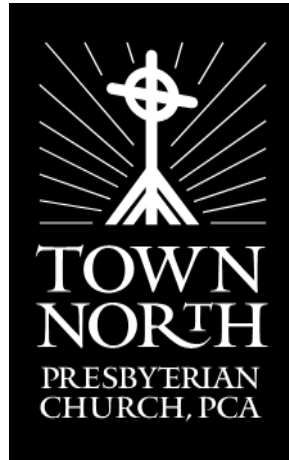


*Town North is a community of disciples
making disciples of Jesus.*



The Week's Order of
WORSHIP
for
THE LORD'S DAY

*December 5, 2021 10:30 A.M.
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

REFLECTION

“[The Holy Spirit] willingly proceeds or comes forth from the Father to be our comforter. He knew what we were, and what we could do, and what would be our dealings with him – he knew we would grieve him, provoke him, quench his motions, defile his dwelling-place; and yet he would come to be our comforter.”

-John Owen, *Communion with God, The Works of John Owen*, vol. 2, Banner of Truth Trust, 2009, p. 263.

PRELUDE

Lynna Harbison

ACTIVITIES & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

David Hitt, Elder

(Please sign, pass & return the black attendance pad at the end of the aisle)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

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 shined.

PEOPLE: **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, Prince of Peace.**

LEADER: 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.

PEOPLE: **The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE

Hymn 194 (vv 1-5)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

2 O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

3 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

4 O come, thou Dayspring from on high,
and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

5 O come, thou Key of David, come
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

* CONFSSION OF FAITH

*Westminster Larger Catechism Q&A 3-4
(Modern English Version)*

LEADER: What is the word of God?

ALL: **The holy Bible, made up of the Old and New Testaments, is the word of God. It is the only authority for faith and obedience.**

LEADER: What evidence is there that the Bible is the word of God?

ALL: **The Bible clearly shows that it is the word of God by its majesty and purity, by the agreement of all its parts, by its unified aim to give all glory to God, and by its illuminating power to convince and convert sinners and to comfort and build up believers unto salvation. However, only the Spirit of God, testifying by and with the Bible in our hearts, can completely persuade us that it is truly the word of God.**

CALL TO CONFSSION OF SIN

*Westminster Confession of Faith,
Chapter 14.2 "Saving Faith" (Modern English Version)*

LEADER: By this faith a Christian believes whatever is revealed in the word to be the true, authentic, authoritative statement of God himself. By this faith the believer also acts according to what particular passages in the word say. By faith the believer humbly submits to and obeys God's various commands. He trembles at God's awesome threats, and eagerly embraces his promises about this life and the life to come. But the chief actions of saving faith are accepting, receiving, and resting on Christ alone for justification, sanctification, and eternal life, in the power of the covenant of grace.

CORPORATE CONFSSION OF SIN

ALL: **Heavenly Father, we thank you for speaking to us by your Spirit in the Bible, but we confess that we have been slow to listen. Forgive us for quenching your Spirit by resisting your truth in our lives.
Forgive us for despising your prophecies by hoping in the words of men.
Forgive us for holding fast to what is evil and discarding what is good.
Please change our hearts that we would obey your commands, tremble at your threats, and eagerly embrace your promises.
In Christ, we pray. Amen.**

SILENT CONFSSION OF SIN

In these moments, we individually come to God in prayer, silently confessing personal sins so that we may take hold of the forgiveness won for us by Christ, our Redeemer.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PEACE WITH GOD

2 Peter 1:3-4

LEADER: His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

* HYMN OF RESPONSE

Hymn 196 (vv 1-4)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear Desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart. | 3 Come to earth to taste our sadness,
he whose glories knew no end;
by his life he brings us gladness,
our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number,
born within a cattle stall;
this the everlasting wonder,
Christ was born the Lord of all. |
| 2 Joy to those who long to see thee,
Dayspring from on high, appear;
come, thou promised Rod of Jesse,
of thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing news,
glad tidings of a birth:
"Go to him, your praises bringing;
Christ the Lord has come to earth." | 4 Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne. |

PRAYING TOGETHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

David Rogers, Pastor

* PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Hymn 140 (vv 1-4)

O Word of God Incarnate

- 1 O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky;
we praise thee for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.
- 2 The church from her dear Master received the gift divine,
and still that light she lifteth o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the golden casket, where gems of truth are stored;
it is the heav'n-drawn picture of Christ, the living Word.

(Continued...)

- 3 It floateth like a banner before God's host unfurled;
it shineth like a beacon above the darkling world.
It is the chart and compass that o'er life's surging sea,
'mid mists and rocks and quicksands, still guides, O Christ, to thee.
- 4 O make thy church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold,
to bear before the nations thy true light, as of old.
O teach thy wand'ring pilgrims by this their path to trace,
till, clouds and darkness ended, they see thee face to face.

* SCRIPTURE READING

David Hitt, Elder

1 Thessalonians 5:19-22

Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies, ²¹ but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²² Abstain from every form of evil.

APPLYING GOD'S WORD

David Rogers, Pastor

"Be Careful Not to Reject the Love of God"

* RESPONDING IN SONG

Hymn 198 (vv 1-6)

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here.</p> | <p>4 Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heav'n's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.</p> |
| <p>2 A helper just he comes to thee,
his chariot is humility,
his kingly crown is holiness,
his sceper, pity in distress.</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>3 O blest the land, the city blest,
where Christ the Ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes
to whom this King in triumph comes!</p> | <p>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!</p> |

* BENEDICTION

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

PASTOR: Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

POSTLUDE

Lynna Harbison

ACTIVITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY	Youth Group— <i>Youth Room, Admin Bldg</i>	5:00 p.m.
TUESDAY	Session Meeting	6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	Wednesday Night Prayer— <i>by Zoom</i>	7:00 p.m.
SATURDAY	Women’s Christmas Prayer Tea— <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	2:00 p.m.

Church activity calendar is available on-line at www.tnpc.org/events

LIVESTREAM AUDIO ACCESS

1. Go to www.tnpc.org
2. Click on the box that says: “Livestream Audio”.

COMMUNION — Will be celebrated next Sunday morning, December 12. Please prepare your hearts and minds and relationships to approach the LORD’s table.

SESSION MEETING — This Tuesday, December 7. Questions or concerns? Please contact Pastor Rogers at david.rogers@tnpc.org.

WOMEN’S CHRISTMAS PRAYER TEA — This Saturday, December 11 at 2:00pm in Fellowship Hall, please join us for a time of prayer, fellowship, and goodies as we prepare our hearts to celebrate Christ this Christmas! See invitations in the Narthex or your church mailbox for more details.

LEBANON PROJECT — To support Pastor Imad Aubrey’s ministry in Lebanon, please make gifts payable to Town North Presbyterian Church with “Lebanon Project” on the memo line.

SUPPORTING OUR MERCY MINISTRY — Your generous donations, specified “Deacons Fund,” allow our Deacons to bring financial relief to members and others in need.

Fiscal Year 2022

Totals through November 28, 2021

(Our fiscal year starts July 1 and ends June 30)

General Fund Income	\$	335,356
Designated Giving	\$	85,555
Total Expenses	\$	424,033
Net Surplus or (Deficit)	\$	(3,122)

Give through PCA-Foundation

Go to:
tnpc.org/giving

and follow
instructions



Give through PayPal

Go to:

paypal.me/tnpcgive

or

Send to:

give@tnpc.org



Town North Presbyterian Church
Rev. David Rogers, Senior Pastor
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