



CHRIST CHURCH

BENTONVILLE

WWW.CHRISTCHURCHBENTONVILLE.ORG

December 22, 2024



LOVING DEEPLY
&
LIVING FREELY

WELCOME TO
C H R I S T
C H U R C H
BENTONVILLE

To all who are spiritually weak and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to whosoever will come, this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus.

TO OUR GUESTS: **First**, we are glad you could join us for worship! We would love to connect with you and answer any questions you may have about Christ Church. Please take a minute and scan the QR code with your phone camera and leave us your contact information. We will be in touch early in the week. **Second**, because what we are about to do may be a little different than what you are probably used to, we ask that you give us 6 weeks. Take 6 weeks to visit, become familiar with the form, ask questions, and get to know us. We believe you'll be glad you did. **Finally**, for an explanation of the content and order of worship, read the rubric along the left hand side of the bulletin as well as the section entitled "**The Liturgical Elements of Worship**" on page 8 of the bulletin.



Preparation for Worship

This is a time to prepare for the worship of our holy God. Pray that God would meet His people as we gather.

Call to Worship

It is the Lord who calls His people to worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.

We do not call ourselves. Worship is a reflexive and deliberate response to His gracious call.

Invocation

This prayer exalts the name of the Lord and invokes His presence and communion as we come to worship Him.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

- Luke 2:8-14

Pastor: *Christ is risen!*

People: *He is risen indeed!*

Pastor: *Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

Pastor: *Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright. Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings! Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts. For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.*

- Psalm 33:1-4

Angels We Have Heard on High

Hymn of Praise

This hymn draws our hearts and minds to God acknowledging the reality and awe and wonder of who He is.

1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
 Say what may the tid - ings be, which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,

glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Elder: *Who can say, "I have made my heart pure; I am clean from my sin"?*

- Proverbs 20:9

Corporate Confession of Sin

Having come into His presence, we are reminded that we are sinners in need of the deliverance from sin and its power. We both confess and lament sin as an act of worship and faith in the God Who promises to deliver His people from all their sin and sorrow. We encourage a posture of prayer (sitting or kneeling) that is most comfortable for you.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent; for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your name. Amen.

**Hymn of
Confession/
Lament**

This hymn focuses on the acknowledgment of our sin, our need of forgiveness, and the only One in whom our forgiveness and restoration are found.

Silently confess your sins to the Lord

Come and Stand Amazed You People

Medieval Dutch Carol - Translated by Klaas Hart

Dustin Kensrue

1
Come and stand a-mazed, you peo - ple; see how God is re - con -
See how hu - man-kind re - ceived Him; see Him wrapped in swad - dling
O Lord Je - sus, God in - car - nate, Who as - sumed this hum - ble

5
ciled! See His plans of love ac - com - plished, see his gift, this new - born
bands, Who as Lord of all cre - a - tion rules the wind by His com -
form, coun-sel me and let my wish - es to Your per - fect will con -

9
child. See the Migh - ty, weak and ten - der, see the Word Who now is
mands. See Him ly - ing in a man - ger with-out sign of rea - son -
form. Light of life, dis - pel my dark - ness, let Your frail - ty strength - en

13
mute. See the Sov' - reign with - out splen - dor, see the Full - ness des - ti -
ing; Word of God to flesh sur - ren - dered, He is wis - dom's crown, our
me; let Your meek - ness give me bold - ness, let Your bur - den set me

17
tute; the Be - lo - ved, Whom we cov - et, in a state of low re - pute.
King. See how ten - der our De - fen - der at whose birth the an - gels sing.
free; let Your sad - ness give me glad - ness, let Your death be life for me.

Elder: *And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.* - Colossians 2:13-15

Assurance of Salvation

Having confessed our sins, and raised our prayer for deliverance, we now hear of our salvation through the declaration of the Gospel.

Hymn of Faith

This hymn focuses either on God's faithfulness to us through the ages, on our responsibility to respond in faith, or the many reasons for our faith.

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining,

The Son of God comes to dwell among men

Long lay the world in sin and error pining,

Till He appeared, our salvation to win

A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,

For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn

Fall on your knees! O see salvation's coming!

O night divine, O night when Christ was born!

O night divine, O night, O night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming

With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand

So led by the light of a star sweetly gleaming

Here come the wise men from Orient land

The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger

All creation bows at His command

Humble yourselves; hear what God is speaking!

Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!

Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another

His law is love and His gospel is peace.

Those once enslaved have now become His brothers,

For by His mercy and love we've been set free

Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we

For He was born to suffer in our place

Christ is the Lord! O praise His Name forever,

His power and glory evermore proclaim!

His power and glory evermore proclaim!

**Scripture
Reading**

We read from both
Old and New
Testaments
because they are
not two different
books but both are
a part of God's
unfolding plan of
redemption.

**Hymn of
Preparation**

This hymn is
gospel-focused and
sermon-oriented
and planned with
the children in
mind.

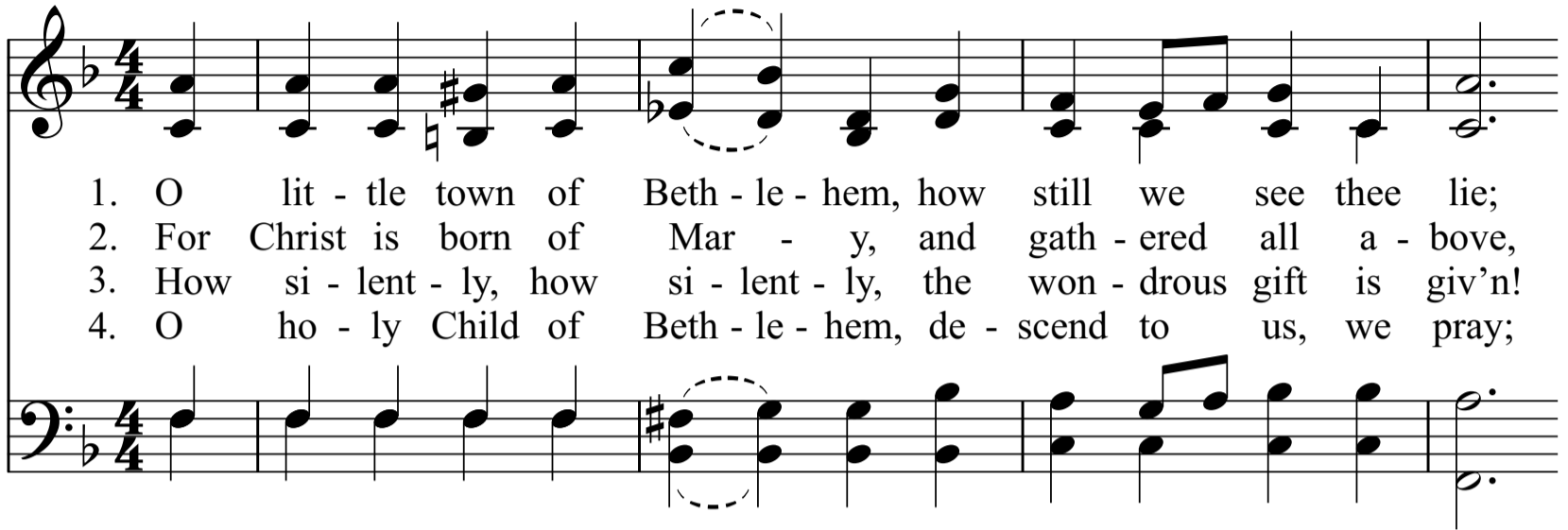
New Testament - Matthew 4:12-17

Old Testament - Isaiah 9:1-6

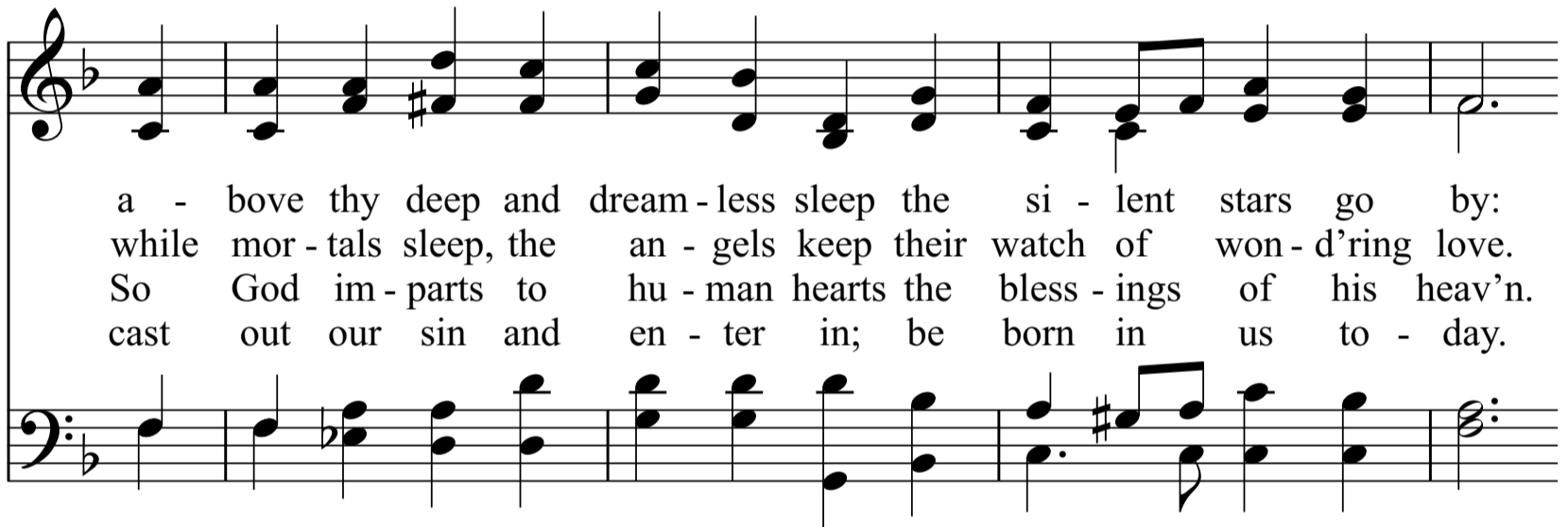
Elder: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

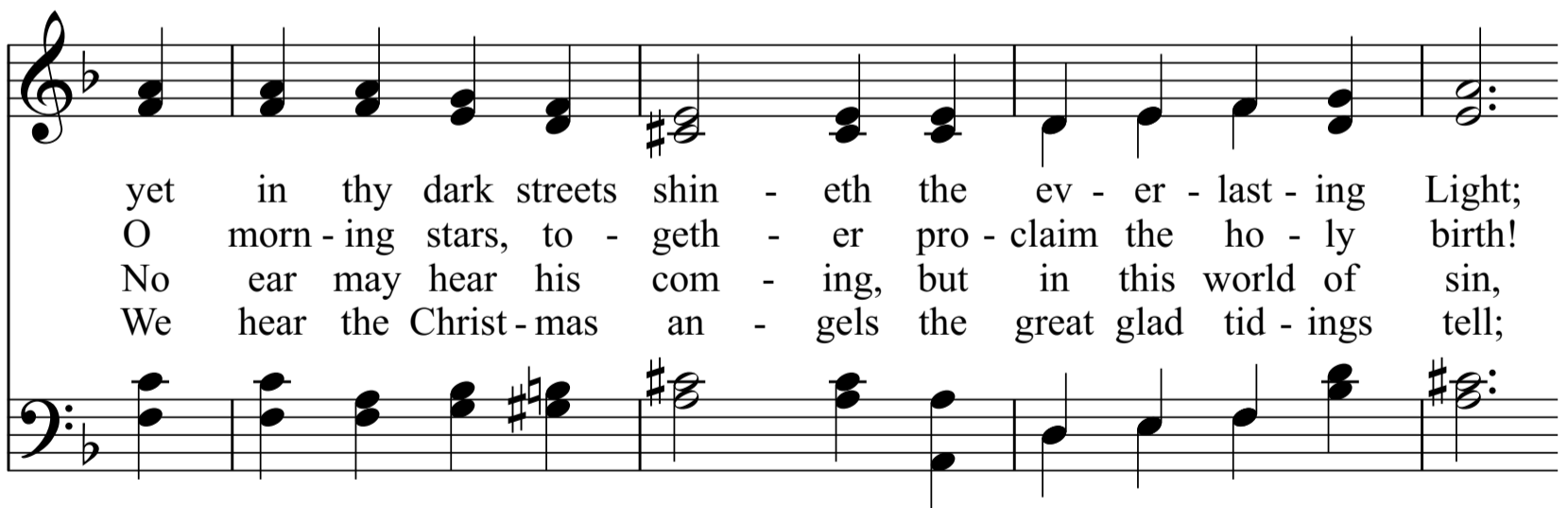
O Little Town of Bethlehem




1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie;
2. For Christ is born of Mar - y, and gath - ered all a - bove,
3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is giv'n!
4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



a - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by:
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
And prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
where meek souls will re - ceive him still, the dear Christ en - ters in.
O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Sermon

The preaching of God's Word is a means by which God bestows grace on His people.

Confession of Faith

Being a part of the communion of saints, we take this time to confess the truth that has been embraced by the church throughout history.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Word having been preached, the death of Christ is now showed forth through the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The worthy receivers are, not after a corporal and carnal manner, but by faith, made partakers of His body and blood, with all his benefits, to their spiritual nourishment and grace.

Pastoral Prayer

We are a needy people, and this prayer not only reflects that neediness but our dependence upon the Lord.

Jesus, The One Who Was Given

Isaiah 9:1-6

A note-taking guide is provided on the final page

For the Children - darkness, child, son, counselor, God, Father, Prince, Christ, Jesus

Elder: Christian, what do you believe?

People: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed
*catholic meaning universal

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the LORD.

The bread is gluten-free. Purple cups contain wine; clear cups contain grape juice. Come forward, pause to hear the words of institution, take a piece of bread and a cup, then return to your seats. Once everyone has been served, we will eat and drink together. After the service, please dispose of your used communion cup in the trash cans provided.

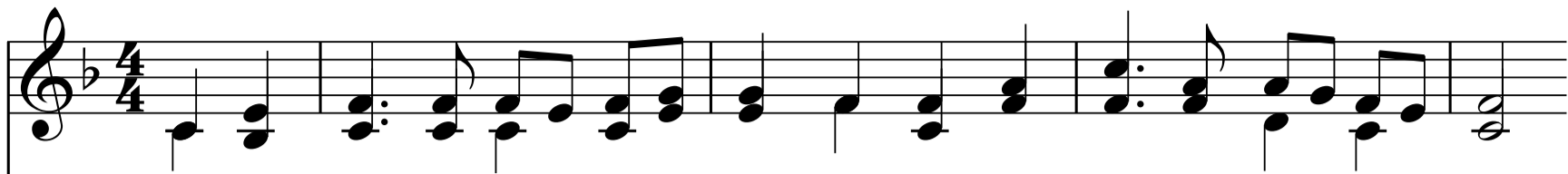
Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen!

Once in Royal David's City

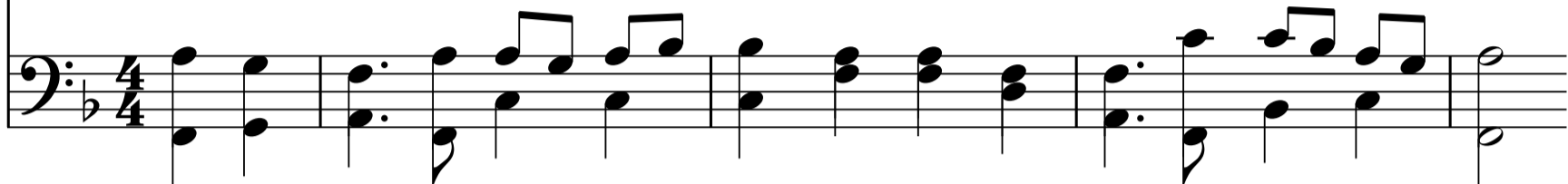
Offertory/Hymn

of Response

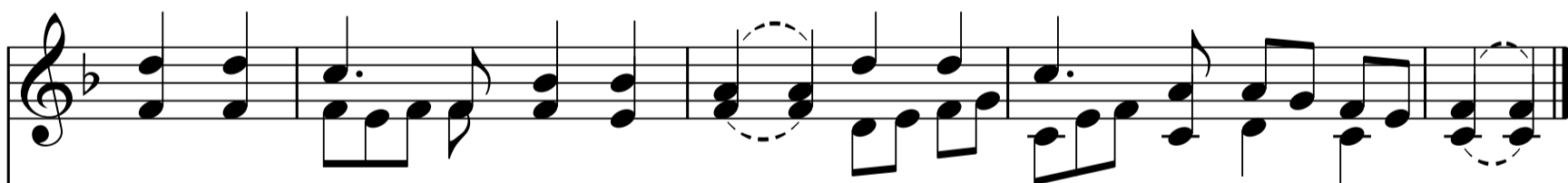
Giving is an act of worship. We give of our tithes and offerings because all we are and all we have are gifts of God's grace. We sing in grateful response to God's grace granted to us in both Word and Sacrament.



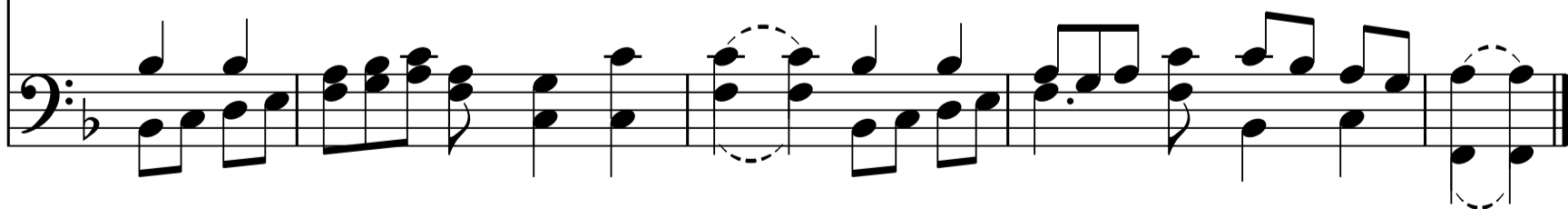
1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2. He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
3. And thro' all his won - drous child - hood he would hon - or and o - bey,
4. And our eyes at last shall see him, thro' his own re - deem - ing love;
5. Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall:
• love and watch the low - ly maid - en in whose gen - tle arms he lay:
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove:
we shall see him, but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
with the poor, and mean, and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
• Chris - tian chil - dren all must be mild, o - be - dient, good as he.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
when like stars his chil - dren crowned all in white shall wait a - round.



Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848

IRBY 8.7.8.7.7.7.
Henry J. Gauntlett, 1849

Doxology

We encourage a posture lifting holy hands to the Lord in thanksgiving.

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen!

Benediction

We leave with the assurance that God intends to bless His people as we serve him and our neighbors through our various vocations throughout the week.

Pastor: *Peace be to you, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

- Ephesians 6:23

People: And also to you!

Information

CHILDCARE

It has been our desire to offer childcare as we have volunteers. We have intentionally refrained from constant pressure and from relying upon only a few to shoulder the responsibility. At the same time, as the number of little ones increases, we do want to keep the opportunity before you. If you are able and willing to help, please scan the QR code to the right and sign up today. The more the merrier.



THE LITURGICAL ELEMENTS OF OUR WORSHIP

Why do we do what we do during our corporate worship service on Sunday? To a visitor it could seem strange. We do more than just sing, which is usually what people associate with the word "worship". There are times of silence. Prayers are spoken. The Bible is read. A sermon on a particular passage of Scripture is heard. We eat a bite of bread and drink a small amount of wine or juice in celebration of Christ's death. Money is collected. Hands are raised in devotion. Why are these elements a part of what we do together? Why don't we just hang out in small groups and sip coffee? Why don't we just sit back and watch an hour long video on being better people? All of these elements are a part of our worship because we believe they show honor to God in the way he wants to be honored. These aren't just made up elements. They are pieces in a story that is told each Sunday, with each piece either commanded or exemplified in scripture.

WHY OUR PASTORS WEAR ROBES

Wearing a robe **hides the man** - No matter what the pastor wears, whether it be an expensive suit, an inexpensive suit, business casual or holey jeans with his shirt untucked, people are always prone to put too much stock in whatever style he prefers. The black Geneva robe is designed to remove this distraction and allow us to focus on the One whom he represents. That leads to the second point. It also **emphasizes his office**. Just as a judge wears a robe when in the courtroom, a fireman wears a uniform when on duty, or a military officer wears his dress greens or blues to a formal event to announce that they are acting in an official capacity, our pastors wear robes during the worship service to signify that they are acting in their official capacity as men who have been called by God to proclaim His word to His people. The robe reminds the congregation (and the minister!) that he is in the pulpit as an ambassador of Christ, and thus is not to speak his own thoughts, give mere advice, or share worldly wisdom, but only the Word of God.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

We believe children are a blessing from the Lord, and that they should be included in the worship of God with the people of God. That means at times there will be noise in the worship service. **God put the wiggle in children and that wiggle is welcome in His house!** If you are not used to it, it may take a little time. We understand. Bearing with one another in love is our calling.

Our aim is to help parents in the training of their children in the “pew”. We do this in two ways:

1. Sunday evening worship.

Every Sunday, we plan our worship services taking both children and parents into consideration. First, the Hymn of Preparation is chosen with our children in mind. We want it to be a song that they know or at least can learn quickly. Second, we offer childcare for those 0-3 during the sermon. But please know, we enjoy having children in worship! They are not distractions! Keeping them with us in worship is one of the best gifts we can give them as they will learn the blessing of worship and grow in ways we cannot imagine. Feel free to sit up front where it is easier for children to see and hear what is happening.

2. Weekly family worship.

To facilitate learning throughout the week, the following ideas are provided for families to use during their own times of worship. We incorporate the hymns, confession of faith and sermon passage for familiarity and repetition purposes.

Weekly Catechism: WLC Q&A 38

Q: Why was it requisite that the mediator should be God?

A: ...that he might sustain and keep the human nature from sinking under the infinite wrath of God, and the power of death; give worth and efficacy to his sufferings, obedience, and intercession; and to satisfy God’s justice, procure his favor, purchase a peculiar people, give his Spirit to them, conquer all their enemies, and bring them to everlasting salvation.

Wednesday

Sing “O Holy Night”.

Read Isaiah 9:1-6, Philippians 2:5-11, and WLC 38.

What does it mean that Christ is “Mighty God”? Why is this necessary for our salvation? How should you respond to Him? How can you honor and worship Him as God?

Monday

Sing “Angels We Have Heard...”
Read Isaiah 9:1-6, John 3:16-21, and WLC 38.

How is Jesus the fulfillment of the prophecy that a Son would be given? What does it mean that Christ is “Wonderful”? What things do you find “wonderful”? How might those distract us from Jesus? How can seeing Him as wonderful lead us to praise Him?

Thursday

Sing “O Little Town of Bethlehem”.
Read Isaiah 9:1-6, John 14:15-21, and WLC 38.

What does it mean that Christ is “Everlasting Father”? How can that bring us comfort in trials? How should that lead us to trust Him? How are you tempted to doubt His ability to care for you?

Tuesday

Sing “Come and Stand Amazed...”
Read Isaiah 9:1-6, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, and WLC 38.

What does it mean that Christ is a “Counselor”? What counsel does He give? How can you get His wisdom? Why does the world think His wise counsel is foolish? How can you turn from worldly wisdom to Christ’s wisdom?

Friday

Sing “Once in Royal David’s City”.
Read Isaiah 9:1-6, Philippians 4:4-7, and WLC 38.

What does it mean that Christ is “Prince of Peace”? How does He bring peace between people? Between us and God? How can we experience that peace now? What things rob us of peace? How should we respond when we don’t feel at peace?

SMALL GROUPS

Adams - Bentonville

1st and 3rd Wednesdays; 6 PM

The Adams House

Contact: Matt (913) 221-7065

Bean/Wieda/Tilley - Centerton

1st and 3rd Wednesdays; 6 PM

The Tilley House

Contact: Cody (903) 513-6719 or
Kenny (479) 616-7493

Chambers/Fuoss - Centerton

1st and 3rd Thursdays; 6 PM

The Fuoss House

Contact: Ryan (484) 574-4481 or
Latham (479) 903-4169

Demers/Raines - Rogers

1st and 3rd Wednesdays; 6 PM

The Raines House

Contact: Grant (254) 493-4067 or
Caleb (479) 366-9114

Walker - Bentonville

1st and 3rd Wednesdays; 6 PM

The Walker House

Contact: Wes (479) 409-8831

Warren/Taylor - Bella Vista

1st and 3rd Thursdays; 6 PM

The Warren House

Contact: John (210) 317-3127

SERMON NOTES

Jesus, The One Who Was Given Isaiah 9:1-6

I. THE SHROUD UNDER WHICH WE LIVE

II. THE SALVATION IN WHICH WE HOPE

III. THE SON TO WHOM WE LOOK



**CHRIST
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WWW.CHRISTCHURCHBENTONVILLE.ORG

CHRIS TAYLOR
SENIOR PASTOR/TEACHING ELDER

(479) 644 9248

CHRISTAYLOR@CHRISTCHURCHBENTONVILLE.ORG

AARON RAINES
ASSOCIATE PASTOR/TEACHING ELDER

(479) 644 6148

AARONRAINES@CHRISTCHURCHBENTONVILLE.ORG

**MEETING
SUNDAY
EVENINGS
AT
5:00 PM**

**BENTONVILLE COMMUNITY
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**

220 NW A ST, BENTONVILLE, ARKANSAS
