

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 8, 2019 - 11:00 AM

Second Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Listen to His Coming

Mark Hayes

*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 blue, one is rose, and one is white.** The blue candles represent the attitude of hope and expectation with which we anticipate His coming. Blue 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

Marsha Craig

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

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"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**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing  
Hymn #203

## **\*\*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

“For behold, the day is coming, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and every evildoer will be chaff; and the day that is coming will set them ablaze,” says the Lord of hosts, “so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.” <sup>2</sup>“But for you who fear My name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall. <sup>3</sup>You will tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day which I am preparing,” says the Lord of hosts. <sup>4</sup>“Remember the law of Moses My servant, even the statutes and ordinances which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel. <sup>5</sup>“Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord. <sup>6</sup>He will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse.”

Malachi 4 NASB

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

## The Confession of Our Sins

“Almighty God, who does freely pardon all who repent and turn to Him, now fulfill in every contrite heart the promise of redeeming grace; forgiving all our sins, and cleansing us from an evil conscience; through the perfect sacrifice of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.”

## The Assurance of Pardon

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:1

## **Anthem**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

*Arr. Joseph M. Martin*

O Little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light. The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heav'n. No ear may hear His coming but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin, and enter in. Be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell. O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel! Our Lord Immanuel!

## **The Second Scripture Lesson**

Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape. <sup>4</sup>But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness; <sup>6</sup>so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober. <sup>7</sup>For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we are of the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 NASB

**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

*Joy to the World*

*G.F. Handel/Arr. John Rutter*

Joy to the World! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King; let ev'ry heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and heav'vn and nature sing.

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.

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, far as the curse is found.

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.

## The Third Scripture Lesson

<sup>36</sup> “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. <sup>37</sup> For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. <sup>38</sup> For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. <sup>40</sup> Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> “Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. <sup>44</sup> For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will.

Matthew 24:36-44 NASB

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

## **\*\*The Offertory Hymn**

Once in Royal David's City  
Hymn #225

## **\*\*Offertory Prayer of Dedication**

### **The Offertory**

*Shepherds and Angels*  
Arr. Larry Shackley

## **\*\*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**

What Child Is This  
Hymn #213

## **\*\*Benediction**

## **Postlude**

*Joy to the World*  
*David Lasky*

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

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

## Announcements

### Order Your Poinsettia

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

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 **TODAY**. Plants may be taken home following the Christmas Eve service.

### Congregational Meeting

Please make plans to attend our annual congregational meeting on **Sunday, December 15, immediately after the morning worship service.**

The purpose of this meeting is: 1) present the 2020 Church Budget to the congregation and entertain and address any questions not already answered previously; 2) elect new officers; 3) to elect and seat/reseat trustees of the corporation; and, 4) a disciplinary matter the outcome of which the Session deems necessary to share with the congregation. No other business will be discussed at this meeting (per our *Book of Church Order*).

### Cookies and Carols

On **Sunday, December 15 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 by 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 **Tuesday, December 24** for our annual candlelight Christmas Eve Service.

***This Week at Christ Central***  
***December 8 – December 14***

- SUNDAY:** Coffee and Conversation, 10:30 am  
Morning Worship, 11:00 am  
Youth Ice Skating Christmas Party, 4:30 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 4-6/ K4 - 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade                          | Tami Lang & Raquel Fernandez     | 5               |
| Ages 7-10 / 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> Grades          | Kelly Fernandez & Donna Waugh    | 8               |
| Middle School / 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade        | Steve Pothoven                   | Rio Center      |
| High School / 9th -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade                     | Ben Lambers                      | Rio Center      |
| Adult - Worship                                               | Danny Dalton                     | Fellowship Hall |
| Adult - Exploring 1 & 2 Peter                                 | Randy Johnson                    | 15              |
| First Presbyterian Church of Tampa Bay - Learning How to Pray | Rev. Jofre Santiago (Portuguese) | 12              |

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

Last Sunday's Attendance: 128

Last Sunday's Offering: \$ 11,702.37

November 24, 2019 Offering: \$ 8,659.40

*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> | Randa Gravanti  | Donna Waugh      |

## *Children's Worship Volunteers*

|                 | <u><i>Teacher</i></u>  | <u><i>Helper</i></u>     |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Today:</i>   | <i>Kelly Fernandez</i> | <i>Sam Fernandez</i>     |
| <i>Dec. 15:</i> | <i>Jane Lambers</i>    | <i>Eleanor Fernandez</i> |
| <i>Dec. 22:</i> | <i>Jamie Dalton</i>    | <i>Rebecca Armstrong</i> |

## *Coffee Volunteers*

|                 |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| <i>Today:</i>   | <i>Glenda Williams</i> |
| <i>Dec. 15:</i> | <i>Carol Moberg</i>    |
| <i>Dec. 22:</i> | <i>Larry Dickey</i>    |

## *Nursery Volunteers*

|                 |                                          |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------|
| <i>Today:</i>   | <i>Shannon Pothoven/Raquel Fernandez</i> |
| <i>Dec. 15:</i> | <i>Jamie Dalton</i>                      |
| <i>Dec. 22:</i> | <i>Tami Lang</i>                         |

## *Fellowship Snacks*

|                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Next Week Dec. 15:</b><br><i>Therese McKenzie</i><br><i>Lisa Johnson</i><br><i>Kelly Melendi</i><br><i>Joan Hacquebord</i> | <b>Dec. 22:</b><br><i>Loretta Salgado</i><br><i>Glenda Williams</i><br><i>Andrea Cawley</i><br><i>Jane Lambers</i> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|