

# *Welcome!*

We welcome you in the name of Christ! Our website [ChristCentralPCA.org](http://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](mailto: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.
- 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.

# *Order for the Divine Service of Worship*

*December 20, 2020 - 11:00 AM*

*Fourth Sunday in Advent*

## **Prelude**

*Carol Medley*

*Arr. 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 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.

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

The Third Candle is the **shepherd’s candle.** We must recognize that we, like the shepherds, must come to Christ, believe in Him, and tell this good news to others.

# Welcome & Announcements

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

*The Randy Johnson Family*

The Fourth Candle is the **angel's candle**. It anticipates Christ's second coming and focuses on His finished work of salvation.

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26 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." 29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. 31 You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

*Luke 1:26-33*

### \*Hymn

Angels, from the Realms of Glory  
Hymn #218

### \*\*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**

<sup>8</sup> They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> Then the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup> He said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself." <sup>11</sup> And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" <sup>12</sup> The man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup> Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." <sup>14</sup> The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; on your belly you will go, and dust you will eat all the days of your life; <sup>15</sup> and I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel."

Genesis 3:8-15 NASB

**Leader:** The Word of the Lord

**People:** Thanks be to God

## **The Confession of Our Sins**

Mighty God, you came in weakness: forgive our grasping for power. Prince of Peace, you came in humility: forgive us for exalting ourselves. Everlasting Father, you came in poverty: forgive us for wanting more than others. Wonderful Counselor, you came in gentleness: forgive us for the anger we speak and the pain we cause. Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today: forgive us, heal us, make us new; we join the angels in singing your praises this Christmas and all the days to come.  
AMEN

## Assurance of Pardon

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

Romans 5:1

## The Second Scripture Lesson

Now I say, as long as the heir is a child, he does not differ at all from a slave although he is owner of everything, <sup>2</sup> but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by the father. <sup>3</sup> So also we, while we were children, were held in bondage under the elemental things of the world. <sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, <sup>5</sup> so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup> Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup> Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

Galatians 4:1-7 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.*

**Special Music**      *Soloist Russell Dostal*  
*Creator of the Stars of Night*

## The Third Scripture Lesson

<sup>26</sup> Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup> But she was very perplexed at this statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this was. <sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; <sup>33</sup> and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end." <sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup> The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup> And Mary said, "Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Luke 1:26-38 NASB

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

## \*\*The Offertory Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful  
Hymn #208

## \*\*Offertory Prayer of Dedication

*At the conclusion of the service, tithes and offerings can be placed in trays held by ushers as you exit from the sanctuary.*

## \*\*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.*

## The Message

*John K. Keen  
Senior Pastor*

### **\*\*Hymn**

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come  
Hymn #195

### **\*\*Benediction**

### Postlude

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

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

# Announcements

## Costa Rica Christmas Tree

We are excited to announce that we have begun the process of preparing for our service experience in Costa Rica. We had our first team meeting and training on December 6. As a kickoff fundraiser towards our goal of raising \$5000, we have set up a Christmas giving tree located in the lobby. If you would like to donate, please select an ornament with the desired amount on it and return the amount in the offering plate or send it to the church office. Please be sure to designate the funds to the Costa Rica Service Experience on any checks or to use an envelope with the same designation for cash. Thank you, church family, for all your support.

## Christmas Eve Worship Service

Please join us at **6:30 pm** on **Thursday, December 24** for our annual candlelight Christmas Eve Service.

## Church Office Hours

The church office will be closed the week of December 21 through December 26.

## Program Note Reminder

Just a reminder that CCPC will not have Sunday School on December 27 or January 3 due to the Christmas and New Year holidays. Morning worship will begin at its regular 11:00 am scheduled time.

## Unhanging of the Green

Please join us after worship on **Sunday, January 3** as we'll need quite a bit of help taking down the Advent decorations! A snack will be provided!

## End of Year Contributions

This is a reminder that for any contributions to count for 2020-tax year, they must be postmarked to the church by December 31, 2020. Also, if you are looking for alternative ways in giving, [pcafoundation.org](http://pcafoundation.org) is a resource that may interest you. For more information, please contact Tara Pilecki.

## Covid-19 Update (as of November 17, 2020)

### **Resuming In-Person Sunday School (Face masks still required)**

As your Session continues to study and prayerfully reevaluate our strategies to mitigate the threat of Covid-19 at our church gatherings, we have come to the decision at our November stated meeting to resume in-person Sunday School, beginning December 6, 2020!

The nursery will be open and classes will be offered for: Toddlers, Elementary, Middle School, High School as well as two Adult classes. See chart below for Sunday school topics and room assignments.

The Session will continue to regularly reevaluate our safety requirements. Until changes are made known, please adhere to the following requirements:

- While inside the building, all attendees are to wear a face mask, though teachers may be unmasked while teaching at the front of the room. We have a limited supply of masks available. If you do not have one, simply ask one of our ushers.
- We ask that all attendees adhere to social distancing while on the church campus.
- When sanctuary seating is at capacity, latecomers will be seated in the church lobby, which has a TV displaying the service.

If you are experiencing any symptoms or if you have been exposed to someone who has tested positive to the coronavirus, out of an abundance of caution, please refrain from attending.

***This Week at Christ Central***  
***December 20 – December 26***

**SUNDAY:** Sunday School, 9:30 am  
Morning Worship, 11:00am

**THURSDAY:** Christmas Eve Service, 6:30 pm

**CHRIST CENTRAL AT WORK AND WORSHIP**  
Last Sunday's Attendance: 102  
Last Sunday's Offering: 13,312.28

*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*

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

| Class/Grade                                            | Class Teacher(s) | Class Room      |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Ages 2-5/Toddlers - K                                  | Bev Thomson      | 6               |
| Ages 6-10 / 1 <sup>st</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> Grades   | Jane Lambers     | 8               |
| Middle School / 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade | Danny Dalton     | Rio Center      |
| High School / 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade  | Ben Lambers      | Rio Center      |
| Adult - Outreach                                       | Randy Johnson    | Fellowship Hall |
| Adult - Chosen By God                                  | Luis Salgado     | 15              |

# *December Birthdays & Anniversaries*

*Birthdays*