

Welcome!

We welcome you in the name of Christ! Our website ChristCentralPCA.org offers a lot of helpful information about our church family. For questions or to share a prayer concern, call the office at 813-774-3881, ext. 700 or email us at church@ChristCentralPCA.org.

Here are some things that might be helpful to you:

- The Welcome Center is located in the lobby. If you are a first-time guest, we would love to meet you.
- Please join us for coffee and conversation in the lobby immediately after the worship service.
- We have bible study / Sunday school classes for all ages. You can find the time, topic, and location for each class at the Welcome Center.
- We have a clean, efficient and safe nursery available for infants and toddlers in the education wing of the church. We also have a cry room in the back of the sanctuary, so please feel free to use it when needed.
- As part of the covenant community, children are invited to participate in worship. We also offer a ***Children's Worship*** program during the sermon for children ages K4 through 2nd grade in Room 5. The children are dismissed during the singing of the Doxology by walking to the back of the sanctuary and following the Children's Worship leader out.

Order for the Divine Service of Worship

December 9, 2018 - 9:30 AM

Second Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Christmas Medley

Phyllis Louke/Patricia George

*Please adjust all electronic communication devices so as not to disrupt the service.
Let us quiet our hearts before the Lord*

Silent Reflection

Advent means “**coming.**” It is a time to prepare our hearts to celebrate Christ’s second coming as well as his first. The glowing flames of the candle remind us of the star of Bethlehem, and most of all, the Light of the World Jesus Christ. The lighting of the candles calls us to worship and sets this time apart as holy.

Of the five candles, **three candles are purple, one is rose, and one is white.** The purple candles represent the attitude of hope and expectation with which we anticipate His coming. Purple also represents the attitude of humility and repentance with which we anticipate His coming. The rose candle, the Shepherd’s candle, stands for God’s love and faithfulness. The white candle in the center represents Christ’s holiness and perfection.

The First Candle is the **prophecy candle.** It reminds us that Christ’s coming was revealed by God through the prophets of years before Christ was born.

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The McKenzie Family

The Second Candle is the **Bethlehem candle**, which points to the Christ becoming man in Bethlehem.

~~~~

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." *Micah 5:2*

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9:6*

## **\*\*Hymn**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus  
Hymn #196

## **\*\*The Invocation**

### **\*\*The Apostles' Creed**

*"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen."*

## **\*\*The Gloria Patri**

Hymn # 734

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

## **The First Scripture Lesson**

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." <sup>6</sup> A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. <sup>9</sup> Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" <sup>10</sup> Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. <sup>11</sup> He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Isaiah 40:1-11 ESV

**Leader:** The Word of the Lord

**People:** Thanks be to God

## The Confession of Our Sins

“Receive my confession, O most loving and gracious Heavenly Father, through the Lord Jesus Christ, the only hope for the salvation of my soul. Grant to me true contrition, so that day and night I may be sorry from the heart for my sins. Savior of the world, O good Jesus, who gave yourself to the death of the cross to save sinners, look upon me, most wretched of all sinners; have pity on me, and give me the light to know my sins, true sorrow for them, and a firm purpose of never committing them again. Amen.”

## The Assurance of Pardon

Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man [Jesus] forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.

Acts 13:38

## Anthem

*Mary, Did You Know?*

*Mark Lowry/Buddy Green*

Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water? Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters? Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new? This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you. Mary, did you know?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to the blind man? Mary, did you know that your baby boy would calm a storm with His hand? Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod? And when you kiss your little baby, you have kissed the face of God? Mary, did you know? Did you know?

The blind will see, the deaf will hear; the dead will live again! The lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb! Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation? Mary, did you know that your will one day rule the nations? Did you know that your baby boy was heaven's perfect Lamb? And the sleeping Child you're holding is the Great I Am? I Am!

Mary, did you know, Mary, did you know? Mary, did you know?

## The Second Scripture Lesson

For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. <sup>2</sup> Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? <sup>3</sup> But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. <sup>4</sup> For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. <sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; <sup>6</sup> in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. <sup>7</sup> Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'"

Hebrews 10:1-7 ESV

Leader: The Word of the Lord  
People: Thanks be to God

## The Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen*

## The Anthem

*Sing We Now of Christmas*  
*Arr Mark Hayes*

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here. Hear our joyful praises, echoing bright and clear. Lift up your voice, O let the world rejoice!  
Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here.

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here. Spread the yuletide spirit, comfort and good cheer. God comes among us, fulfillment of His promise. Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here.

Sing we now of Christmas, join the glad refrain. All the earth rejoices, hope is born again. Peace, goodwill to all resounds the welcome call.  
Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here.

Sing we all Noel, sing we all Noel, Gladsome are the tidings that we tell. Sing we all Noel, sing we all Noel, Joyfully we sing to you Noel.  
Sing Noel!

Sing we now of Christmas, let the anthem ring. Glory in the highest, hear the angels sing. Join with all creation. In songs of jubilation.  
Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here. Noel sing we here.  
Noel sing we, sing Noel.

## The Third Scripture Lesson

<sup>8</sup> Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: <sup>23</sup> "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup> but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Matthew 1:18-25 ESV

Leader: The Word of the Lord  
People: Thanks be to God

## \*\*The Offertory Hymn

Good Christian Men, Rejoice  
Hymn #207

## \*\*Offertory Prayer of Dedication

### The Offertory

*Carols of Christmas*  
*Arr. Carol Foss*

## \*\*The Doxology

Hymn # 731

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Children K4 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades may be dismissed to Children's Worship in Rm. 5*

## **The Message**

*Rev. John K. Keen*

*Senior Pastor*

## **\*\*Hymn**

Angels We Have Heard on High

Hymn #214

## **\*\*Benediction**

## **Postlude**

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*Arr. John Innes*

*\*\*All who are able, please stand*

*\*Unless specified, all Scriptures texts are from the NIV-1984*



# Announcements

## Youth Progressive Dinner Christmas Party

TONIGHT

5:00 pm – 8:45 pm

*\*Please bring wrapped gift (\$5 or less)*

- For those who have signed up, meet at the Daltons' (5903 N. Tampa St. 33604)
- Get picked up at Williams' (3901 Willowtree Place, 33624)
- **Required:** Notarized Medical/Release Form

## Order Your Poinsettia

It's time to place your orders for poinsettias to beautify the Sanctuary for Christmas. The cost of each plant is **\$7.00**.

**Note: White poinsettias will be ordered this year.**

If you would like to place an order please respond on the Connection Card or email the following information to church@christcentralpca.org:

1. Quantity Desired
2. How the plant(s) is to be dedicated.

Please make your checks payable to CCPC (marked Poinsettias), and place them in the offering plate. The deadline for ordering is **December 16<sup>th</sup>**. Plants may be taken home following the Christmas Eve service.

## Congregational Meeting

Please make plans to attend our annual congregational meeting next **Sunday, December 16, immediately after the morning worship service.**

The purpose of this meeting is: 1) present the 2018 Church Budget to the congregation and entertain and address any questions not already answered previously; 2) elect new officers; and, 3) to elect and seat/reseat trustees of the corporation. No other business will be discussed at this meeting (per our *Book of Church Order*).

## Cookies and Carols

Next **Sunday, December 16 at 6:00 PM** we will be singing our favorite carols chosen by all of you. This will be followed with a fellowship time featuring delicious, homemade cookies. Don't miss this opportunity to invite family and *especially your neighbors* to this informal gathering where we will be singing the beautiful music of Christmas and have a time of fellowship to follow. **Please RSVP TODAY** on your Connection Card if you plan to attend and if you are able to provide cookies for this event.

## Christmas Eve Worship Service

Please join us at **6:30 pm** on **Monday, December 24** for our annual candlelight Christmas Eve Service. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors!

*This Week at Christ Central*

*December 9 – December 15*

- SUNDAY:** Morning Worship, 9:30 am  
Coffee and Conversation, 10:30 am  
Sunday School, 11:00 am  
Youth Christmas Party, 5:00 pm
- TUESDAY:** Ladies' Bible Study Brunch 10:00 am, Keen Home
- WEDNESDAY:** Choir Practice, 7:30 pm
- FRIDAY:** Senior Covenant Group, (Room 16), 10:00 am

*December Birthdays & Anniversaries*

*Birthdays*

## *Christian Education – Adults, Youth, & Children*

| Class/Grade                                                    | Class Teacher(s)                    | Class Room |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Ages 2-3/Toddlers                                              | Bev Thomson                         | 6          |
| Ages 4-5 / K4/K5                                               | Tami Lang                           | 3          |
| Ages 6-8 / 1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>Grades         | Raquel Fernandez                    | 5          |
| Ages 9-11 / 3 <sup>rd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup><br>Grades        | Gail Chang                          | 8          |
| Middle School / 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup><br>Grade      | Ben Lambers                         | Rio Center |
| High School / 9th -12 <sup>th</sup><br>Grade                   | Danny Dalton                        | Rio Center |
| Adult - Apologetics:<br>Taking Every Thought<br>Captive        | Luis Salgado                        | 13         |
| Adult - Exploring The<br>Parables                              | Randy Johnson                       | 15         |
| First Presbyterian<br>Church of Tampa Bay -<br>Apostles' Creed | Rev. Jofre Santiago<br>(Portuguese) | 12         |

### **CHRIST CENTRAL AT WORK AND WORSHIP**

Last Sunday's Attendance: 155

Last Sunday's Offering: \$ 10,939.87

*For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have. 2 Cor. 8:12*

# Volunteers

## *Greeters / Ordained Officer*

|                                 | <u>December</u> | <u>January</u>   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <u><i>Greeters:</i></u>         | Bryan Toenes    | Fernandez Family |
| <u><i>Ordained Officer:</i></u> | Servy Fernandez | Alex Fernandez   |
| <u><i>Communion Set-up:</i></u> | Ken Jackson     | Donna Waugh      |

## *Children's Worship Volunteers*

|                 | <u><i>Teacher</i></u>     | <u><i>Helper</i></u>     |
|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Today:</i>   | <i>Randa Gravanti</i>     | <i>Kayleigh Williams</i> |
| <i>Dec. 16:</i> | <i>Monica Blas</i>        | <i>Rebecca Armstrong</i> |
| <i>Dec. 23:</i> | <i>Stephanie Williams</i> | <i>Courtney Williams</i> |

## *Coffee Volunteers*

|                 |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| <i>Today:</i>   | <i>Brian Waugh</i>     |
| <i>Dec. 16:</i> | <i>Glenda Williams</i> |
| <i>Dec. 23:</i> | <i>Ginny Bremer</i>    |

## *Nursery Volunteers*

|                 |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Today:</i>   | <i>Liz Hickerson</i>    |
| <i>Dec. 16:</i> | <i>Laura Strickland</i> |
| <i>Dec. 23:</i> | <i>Jamie Dalton</i>     |

## *Fellowship Snacks*

|                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Next Week Dec. 16:</b><br><i>Andrea Cawley</i><br><i>Lisa Johnson</i><br><i>Kelly Melendi</i><br><i>Joan Hacquebord</i> | <b>Dec. 23:</b><br><i>Loretta Salgado</i><br><i>Glenda Williams</i><br><i>Therese McKenzie</i><br><i>Jane Lambers</i> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|