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



December 18, 2022 10:30 A.M. FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PRELUDE Lynna Harbison

ACTIVITIES & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Andrew Cies, Pastor

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

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Hage Family

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 100

LEADER: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

PEOPLE: Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

LEADER: Know that the LORD, he is God!

PEOPLE: It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

LEADER: Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

PEOPLE: Give thanks to him; bless his name!

ALL: For the LORD is good;

his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION

* HYMN OF PRAISE

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.
- 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."
- 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.
- 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.

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN

Isaiah 53:6

LEADER: All we like sheep have gone astray;

we have turned—every one—to his own way;

and the Lord has laid on him

the iniquity of us all.

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

1 Peter 2:24-25

LEADER: He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

* HYMN OF RESPONSE

Hymn 257 (vv 1-4)

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

- 1 Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, see him dying on the tree!

 'Tis the Christ by man rejected; yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he!

 'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son, yet David's Lord; by his Son God now has spoken: 'tis the true and faithful Word.
- 2 Tell me, ye who hear him groaning, was there ever grief like his?
 Friends thro' fear his cause disowning, foes insulting his distress; many hands were raised to wound him, none would interpose to save; but the deepest stroke that pierced him was the stroke that Justice gave.
- 3 Ye who think of sin but lightly nor suppose the evil great here may view its nature rightly, here its guilt may estimate.

 Mark the sacrifice appointed, see who bears the awful load; 'tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.
- 4 Here we have a firm foundation, here the refuge of the lost;
 Christ's the Rock of our salvation, his the name of which we boast.
 Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, sacrifice to cancel guilt!
 None shall ever be confounded who on him their hope have built.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

David Schlimme, Elder

Psalm 23

LEADER: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness

for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD

forever.

PRAYING TOGETHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

David Rogers, Pastor

* PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Hymn 600 (vv. 1-4)

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

- 1 He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
 O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
 Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
 still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.
 - Refrain

He leadeth me, he leadeth me; by his own hand he leadeth me: his faithful foll'wer I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

2 Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom, sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom, by waters calm, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.

- 3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ever murmur nor repine; content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis my God that leadeth me.
- 4 And when my task on earth is done, when, by thy grace, the vict'ry's won, e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jordan leadeth me.

1 Peter 5:1-5

So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: ² shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; ³ not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. ⁵ Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

APPLYING GOD'S WORD

David Rogers, Pastor

"You're Not Alone"

* RESPONDING IN SONG

Hymn 599 (vv 1-4)

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

- 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care; in thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare: blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.
- 2 We are thine; do thou befriend us, be the guardian of our way; keep thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray: blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray; blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray.

(Continued...)

- 3 Thou has promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be; thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free: blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, let us early turn to thee; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, let us early turn to thee.
- 4 Early let us seek thy favor; early let us do thy will; blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill: blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still.

* BENEDICTION Hebrews 13:20-21

PASTOR: Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

POSTLUDE Lynna Harbison

SERMON NOTES

"You're Not Alone" 1 Peter 5:1-5

Next Week:

Text: Hebrews 2:5-18

Preacher: David Rogers, Pastor

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Words Sta 1: Charles Wesley, 1744. Words Sta 2-3: Mark E. Hunt, 1978. Music: Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855. Words of Sta
. 2-3 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$ 1978 InterVarsity Christian Fellowship.

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

Words: Thomas Kelly, 1804; Alt.: 1961. Music: Geistliche Volkslieder, Paderborn, 1850. Public Domain.

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!

Words: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1862; alt. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1864. Public Domain.

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Words: Hymns for the Young, 1836. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1859. Public Domain.

ACTIVITIES & ANNºUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY	Prayer for Worship— $CE\ Rm\ 201$	8:15 a.m.
	Sunday School for all ages—CE Building	9:00 a.m.
	Worship—Worship Center	10:30 a.m.
	Officers' Prayer for the Congregation—Admin Rm 103	12:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	Prayer—Admin Rm 103	7:00 p.m.
FRIDAY	Church Office Closed—Christmas Extended Holiday	
SATURDAY	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service—Worship Center	6:30 p.m.

Church activity calendar is available online at www.tnpc.org/events

LIVESTREAM AUDIO ACCESS

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

THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING — Are given by the Clay Cox Family. This Christmas may God open our hearts to His love, our minds to His wonders, our ears to His voice, and our lives to His presence. "May the God of hope fill you will all joy and peace." Romans 15:13a

COMMUNION — Will be celebrated next Sunday morning, December 25. Prepare your hearts and minds and relationships to approach the LORD's table.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE — Saturday, December 24 at 6:30pm.

ALL CHURCH WORK DAY — Saturday, January 7, 10am. All members are invited to help remove the old miniblinds from the campus in preparation for new ones. Questions? Contact Mark Poovey at mark.poovey@tnpc.org or any deacon.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES (ADULTS, YOUTH, OR CHILREN)— There will be no Sunday School Classes on Sunday, December 25, January 1, and January 8.

FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP 2023 — Sign up sheet for Flowers for Sunday Worship in 2023 is now available in the narthex. Minimum price is \$72. For more information, contact Judy Dawson at 214-384-9729.

YEAR-END GIVING — Just a reminder that all gifts and offerings need to be in the church office by the end of day or postmarked no later than Friday, December 30, to be included on your 2022 giving statement and deductible on your 2022 tax return. Unless you specify otherwise, we will credit your gift to the General Fund.

Fiscal Year 2023

Totals through December 11, 2022

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

General Fund Income \$ 353,308 Designated Giving \$ 78,965 Total Expenses \$ 719,924 Net Surplus or (Deficit) \$ (287,651)

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



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