough © 2014 Kimbrough, Wendell

O Little Town of Bethlehem

TH No. 202

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by:
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond’ring love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv’n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heav’n.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

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.

Mission Partners

Global Missions

Alex and Maggie Halbert — *Mission to the World, Honduras*
 Alex and Suzanne Sarran — *Mission GO, France*
 Andy Weatherly — *Grace Church Stirchley, England*
 Argyris and Dina Petrou — *AMG International, Greece*
 Bradley and Sara Cordell — *Mission to the World, Birmingham/Ukraine*
 Carter and Caroline McWhorter — *Mission to the World, Thailand*
 Damaris House — *AMG International, Greece*
 Dorothy Meyer — *Resonate Global, Belize*
 Erik and Hara Petrou — *Neos Kosmos, Athens, Greece*
 Escuela Bíblica Nueva Providencia — *Medellin, Colombia*
 Jake and Courtney Thomas — *Mission to the World, Thailand*
 JF — *Asia*
 Joel and Eszti Richards — *UFM Worldwide, Hungary*
 John and Karen Stodghill — *Mission to the World, Belize*
 Josh and Elizabeth Johnson — *Mission to the World, Honduras*
 Keisuke and Bethany Idota — *Presbyterian Mission International, Japan*
 Luke and Michelle Stannard — *Mission to the World, Germany*
 Lizzy Cary — *Mission to the World, Bulgaria*
 Mark and Anastasia Petrou — *Child Evangelism Fellowship, Greece*
 Miriam Grady — *Mission to the World, Czech Republic*
 René and Renata Drapalovi — *Maják Zlín, Czech Republic*
 Taylor and Katherine Dix — *Mission to the World, Bulgaria*
 Third Millennium Ministries, Inc. (*Thirdmill*)
 Ty and Ginna Nash — *Mission to the World, Thailand*

Regional Missions

Danny Harry — *RUF Intern, University of Tennessee Knoxville*
 Josh Kruntorad — *RUF Minister, University of Nebraska*
 Kirk Norris — *RUF-I Minister, Washington University in St. Louis*
 Latasha Allston — *RUF Campus Staff, Howard University*
 Michael Alsup — *RUF-I Minister, Auburn University*
 Stewart Swain — *RUF Minister, University of Alabama*
 Tanner Crum — *RUF Minister, Auburn University*
 Tyler Majors — *RUF at Jacksonville State University*

Local Missions

Aaron Long — *Restoration Academy, Fairfield, Alabama*
 Amy Kesler — *RUF Campus Staff, University of Alabama at Birmingham*
 Ben Griffith — *RUF Minister, Samford University*
 Brad Owens — *RUF Minister, University of Alabama at Birmingham*
 Cameron Patterson — *Unbound Grace, Addiction Counseling*
 Grace House Ministries — *Fairfield, Alabama*
 GriefShare — *Grief & Loss Support Groups*
 John Steakley — *Unbound Grace, Addiction Counseling*
 Lifeline Children's Services
 Restoration Academy — *Fairfield, Alabama*
 Sav-A-Life — *Shelby County*
 Stephen Merwin — *RUF-I Minister, University of Alabama at Birmingham*
 Tyler Harris — *Unbound Grace, Addiction Counseling*
 Young Life — *Birmingham South (Shelby County)*

To serve, to give, or if you have questions about missions, please contact Johnny Johnson (jjohnson@faith-pca.org).

Financial Snapshot of Faith

	Income	Anticipated Income
November 2024	\$ 433,538	\$ 370,000
YTD 2024	\$ 4,312,663	\$ 3,561,250

Upcoming at Faith

For more information, visit us online at faith-pca.org or on the Faith PCA app.

Hymn Sing: Join us for our annual Christmas Hymn Sing this evening at 5:30.

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

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


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 elementary-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

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December 15, 2024

Children

For children ages K5 - 6th grade, KingdomKids meets Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. Children's Ministry check-in is at the bottom of the worship center stairs.

Nursery

For children birth - 4 years old, nursery is provided for both worship services and during Kingdom Communities. Check-in is available at the nursery entrance on the upper level.