



Cypress Ridge PCA

December 24, 2023

**Join our 10:30 am Worship Service
at CRPC or Livestream!**

cypressridge-pca.org

WELCOME

We are glad you chose to worship with us today. It is our hope that today's service will be a fresh encounter with God's love and grace. This bulletin will guide you as we worship together.

OUR PURPOSE

Cypress Ridge PCA exists to **Glorify God** *through*: **Exalting** God's Glory, **Equipping** God's People, and **Extending** God's Kingdom.

CRPC is a member of the Presbyterian Church in America: pcanet.org

VISITOR/PRAYER REQUEST CARD

Visitors: We would like to get to know you! Please fill out the Visitor Card and put it in the offering box. We also encourage you to look at our website for further information: www.cypressridge-pca.org.

Prayer Requests: Please record your prayer request on the Visitor Card and put it in the offering box.

CHILDREN

We offer numerous options for children during worship:

- Children are welcome to remain in the Sanctuary for the entire service. (Approximately one hour and 15 minutes.)
- There is a nursery and pre-school room. The nursery is for infants through 1 year olds. The pre-school room is for 2-3 year olds.
- Children's Prayer: Children of all ages will be invited to come forward for prayer during our worship service. After the prayer, children may return to their seats or go to Children's Worship.
- Children's Worship is offered for those from age 4 through 3rd grade. Children return to the Sanctuary before Communion.
- There is a cry room at the back of the Sanctuary where parents can take their child(ren) during the service.

About the Cover: Taken from outreach.com.

Scripture: Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®) copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

THE LORD GATHERS THE NATIONS

We believe that the Triune God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – calls the world to worship Him. As a Christian community, we gather together on the first day of each week to worship Him as we are led by the Spirit. As we worship, we bring our praise and our concerns, our joys and our sorrows, our hopes and our troubles.

Prelude

**Please silence your electronic devices*

Announcements

Reflection on Worship

*God became one of us so we could become one with him.
That is the promise of Bethlehem.
- Max Lucado*

Prayer of Invocation

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Stan & Colleen Logan

Call to Worship

From Luke 2:9-14

Leader: An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 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.”

Response: 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!”

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Text: James Montgomery. Music: Henry T. Smart.

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth
Ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth

*Come and worship, come and worship
Worship Christ, the newborn King*

Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night
God with man is now residing, yonder shines the infant Light

Chorus

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Words by Charles Wesley, altered; Music by F. Mendelssohn; arr. by W. H. Cummings.

Hark! The herald angels sing, glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies
With the angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem

*Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King*

Christ by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel

Chorus

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace, hail the Sun of Righteousness
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth

Chorus

Away in a Manger

Text: unknown, stanzas 1, 2; John Thomas McFarland, stanza 3.

Music: James R. Murray. UBP CCLI #3038781.

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there

Vocal Offering:

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day
Kaleigh Fung

Monthly Memory Verse

John 1:14

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.



Prayer for Children

Children's Worship available for children 4 yrs. – 3rd grade. Kidz Guide to Worship papers are available in the back, for the older children.

THE LORD REVEALS HIMSELF TO THE WORLD

God calls the nations to follow him primarily through the reading and exposition of His inspired, infallible, and inerrant word as contained in the Old and New Testaments.

We believe that the Scriptures teach what man is to believe concerning God and what duty God requires of man.

Sermon

Pastor Rodney Barton

Luke 2:8-20

Pew Bible p. 857

Large Print Bible p. 1069

The Angels Song

We respond by:

I. Hearing

II. Believing

III. Proclaiming

Angels We Have Heard on High

Traditional French carol and melody.

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply, echo back their joyous strains

Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song

Chorus

Come to Bethlehem, and see; Him whose birth the angels sing
Come, adore on bended knee; Christ the Lord, the newborn King

Chorus

THE LORD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO PRAY

Throughout Scripture, God's people are called to pray through adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and supplication. As we come to the Lord in prayer, we are placing our dependence and trust in the One who forgives, who cares, and who strengthens.

Confession of Sin

Romans 3:10-12

Leader: None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.

Prayer: Our Heavenly Father, we acknowledge that though you have sent us great joy and peace in Jesus Christ, we so often allow our hearts to be bogged down with anxiety and fear. You call us to dwell upon thoughts that are lovely and pure, yet our minds frequently become judgmental and cynical towards ourselves and others. We boldly ask for forgiveness and for your peace of mind. Change us to become more like you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

[Silent Confession]

Assurance of Pardon

Micah 7:18-19

Leader: Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of His inheritance? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

THE LORD PROVIDES OUR DAILY BREAD

Worship includes returning to God and His work a portion of our material possessions as tithes and offerings. We ask Him to use the generosity of His people to continue and to advance the work of His church.

Offertory Scripture

Leviticus 27:30

Leader: Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the Lord's; it is holy to the Lord.

Congregational Prayer

Mission of the Month: Faith Xtreme

Battling Cancer: Susie Fuday, Shawn Holdener, and Sue Gilkey

Health Issues: Charles Burkett, Blossom Warren, Rick & Rosie DeCoito, Briana Campos

Homebound: Pat & Larry Moss, Brenda Donnell

Oh Come All You Unfaithful

Bob Kauflin & Lisa Clow. Arr. by Dan Galbraith © 2020 Sovereign Grace Praise (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing). UBP CCLI #3038781.

O come, all you unfaithful; come, weak and unstable
Come, know you are not alone
O come, barren and waiting ones, weary of praying
Come see what your God has done

Christ is born, Christ is born; Christ is born for you

O come, bitter and broken; come with fears unspoken
Come, taste of His perfect love
O come, guilty and hiding ones; there is no need to run
See what your God has done

Chorus

He's the Lamb who was given, slain for our pardon
His promise is peace for those who believe
He's the Lamb who was given, slain for our pardon
His promise is peace for those who believe

So come, though you have nothing; come, He is the off'ring
Come, see what your God has done

Chorus

THE LORD COMMUNES WITH HIS PEOPLE

The climax of our worship is sitting at the Table with the Lord. We come to the Table full of thankfulness and joy because of His grace. As the perfect Lamb of God, Jesus' sacrifice reconciled us to the Father so that we are in a right relationship with him.

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

Bread: Gluten free bread is located in the cups within the basket.

Cup: The outer ring is wine; the inner rings are juice.

What is Communion?

Communion is also known as the Lord's Supper. The bread represents the broken body of Christ, and the cup represents the blood Jesus poured out as the Sacrificial Lamb (*see 1 Corinthians 11:23-26*).

When we celebrate this feast, we commune with the risen Lord Jesus who stands as our host to offer spiritual nourishment, renewal and life. We also participate together in the reconciling grace of God.

Who can take Communion?

We warmly welcome to the table all who have publicly professed their faith in Jesus – trusting in His once-for-all sacrificial death upon the cross.

At Cypress Ridge, we ask children to wait to take communion until they have met with the elders to share their faith in Jesus.

If you have not yet professed faith in Jesus, we encourage you to spend this time reflecting on the prayers below.

Prayer for those searching for the truth

Lord Jesus, You claim to be the way, truth and life. If what You claim is true, please guide me and teach me. Give me an understanding of who You are, and open up my heart so that I may have faith in You. Amen.

Prayer of faith

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am more sinful than I ever believed, but through You, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank You for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross. Knowing that You have also been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive You as my Savior. Amen.

THE LORD SENDS US OUT INTO THE WORLD

*God does not save us simply from something. He saves us to something ...
to be His messengers of redemption to a lost and fallen world. He sends us out redeemed,
loved, and with a purpose. We are called to bear witness to what He is doing in our lives
where we live, work, and play. Praise be to God!*

Benediction

adapted from Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord
Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good
that you may do his will, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever
and ever. Amen.

Unison Response:

Christ has died!

Christ has risen!

Christ will come again!!!

Choral Response

Tri-fold Amen

CRPC FAMILY EVENTS

TODAY ...

- **Worship Service at CRPC & Livestream:** At 10:30 am.
 - Each service is recorded and will be available to watch following the service on YouTube.
- **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service:** At 5:30 pm. *Please note, there will not be any nursery attendants during this service.*

CONNECT GROUPS ... Contact a leader to learn more!

- **Luchenbill Group (Bob: 517-398-2212):** On break and will resume on 01/07/24.
- **Pletcher/Bacheldor Group (Paul: 863-206-9679):** On break and will resume on 01/10/24.
- **Wood Group (Bob: 419-969-4056):** On break and will resume on 01/14/24.
- **Johnson/Smith Group (Brad: 863-877-8589):** On break and will resume on 01/14/24.
- **Reyes Group (David: 863-206-8278):** On break and will resume in January.
- **Barton/Holdener Group (Rodney: 407-375-2756):** On break and will resume in January.

THIS WEEK ...

- **Monday:** Merry Christmas!
- **Saturday Morning:** Men's Sunrise Bible Study at 7 am.

COMMUNITY BIBLE READING ...

*After you read through the chapters, pray through them with A.C.T.S.
(Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication)*

Monday: Ecclesiastes 7 and Matthew 24
Tuesday: Ecclesiastes 8 and Matthew 25
Wednesday: Ecclesiastes 9 and Matthew 26
Thursday: Ecclesiastes 10 and Matthew 27
Friday: Ecclesiastes 11 and Matthew 28
Saturday: Ecclesiastes 12

ON THE HORIZON ...

- **Sunday School:** Sunday School will resume on January 7th, at 9:15 am.
- **Family Camp:** March 1st-3rd at Highlands Hammock in Sebring. *Family- Fellowship- Friends- Fun- Food- Fire.* Look out for sign-up sheet! See Tim Holdener or Rodney Barton for more details.

FYI ...

- Thank you to everyone who financially gave towards the FX Christmas Project and helped wrap and deliver gifts! With your generosity, we were able to sponsor 38 children and provide Christmas gifts for them. We were also able to contribute towards Christmas gifts being taken to the local hotels for homeless children. What a blessing! Please be praying that the Lord would reveal Himself to each family in a special way this Christmas.
- **Snack Time:** If you would like to bring snacks, you can sign up at the coffee bar!

- **Resource Table:** We provide free copies of *Our Daily Bread* (large print & regular) and *Tabletalk* at the Welcome Center.
- **Visitor/Prayer Request Card:** If you are a visitor, please fill out the card, under the seat in front of you, and place it in the offering box. Any prayer or visitation request may also be put on this card.
- **Post-Service Prayer:** If you would like prayer after the service, there will be leaders at the front of the sanctuary, by the piano, available to meet and pray with you.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE ...

SERVING IN December 2023

Deacon of the Month: David Holdener

Ushers: David Warren & Elijah Green

Communion Preparation: Sheryl Bacheldor

Nursery Volunteers:

12/24 - Lois Adair & Ginny Vander Zee

12/31- Jessica Sanders & John Wedeman

Children's Worship:

12/24 - Ginger Andersen & Terri Jefferies

12/31 – No Children's Worship

Snacks:

TBD

SERVING IN January 2023

Deacon of the Month: Charles Burkett

Ushers: Larry Vander Zee & Ken Harrison

Communion Preparation: Allen & Monica Franklin

Nursery Volunteers:

01/07 – David Holdener & Katelynn Wedeman

01/14 – TBD

01/21 – TBD & Kay Smith

01/28 – Jessica Sanders & TBD

Children's Worship:

01/07 – Sheryl Bachelder & Melissa Pletcher

01/14 – Anna Smith & Gabrielle Jean-Bart

01/21 – Philip & Jeanie Baier

01/28 – Ginger Anderson & Terri Jefferies

Snacks:

TBD

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

12/24 – David & Carolyn Holdener

12/26 – John & Katelynn Wedeman

12/27 – Wayne & Renae Anderson

12/27 – Frantz & Violene Genisse

12/28 – Art & Sue Gilkey

12/29 – Marilyn Smith



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