



CHRIST THE KING
— PRESBYTERIAN —

ADVENT SEASON – DECEMBER 15, 2024

“Once In Royal David's City”

*by Cecil Frances Humphreys Alexander
and Henry John Gauntlett*

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for His bed
Mary was that mother mild
Jesus Christ her little child

He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all
And His shelter was a stable
And His cradle was a stall
With the poor and meek and lowly
Lived on earth our Savior holy

For He is our childhood's pattern
Day by day like us He grew
He was little, weak and helpless
Tears and smiles like us He knew
And He feels for all our sadness
And He shares in all our gladness

And our eyes at last shall see Him
Through His own redeeming love
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above
And He leads His children on
To the place where He has gone

CALL TO WORSHIP - Based on Matthew 1:12-17

Leader: *From Abraham to David, from exile to the Christ, the Lord weaves His sovereign plan.*

People: His faithfulness endures through generations.

Leader: *In every name, His mercy unfolds; in every season, His promises stand.*

People: We are grafted into His story, redeemed by His grace.

Leader: *Let us worship the God of covenant and kings, the Author of our salvation.*

People: Glory to Christ, the fulfillment of all hope! Amen.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Children & Youth Choir

“Sing We Now of Christmas”

15th Century French Carol

ADVENT READING

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Reader: *This is the Word of the Lord!*

People: Thanks be to God!

CONFESSION OF SIN

Faithful God, You are steadfast through all generations, yet we, as Your people, have been inconsistent in our trust and obedience. We confess that we often turn from Your promises, seeking security in our plans instead of Your purposes.

In Your unfolding story, we see Your hand at work, but we have been impatient and blind to Your quiet providence. We have neglected to honor You in the small things, and failed to trust that You are redeeming all things for Your glory.

Forgive us, Lord, for our pride, doubt, and self-reliance. Renew us as a community to walk humbly before You, to trust in Your steadfast love, and to live as faithful witnesses to Your grace.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON - Jeremiah 31:33-34

Hear this good news:

"For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

“Abide With Me”

by Henry Francis Lyte and Justin Smith

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers, fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

Thou on my head, in early youth didst smile;
And though rebellious and perverse meanwhile
Thou hast not left me, though I oft left Thee
On to the close Lord, Abide with me.

I need Thy presence, every passing hour.

What but Thy grace,

Can foil the tempter's power?

Who like Thyself my, guide and stay can be?

Through cloud and sunshine,

Abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross, before my closing eyes
Shine through the gloom,
and point me to the skies
Heaven's morning breaks and
earth's vain shadows flee
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me

GREETING

Leader: *May the peace of Christ be with you!*

People: And also with you!

Leader: *Let us share His peace with one another.*

Children may leave for lesson (ages 4-6).

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As the leader directs, the congregation is invited to pray for those for whom they are burdened.

Pray aloud and by name or silently if you prefer.

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

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 1:12–17

Reader: *This is the Word of the Lord!*

People: Thanks be to God!

“The Church’s One Foundation”

Words: Samuel J. Sloan

Music: “Aurelia” by Samuel Wesley

The church's one Foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation,
By water and the Word.

From heaven He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation,
One Lord, one faith, one birth.

One holy Name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses,
With every grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace for evermore;

'Til with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious
Shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union
With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won.

O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly,
On high may dwell with Thee.

CELEBRATING COMMUNION

CONFESSION OF FAITH - The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things
visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made human. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried.

The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come. Amen.

Minister: *The peace of the Lord be always with you.*

People: And also with you!

Minister: *Lift up your hearts!*

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Wine is in the outer circles of cups; the inner circle contains grape juice. Gluten-free bread is in its own tray.

As the usher directs, please come forward one row at a time to pick up your cups.

Please hold your elements until all are served so that we may all partake together, as one body.

“God and Man at Table are Sat Down”

by Robert Stamps

O, welcome all you noble saints of old,
As now before your very eyes unfold
The wonders all so long ago foretold.
God and man at table are sat down.
God and man at table are sat down.

Elders, martyrs, all are falling down;
Prophets, patriarchs are gathering round,
What angels longed to see now we have found.
God and man at table are sat down.
God and man at table are sat down.

Beggars, lame, and harlots also here;
Repentant publicans are drawing near;
Wayward ones come home without a fear.
God and man at table are sat down.
God and man at table are sat down.

Who is this who spreads the victory feast?
Who is this who makes our warring cease?
Jesus, Risen Savior, Prince of Peace.
God and man at table are sat down.
God and man at table are sat down.

Here He gives Himself to us as bread
Here as wine we drink the blood He shed
Born to die we eat and live instead
God and man at table are sat down.
God and man at table are sat down.

Worship in the presence of the Lord,
With joyful songs and hearts in one accord,
And let our Host at table be adored.
God and man at table are sat down.
God and man at table are sat down.

When at last this earth shall pass away,
When Jesus and his bride are one to stay,
The feast of love is just begun that day.
God and man at table are sat down.
God and man at table are sat down.

CELEBRATING COMMUNION

Announcements

Benediction

*To the only wise God be glory
forevermore through Jesus Christ!
Amen.*

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen (4x)



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