



CHRIST  
CHURCH

PCA



December 3, 2023

*Christ Church exists to make mature disciples who will worship, know and serve Christ  
so that His Church and Kingdom are powerfully extended in Katy and beyond.*

# CHRIST CHURCH

## Order for the Worship of God

The Lord's Day • December 3, 2023

*We also have live stream worship at [www.cckpca.org/livestream](http://www.cckpca.org/livestream) at 11:00 AM. Register at [cckpca.org/guest](http://cckpca.org/guest) so we can provide you with information about our church.*

Welcome & Silent Preparation

The Rev. Mr. Fred Greco

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*"The glory of God is the sum of all His infinite excellence and praiseworthiness set forth in display. To glorify God is first of all to respond properly to this display by ascribing to Him the honour and adoration due Him because of His excellence. We call this worship."  
(Bridges, The Joy of Fearing God)*

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### PRAISE

Call to Worship\*

Isaiah 42:9-10

*\* Worshippers are asked to stand if possible*

**Minister:** Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them. Sing to the LORD a new song, His praise from the end of the earth, you who go down to the sea, and all that fills it, the coastlands and their inhabitants.

Prayer of Adoration\*

Pastor Greco

Hymn of Praise #195\*



"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

Hymn #201



"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Affirmation of Faith

Colossians 1:15-20

**Minister:** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

**People:** For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him.

**Minister:** And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church.

**People:** He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.

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## CONFESSIO

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### Corporate Confession of Sin

O Lord, we want more than anything to enter into Your presence and worship You face to face; awed by Your majesty, greatness, and glory; encouraged by Your love, mercy, and goodness. Yet we know that there is coldness in our hearts, hardness toward You, and unwillingness to admit our sin and need for You. Forgive us now, O Father, for Jesus' sake. Come near to us and strengthen us until Christ shall reign supreme within us, in every thought, word, and deed; in a faith that purifies the heart, overcomes the world, works by love, fastens us to You, and always clings to the cross. This, in the name of Jesus our Savior, we pray. Amen.

### Private Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon

John 5:24

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*Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.*

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## MEANS OF GRACE

Scripture Reading\* — Jeremiah 11:1-23

The Rev. Mr. Curt Mire

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Prayers of Intercession & Petition

Pastor Mire

Sermon Text

John 13:31-35

Prayer of Illumination

The Sermon

Pastor Greco

*“A New Commandment”*

Hymn #234\*



“Tell Me the Story of Jesus”

## THANKSGIVING

Giving

[www.cckpca.org/give](http://www.cckpca.org/give) or text “CCKPCA” to 833-750-3171

Doxology #733\*



*LAAST UNS ERFREUEN*

Prayer of Thanksgiving\*

Hymn #198\*



“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!”

The Benediction\*

Pastor Greco

Announcements

Pastor Mire

**CHRISTIAN  
EDUCATION**  
Classes for all  
ages at  
9:50 AM.

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## EVENING WORSHIP

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*Conclude the Lord's Day with His people, tonight at 6:00 PM.*

Call to Worship\*

Opening Prayer\*

Hymn #141\*

Hymn #179

Hymn #84



"Under the Care of My God, the Almighty"



"God in the Gospel of His Son"



"Hallelujah! Thine the Glory"

Scripture Reading\* — 2 Timothy 3:1-17

Mr. Daryl Brister

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon Text

2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

Prayer of Illumination

The Sermon

Mr. Brad Bailey

*"The Word Speeding Ahead"*

Hymn #668\*



"Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode"

The Benediction\*

NEXT WEEK – Pastor Greco will be preaching on 2 Thessalonians 3:6-17, *"The Importance of Work."*

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## NURSERY CARE

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Nursery care is available for children up to the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday during the 8:30 and 11:00 AM services and Sunday School in rooms 110 and 111. Nursery care is not currently being provided at our evening service. Our nursery will send a text message to alert parents if needed. Please remember to keep your phone silenced but on vibrate so you will receive it. Thank you!

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### E-MAIL

#### PRAYER CHAIN

The Christ Church email prayer chain may be activated by contacting the church office (281-392-0002 or prayerchain@cckpca.org). If you wish to receive emails from the prayer chain please contact the office.

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#### MERCY MINISTRY

Those in need of this service should contact mercyministry@cckpca.org

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## Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

*Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Ps. 98:4*

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her  
 2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns: let men their songs em -  
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the  
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
 prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
 and heav'n and na - ture sing,

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

201

## O Little Town of Bethlehem

*Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small ... out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. Mic. 5:2*

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.

## Tell Me the Story of Jesus

*He explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.*  
 Luke 24:27

1. Tell me the sto - ry of Je - sus, write on my heart ev - 'ry word;  
 2. Fast - ing a - lone in the des - ert, tell of the days that are past,  
 3. Tell of the cross where they nailed him, writh - ing in an - guish and pain;

tell me the sto - ry most pre - cious, sweet - est that ev - er was heard.  
 how for our sins he was tempt - ed, yet was tri - um - phant at last.  
 tell of the grave where they laid him, tell how he liv - eth a - gain.

Tell how the an - gels, in cho - rus, sang as they wel - comed his birth,  
 Tell of the years of his la - bor, tell of the sor - row he bore;  
 Love in that sto - ry so ten - der, clear - er than ev - er I see:

"Glo - ry to God in the high - est! Peace and good tid - ings to earth."  
 he was de - spised and af - flict - ed, home - less, re - ject - ed, and poor.  
 stay, let me weep while you whis - per; love paid the ran - som for me.

REFRAIN

Tell me the sto - ry of Je - sus, write on my heart ev - 'ry word;

tell me the sto - ry most pre - cious, sweet - est that ev - er was heard.



733

## Doxology

*Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Ps. 150:6*

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea - tures

here be - low: al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a -

bove, ye heav'n-ly host, praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost:

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

# Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!

198

*Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Ps. 24:7*

1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the  
2. A help - er just he comes to thee, his char - iot  
3. O blest the land, the cit - y blest, where Christ the  
4. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is  
is hu - mil - i - ty, his king - ly crown is  
Rul - er is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and  
tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for

draw - ing near, the Sav - ior of the world is here.  
ho - li - ness, his scep - ter, pi - ty in dis - tress.  
hap - py homes to whom this King in tri - umph comes!  
heav'n's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.

5. Redeemer, come! I open wide  
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide!  
Let me thy inner presence feel;  
thy grace and love in me reveal.

6. So come, my Sovereign, enter in!  
Let new and nobler life begin!  
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on,  
until the glorious crown be won.

# God, in the Gospel of His Son

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*The task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace. Acts 20:24*

1. God, in the gos - pel of his Son, makes his e -  
2. Here sin - ners of a hum - ble frame may taste his  
3. The pris - 'ner here may break his chains; the wea - ry  
4. Here faith re - veals to mor - tal eyes a bright - er  
5. O grant us grace, al - might - y Lord, to read and

ter - nal coun - sels known; where love in all its  
grace, and learn his name; may read, in char - ac -  
• rest from all his pains; the cap - tive feel his  
world be - yond the skies; here shines the light which  
mark your ho - ly Word; its truths with meek - ness

glo - ry shines, and truth is drawn in fair - est lines.  
ters of blood, the wis - dom, pow'r, and grace of God.  
• bond - age cease; the mourn - er find the way of peace.  
guides our way from earth to realms of end - less day.  
to re - ceive, and by its ho - ly pre - cepts live.

Benjamin Beddome, 1787  
Alt. by Thomas Cotterill, 1819; mod.

GERMANY L.M.  
William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

# Hallelujah! Thine the Glory

*Sing praises to God, sing praises. Ps. 47:6*

F C7 F

1. We praise thee, O God! for the days of our youth,  
 2. We praise thee, O God! for the Son of thy love,  
 3. We praise thee, O God! for thy Spir - it of light,  
 4. All glo - ry and praise to the Lamb that was slain,

Bb F C

for the bright lamp that shin - eth — the Word of thy truth.  
 for Je - sus who died and is now gone a - bove.  
 who has shown us our Sav - ior and scat - tered our night.  
 who has borne all our sins and has cleansed ev - 'ry stain!

REFRAIN  
 F Bb F Bb F C

Ha - le - lu - jah! thine the glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! we sing;

F Bb F Bb F C7 F 7

ha - le - lu - jah! thine the glo - ry, our praise now we bring.

## Under the Care of My God, the Almighty

*He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge.*  
Ps. 91:4

C G7

1. Un - der the care of my God, the Al - might - y, safe in the  
2. Be not a - fraid for the ter - ror of mid - night, nor for the  
3. Seek the Most High for thy sure hab - i - ta - tion, un - to Je -  
4. Love thou the Lord, sure - ly he will de - liv - er; he will ex -

C

se - cret place of the Most High! He is my ref - uge, the  
ar - row that hast - eth to slay; fear not the pes - ti - lence  
ho - vah for ref - uge now fly; there shall no e - vil be -  
alt thee and an - swer thy prayer; he will be with thee to

F C F C G7 C

Lord is my for - tress, him I am trust - ing when trou - ble is nigh.  
walk - ing in dark - ness, nor the de - stroy - er that wast - eth by day.  
fall thee nor harm thee, un - to thy dwell - ing no plague shall come nigh.  
hon - or and give thee life with - out end, his sal - va - tion to share.

REFRAIN G7 C G

Un - der his wings, un - der his wings, safe in the ref - uge hide thee;

F C F C F G7 C G7 C 7

trust - ing his truth and faith - ful - ness, no e - vil can be - tide thee.

## Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode

*He is my stronghold, my refuge and my savior. 2 Sam. 22:3*

1. Who trusts in God, a strong a-bode in heav'n and earth pos - sess-es;  
 2. Though Sa - tan's wrath be - set our path, and world - ly scorn as - sail us,  
 3. In all the strife of mor - tal life our feet shall stand se - cure-ly;

who looks in love to Christ a-bove, no fear his heart op - press-es.  
 while you are near we will not fear, your strength shall nev - er fail us:  
 temp - ta - tion's hour shall lose its pow'r, for you shall guard us sure-ly.

In you a - lone, dear Lord, we own sweet hope and con - so - la-tion:  
 your rod and staff shall keep us safe, and guide our steps for - ev - er;  
 O God, re - new, with heav'n-ly dew, our bod - y, soul, and spir - it,

our shield from foes, our balm for woes, our great and sure sal - va-tion.  
 nor shades of death, nor hell be-neath, our souls from you shall sev - er.  
 un - til we stand at your right hand, through Je - sus' sav - ing mer-it.

## TODAY'S SERMON NOTES

*"A New Commandment"*  
John 13:31-35

Fred Greco  
December 3, 2023

Next Week: Pastor Greco preaching *"Peter's Overconfidence"* (John 13:36-38)

# Christ Church PCA

*A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America*



10818 Gaston Rd.  
Katy, TX 77494

Office Hours: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm  
281.392.0002 (phone)

[www.cckpca.org](http://www.cckpca.org)  
[info@cckpca.org](mailto:info@cckpca.org)

## SUNDAY SERVICES

8:30 AM – Morning Worship

9:50 AM – Sunday School

11:00 AM – Morning Worship

6:00 PM – Evening Worship

### Senior Pastor

Rev. Fred Greco  
832.922.7060 (cell)  
[fred.greco@cckpca.org](mailto:fred.greco@cckpca.org)

### Assistant Pastor

Rev. David King  
410.441.1537 (cell)  
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### Assistant Pastor

Rev. Curt Mire  
832.344.8803 (cell)  
[curt.mire@cckpca.org](mailto:curt.mire@cckpca.org)

### Ruling Elders

Mark Becker (Clerk)  
Daryl Brister  
Dave Cias  
Neal Hare  
David Morris†

Brad Bailey (Vice-Chairman)  
Ben Bosma  
Riley Brant  
Darren Church  
Arnaldo Espinel  
Benjamin Garcia\*

### Deacons

Ken Nesteroff\*  
Moses Ribeiro  
Duane Thompson (Chairman)  
Barry Weber  
Mark Whitman  
Michael Wright (Secretary)

\* on sabbatical

† elder emeritus