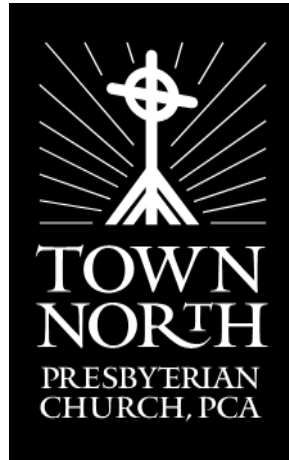


*Town North is a community of disciples
making disciples of Jesus.*



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

December 12, 2021 10:30 A.M.
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

REFLECTION

“But this [passive] righteousness is heavenly, which we have not of ourselves, but receive it from heaven; we work not for it, but by grace it is wrought in us, and is apprehended by faith; whereby we mount up above all laws and all works.”

-Martin Luther, *Commentary on Galatians*, Kegel Publications, Grand Rapids, 1994, xv.

PRELUDE

Lynna Harbison

(Church elders will be available in the front to pray personally with anyone during the prelude)

ACTIVITIES & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

David Schlimme, Elder

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 40:1-5

LEADER: Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her
that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

PEOPLE: **A voice cries:**

**“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**

LEADER: Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

PEOPLE: **And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”**

* HYMN OF PRAISE

Hymn 193 (vv 1-4)

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

3 Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

2 King of kings, yet born of Mary
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heav'nly food.

4 At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
“Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord Most High!

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN

Psalms 130:5-6

LEADER: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

ALL: Lord Jesus, we confess the ways we have not longed for your return.
Forgive us for living for that which is temporary rather than that which is permanent.
Forgive us for trusting our own abilities for transformation rather than your renewing power.
Forgive us for looking to the future with hopelessness rather than trusting in your glorious return.
Help us to lift our eyes to see the life of the world to come. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION 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

Philippians 1:6

LEADER: And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

* SONG OF RESPONSE

Ensemble & Congregation

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Come behold the wondrous myst'ry,
in the dawning of the King.
He, the theme of heaven's praises,
robed in frail humanity.
In our longing, in our darkness,
now the light of life has come!
Look to Christ, who condescended,
took on flesh to ransom us. | 3 Come behold the wondrous myst'ry:
Christ the Lord upon the tree.
In the stead of ruined sinners
hangs the Lamb in victory!
See the price of our redemption,
see the Father's plan unfold,
bringing many sons to glory:
grace unmeasured, love untold! |
| 2 Come behold the wondrous myst'ry:
he the perfect Son of Man,
in his living, in his suffering,
never trace nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam,
come to save the hell-bound man,
Christ the great and sure fulfillment
of the law; in him we stand. | 4 Come behold the wondrous myst'ry:
slain by death, the God of life.
But no grave could e'er restrain him;
praise the Lord, he is alive!
What a foretaste of deliv'rance,
how unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected,
as we will be when he comes. |

* PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Ensemble & Congregation

Every Promise

- 1 From the breaking of the dawn to the setting of the sun,
I will stand on ev'ry promise of your Word.
Words of power, strong to save, that will never pass away,
I will stand on ev'ry promise of your Word.
For your covenant is sure,
and on this I am secure—
I can stand on ev'ry promise of your Word.

- 2 When I stumble and I sin, condemnation pressing in,
I will stand on ev'ry promise of your Word.
You are faithful to forgive that in freedom I might live,
so I stand on ev'ry promise of your Word.
Guilt to innocence restored,
you remember sins no more—
so I'll stand on ev'ry promise of your Word.

- 3 When I'm faced with anguished choice, I will listen for your voice,
and I'll stand on ev'ry promise of your Word.
Through this dark and troubled land
you will guide me with your hand
as I stand on ev'ry promise of your Word.
And you've promised to complete
ev'ry work begun in me—
so I'll stand on ev'ry promise of your Word.

- 4 Hope that lifts me from despair, love that casts out ev'ry fear,
as I stand on ev'ry promise of your Word.
Not forsaken, not alone, for the Comforter has come,
and I stand on ev'ry promise of your Word.
Grace sufficient, grace for me,
grace for all who will believe—
we will stand on ev'ry promise of your Word.

* SCRIPTURE READING

David Schlimme, Elder

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

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. ²⁴ He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

“Where are you going?”

* CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

LEADER: People of God, what do we believe?

ALL: **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 of his Father before all worlds.
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Please remain in your seat until dismissed by an usher. If you would like to receive the elements in your seat, please raise your hand and a server will come to you.

Grape juice is in the purple cups in the center of the tray. Wine is in the clear cups around the outside of the tray. The matzo bread is gluten free.

* RESPONDING IN SONG

Hymn 195 (vv 1-4)

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

- 1 Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

- 2 Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns:
let men their songs employ;
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

* 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.

ALL: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

POSTLUDE

Lynna Harbison

ACTIVITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY	Youth Christmas Card Delivery— <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	12:30 p.m.
TUESDAY	Deacons Meeting	6:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	Wednesday Night Prayer— <i>by Zoom</i>	7:00 p.m.
	Youth Midweek Meetup— <i>in person</i>	7:00 p.m.
SATURDAY	Youth Group Christmas Party— <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	7:00 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”.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE — Join us on Friday, December 24 at 5:00pm, for a candlelight Christmas Eve Service.

TNPC ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING — Mark your calendars for our annual meeting and officer election to be held Wednesday, January 19 at 6:00pm.

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.

LIFECCHANGE OFFERING — Supports our missions efforts. To make a donation, specify “LifeChange” on your check or with your e-gift.

FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP — Please sign up in the narthex to provide flowers for Sunday morning worship. Arrangements start at \$63. Contact Judy Dawson (214-384-9729) if you have any questions.

Fiscal Year 2022

Totals through December 5, 2021

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

General Fund Income	\$	350,843
Designated Giving	\$	86,355
Total Expenses	\$	453,893
Net Surplus or (Deficit)	\$	(16,695)

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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