



Cypress Ridge PCA

December 18, 2022

**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: made on [canva.com](https://www.canva.com).

Scripture: Scripture in the service is from the ESV translation, unless otherwise noted.

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 Kelder Family (Dutch, Netherlands)

On this fourth Sunday in Advent, we light the candle of peace. This week we take time to reflect on God's peace that He gives to us in Jesus. By His coming, Jesus has given us peace with God that cannot be undone because He paid the penalty for sin once and for all.

The prophecies of the Old Testament that are fulfilled in Christ's coming give us confidence and peace that God is who He says He is, and that God does what He says He will do.

Isaiah 9:6, "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, the Prince of Peace."

Call to Worship

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7a

Leader: 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.

Response: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

Leader: And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Response: 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.

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Words by Nahum Tate. Music by George Frederick Handel. Arranged by Matt Huesmann. Arr. © 1998 Community Worship Music. UBP CCLI #3038781.

While shepherds watched their flocks by night
All seated on the ground
The angel of the Lord came down
And glory shone around
And glory shone around

All glory be to God on high
And to the earth be peace
Good will henceforth from Heav'n to men
Begin and never cease
Begin and never cease

The First Noel

Traditional English Carol. Music by W. Sandy's Christmas Carols, 1855. Arr. Jeff Lippencott © 1998 Community Worship Music. UBP CCLI #3038781.

The First Noel, the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel*

This star drew nigh to the northwest
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
That hath made Heaven and earth of naught
And with his blood mankind hath bought

Chorus

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

Text by Edmund H. Sears; Music by Richard S. Willis. Arr. David B. Hampton.

© 1998 Community Worship Music. UBP CCLI #3038781.

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold
Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heav'n's all gracious King!
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing

For lo, the days are hast'ning on, by prophets seen of old
When with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold
When the new heav'n and earth shall own the Prince of Peace their King
And the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing

Monthly Memory Verse

Matthew 1:21

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

Prayer for Children

[Children's Worship is available for children 4 years to 3rd grade]



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

Gifts of the Incarnation: Child of Peace

Luke 2:8-20

Pew Bible p. 857

Large Print Bible p. 1069

I. Who is this child of peace?

II. What is this peace?

III. How are we to respond?

Questions to Consider

1. Compare/contrast “peace” as viewed from the world and from Scripture.
2. Why do we struggle that we truly have peace with God?

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

*Words & Music: Trad. English Carol. Music arr. by David B. Hampton.
UBP CCLI #3038781.*

God rest ye merry, gentlemen
Let nothing you dismay
Remember Christ our Savior
Was born on Christmas Day
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy*

From God our heavenly Father
A blessed angel came
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name

Chorus

Now to the Lord sing praises
All you within this place
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace
This holy tide of Christmas
All anger should efface

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

Acts 3:19-20a

Leader: Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.

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]

Mission of the Month: Faith Xtreme

Battling Cancer: Susie Fuday

Health Issues: Dolca Rios, Steve Dortman, Marilyn Smith, Rick & Rosie DeCoito, Pat Moss, Brenda Donnell

Ministry Moment

Nursery Recognition

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

Proverbs 3:9

Leader: Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce.

What Child is This

Text: William C. Dix. Music: Trad. English melody, 16th century. UBP CCLI #3038781.

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*

Jesus, Your Name

Words & Music by Keith & Kristyn Getty and Ian Hannah. UBP CCLI #3038781.

Jesus, Your name, Prince of Peace
Quiets my soul, treasures the least
In perfect rest You will keep all whose hope is in You
Jesus, Your name can silence the storms
The strivings that trouble our world
Jesus, Your name reveals You as Lord
Oh, powerful name

Jesus, Your name, Mighty God
All Pow'rful One, ruling in love
There is a King upon the throne earth cannot overthrow
Jesus, Your name great banner of hope
Steadies the knees of the weak
Jesus, the name all nations will praise
Oh, glorious name

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

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Unison Response:

Christ has died!

Christ has risen!

Christ will come again!!!

Choral Response

Tri-fold Amen

CRPC FAMILY EVENTS

TODAY ...

- **Christmas Caroling:** Brookdale at 9:15 am.
- **Worship Service at CRPC & Livestream:** At 10:30 am.
 - Each service is recorded and will be available to watch following the service on YouTube.
- **Connect Group:** Contact a leader to learn more about their upcoming January meetings!
 - **Bob Wood (419-969-4056)**
 - **David Reyes (863-206-8278)**
 - **Leopold Jean-Bart (863-521-3136)**
 - **Rodney Barton (407-375-2756)**
 - **Tom Luchenbill (863-632-3241):** Meeting on December 18th, at 5 pm, at the Luchenbill home.

THIS WEEK ...

- **Tuesday Morning:** FX Christmas Project – gift wrapping at 10 am. Please bring your scissors and Christmas joy 😊
- **Tuesday Afternoon:** Session Meeting at 4 pm.
- **Thursday-Saturday:** FX Christmas Project – delivering gifts. See Anna for details.
- **Saturday Morning:** Men's Sunrise Bible Study at 7 am.
- **Saturday Evening:** Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at 6:30 pm. *Please note, there will not be any nursery attendants during this service.*

BIBLE READING THIS WEEK ...

As you read, ask these questions:

- 1) What does this teach me about God?*
- 2) What does this teach me about how I should live?*

	<u>Bible Reading</u>	<u>Cross References</u>
Monday	Romans 16:1-16	Acts 18:1-4; 1 Peter 5:12-14
Tuesday	Romans 16:17-18	1 Timothy 3:3-10
Wednesday	Romans 16:19-20	Jeremiah 4:19-22; Matthew 10:16-18; Gen. 3:14-15
Thursday	Romans 16:21-23	Acts 16:1-5; 1 Corinthians 1:10-17
Friday	Romans 16:25-27	Ephesians 3:20-21; 2 Timothy 1:8-14

ON THE HORIZON ...

- **Sunday School:** Sunday School will resume on January 8th, at 9:15 am.

FYI ...

- **Resource Table:** We provide free copies of *Our Daily Bread* (large print and regular print) and *Tabletalk* at our Resource Table located at the back of the sanctuary.
- **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 2022

Usher of the Month: Terry Schmucker

Usher: Brad Johnson

Communion Preparation: Dennis & Brenda Knappenberger

Nursery Volunteers:

12/18 - Briana Campos & Lori Brousseau

12/25 - Kay Smith & Alannah Acevedo

Children's Worship Volunteers:

12/18 - Linda Paris & Sherry Sakko

12/25 - No Children's Worship on Christmas Morning

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

12/20 - Barb Luchenbill

12/20 - Don & Linda Paris

12/21 - Christian & Abigail Babcock

12/22 - James & Nancy Breiner

12/23 - Rob & Barbara McClelland

12/24 - David & Carolyn Holdener



SERVING IN JANUARY 2023

Deacon of the Month: Charles Burkett

Usher: Larry Vander Zee

Communion Preparation: TBD

Nursery Volunteers:

1/1 - TBD

1/8 - Briana Campos & TBD

1/15 - Betty Parmerter & TBD

1/22 - Brenda Knappenberger & TBD

1/29 - Jessica Sanders & TBD

Children's Worship Volunteers:

1/1 - Sheryl Bacheldor & Melissia Pletcher

1/8 - Anna Bacheldor & Gabrielle Jean-Bart

1/15 - Philip & Jeanie Baier

1/22 - Ginger Andersen & Renae Anderson

1/29 - TBD

CHURCH STAFF

Tom Luchenbill

Senior Pastor

tgluke@gmail.com

Sandy Luchenbill

Worship Leader

skluka@me.com

Anna Bachelder

Office Administrator &

Children's Ministry Director

info@cypressridge-pca.org

Rodney Barton

Assistant Pastor

Family & Outreach Ministries

RNJbarton@gmail.com

Bob Wood

Director of Discipleship

bobglowood@gmail.com

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

ELDERS:

Leopold Jean-Bart

gabileo20@gmail.com

David Reyes

daddudedr@gmail.com

Bob Wood

bobglowood@gmail.com

Dr. Jim Andersen, Emeritus

windwalkertri@gmail.com

Don Paris, Emeritus

don@pariscontracting.net

DEACONS:

Charles Burkett

cburkett11@tampabay.rr.com

David Holdener

dholdener28@gmail.com

Cypress Ridge Presbyterian Church

6230 Cypress Gardens Blvd.

Winter Haven, FL 33884

863.325.9864

www.cypressridge-pca.org