# A Service of the Word, Prayer, and Sacrament

#### **Gathering Music**

#### Welcome

Song of Ascent

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Trinity Hymnal (TH) No. 208

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.

Refrain: O come, let us adore Him;

O come, let us adore Him;

O come, let us adore Him,

Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;

Glory to God in the highest. Refrain

Bridge: We exalt Thee; we exalt Thee.

We exalt Thee, O Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n; Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing. *Refrain* 

#### **Call to Worship** Psalm 96:1-4 Jamie Peterson, Assistant Pastor

**Leader**: Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!

Sing to the LORD, bless His name;

tell of His salvation from day to day.

Declare His glory among the nations,

His marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;

He is to be feared above all gods.

#### Song of Praise

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel with O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,

That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear. Refrain

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Dayspring come and cheer, our spirits by Thine advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain* 

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;

Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.

Underneath me, all around me, is the current of Thy love;

Leading onward, leading homeward, to Thy glorious rest above.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;

Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. *Refrain* Pete Sanchez Jr. © 1977 Sanchez, Pete, Jr.

#### Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Call to Confession John 3:19-21

And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.

#### Hymn of Confession

God, Be Merciful to Me

God, be merciful to me, on Thy grace I rest my plea; Plenteous in compassion Thou, blot out my transgressions now; Wash me, make me pure within; cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess; grief and guilt my soul oppress; I have sinned against Thy grace and provoked Thee to Thy face. I confess Thy judgment just; speechless, I Thy mercy trust.

Broken, humbled to the dust by Thy wrath and judgment just,
Let my contrite heart rejoice and in gladness hear Thy voice;
From my sins O hide Thy face; blot them out in boundless grace.
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#### Offer of Forgiveness

Galatians 4:4-5

**Leader:** But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

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

#### **Hymn of Rejoicing**

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.

#### **Prayers of the People**

David Breland, elder

Worship: that Christ would assure us of His unfailing love (Psalm 136:1)

**Community:** for those who are grieving

Mission: for Michael Alsup, RUF-I minister, Auburn University

All Generations: that God would further His kingdom through this project

### Reading of the Scripture

John 1:1-14

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

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

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

<sup>14</sup> 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**

Receiving Jesus

Martin Wagner, Executive Pastor

#### **Invitation: Words, Welcome, Warning**

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

#### **Distribution of the Elements**

**Communion Hymn** Gesù Bambino arr. Craig Duncan

#### **Closing Hymns**

All Is Well

Touch down to earth here in a manger, a humble landing in a quiet place. Be still, oh stars, wait for the angels to sing their golden song of praise.

Your father's arms tenderly catch you, and Your mother's tears baptize Your head. Be still, my heart, as light pours around us. Wonder has found us, Emmanuel.

Refrain: All is well; all is well.

God with us, Emmanuel.

My heart, it aches and it rejoices. Ponder these prayers in the secret place. Be still, my soul, see the heavens open. All that was broken is made new again.

So go to the fields; go to the mountains; sweep out the shadows; there's good news to tell. Be still, oh sorrow, for joy has found us. Grace to surround us, Emmanuel.

Cindy Morgan I Sandra McCracken. © 2019 Integrity Worship Music; Paper News Publishing; Remaining portion is unaffiliated.

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

TH No. 224

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *Refrain* 

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! above the earth Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain* 

Down in a lowly manger our humble Christ was born, And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain* John W. Work Jr. Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

#### 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** 

Director

Steve Hood FaithKids Director

Monica Merrill Early Childhood Ministry

Jodi Cavin FaithKids Program

Director

Laura Murray Sprouts Assistant Director

Robyn Herring Assistant Nursery Director

Hannah Barnett FaithKids Administrator

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** 

# **Upcoming at Faith**

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

Join us for our Christmas Eve Services tomorrow evening at 6 p.m. or this Tuesday at 4 and 5:15 p.m.

Your year-end giving must be received or postmarked on December 31.

The church office will be closed on December 26 and January 1. KCs will not meet on Sunday, December 29.

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

COVENANT Room 144

early 20s

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



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



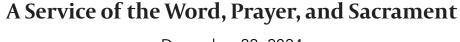
**COMMON GROUND** 

Room 104 Parents of early elementaryage 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



December 22, 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.

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.