

A Service of the Word, Prayer, and Sacrament

Welcome

Song of Ascent Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery (8:15)

Come, behold the wondrous mystery in the dawning of the King;
He, the theme of heaven’s praises, robed in frail humanity.
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come.
Look to Christ who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery, He, the perfect Son of Man;
In His living, in His suff’ring, never trace nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam come to save the hell-bound man.
Christ, the great and sure fulfillment of the law, in Him we stand.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery, slain by death the God of life;
But no grave could e’er restrain Him. Praise the Lord! He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope,
Christ, in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes.

Matt Boswell, Michael Bleecker, Matt Papa 2013. Copyrights: 2012 Bleecker Publishing, McKinney Music, Inc., Love Your Enemies Publishing. CCLI License No. 2483564.

Children's Choir From Isaiah 9 (11:00)

Refrain: For to us, a child is born to us, a Son is given,
And the government shall be upon His shoulder.
And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor!
Mighty God! Everlasting Father! Prince of Peace!

Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end.
On the throne of David and over His kingdom,
To establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness
From this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. *Refrain*
The Corner Room. Music by: Adam Wright. Jakedog music. 2020.

Call to Worship Psalm 98:1-4 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.

People: The LORD has made known His salvation;
He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Leader: 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.

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

Song of Praise What Child Is This *Trinity Hymnal (TH)* No. 213

What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping,
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high; the virgin sings her lullaby:
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Call to Confession Mark 7:21-23

For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality,
theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride,
foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved You with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done and for the good we have left undone. We lift our eyes to You, longing to hear the promise of mercy and grace once again. Remind us of who You are: the Lord, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and rich in steadfast love. Renew our minds, and strengthen our hearts to do Your holy will. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 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.

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.

Introduction of Communicant Members

8:15 Mariana Florence Becker, Jack Williamson Bohlke, Thomas Donovan Bohlke, Jameson Samuel Cunningham, Samuel Eanes Lewis, Lydia Catherine McDow, Magnolia Elizabeth Pittman, Rose Elizabeth Pittman, Charlotte Elizabeth Ryan, Jackson David Ryan, Elizabeth Ann Steakley, William Thomas Wagner

11:00 Jonathan Elijah Brightwell, Avery Elizabeth Davidson, Benson Graham Marsh, Viviana Ruth Morgan, Luke Crawford Saunders, Coe Graham Ollie Smith

Sacrament of Baptism

8:15 Magnolia Elizabeth Pittman, Rose Elizabeth Pittman

11:00 Luke Crawford Saunders, Coe Graham Ollie Smith

Prayers of the People John Benner, elder

Worship: that Christ would fill us with joy and peace in believing (Romans 15:13)
Community: for those working in retail
Mission: for Ty and Ginna Nash, Mission to the World, Thailand
All Generations: that God would be glorified in this church for generations to come

Reading of the Scripture Isaiah 9:1-7

¹ But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time He brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time He has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

³ You have multiplied the nation; You have increased its joy; they rejoice before You as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of His burden, and the staff for His shoulder, the rod of His oppressor, You have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Preaching of God's Word A Child Is Born: Jason Sterling, Senior Pastor
Wonderful Counselor

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 See, Amid the Winter’s Snow arr. Lloyd Larson

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 l 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*

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.

Note for Children: Children 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 Sarra — *Mission GO, France*
Andy Weatherley — *Nottingham, England*
Argyris and Dina Petrou — *AMG International, Greece*
Bradley and Sara Cordell — *Mission to the World*
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*
Grace Church, Stirchley, England
Jake and Melissa Hunt — *Serge, Czech Republic*
JF — *Asia*
Joel and Eszti Richards — *UFM Worldwide, Hungary*
John and Karen Stodghill — *Mission to the World, Belize*
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*
The Overseas Initiative
Philip and Joy Kirkland — *Mission to the World, Greece*
René and Renata Drapalovi — *Maják Zlín, Czech Republic*
Sam and Madison Cromley – *Mission to the World, Thailand*
Sashko Nezamutdinov — *Mission to the World, Poland*
Taylor and Katherine Dix — *Mission to the World, Bulgaria*
Third Millennium Ministries, Inc. *(Thirdmill)*
Trevin and Ruthie Hoot — *Mission the World, Bulgaria*
Ty and Ginna Nash — *Mission to the World, Thailand*

Regional Missions

Fraser Perrett – *RUF-I Minister, University of Alabama*
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*
Davis Sweatt — *RUF Minister, University of Alabama*
Tanner Crum — *RUF Minister, Auburn University*
Tyler Majors — *RUF 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*
Brittany Hogan — *Empowered to Conquer*
Christian Service Mission
Grace House Ministries — *Fairfield, Alabama*
GriefShare — *Grief & Loss Support Groups*
Joanna Woo — *RUF-I Intern, University of Alabama at Birmingham*
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*
Urban Hope Development — *Fairfield, Alabama*
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).

Upcoming at Faith

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

Redeeming Technology Conference: Register for our winter conference on January 9-11. Rev. Robert Cunningham will be joining us again, and we will explore God’s good design for technology, critique our misuse of technology, and explore practical ways Christians can navigate this increasingly technological world.

Hymn Sing: Join us for our Advent hymn sing this evening from 5:30–7 p.m.

Christmas Eve Service Times: Join us for our identical Christmas Eve services on Tuesday, December 23, at 6 p.m., and Wednesday, December 24, at 4 and 5:30 p.m.

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


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 215
7th-12th graders


MOSAIC
Room 136
*Singles and married
couples in their
late 20s to early 30s*



CORNERSTONE
Room 134
*Parents of older elemen-
tary–junior high students;
singles and couples in
their late 30s or 40s*



GENESIS
Room 152
*Singles and married
couples in their
early 20s*



COVENANT
Room 133
*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 153
*Singles and couples
primarily in their late 60s,
70s, or 80s*


EXODUS
Room 151
*Singles and married
couples in their
mid 20s to early 30s*


COMMON GROUND
Room 154
*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 14, 2025