

# *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*

*November 28, 2021 - 11:00 AM*

*First Sunday of Advent*

## **Prelude**

*Advent Medley*

*By Gilliam/McCaskill*

*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.

## **Welcome & Announcements**

## **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

*Carol Moberg*

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

Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

*Isaiah 7:14*

## **\*\*Hymn**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor  
Hymn #235

## **\*\*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 First Scripture Lesson**

'Behold, days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will fulfill the good word which I have spoken concerning the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup> In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch of David to spring forth; and He shall execute justice and righteousness on the earth. <sup>16</sup> In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell in safety; and this is the name by which she will be called: the LORD is our righteousness.'

Jeremiah 33:14-16 NASB

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

## **The Confession of Our Sins**

*Most holy and merciful Father; we acknowledge and confess before Thee; our sinful nature prone to evil and slothful in good; and all our shortcomings and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned; in wandering from Your ways; in wasting Your gifts; in forgetting Your love. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us; who are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased Thee. Teach us to hate our sins; cleanse us from our secret faults; and forgive our sins for the sake of Thy dear Son. And O most holy and loving Father; help us, we ask Thee; to live in Thy light and walk in Thy ways; according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

— The Book of Common Worship, p. 12

## Assurance of Pardon

“Come now, let us reason together,’ says the Lord. ‘Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.”

Isaiah 1:18

## The Second Scripture Lesson

God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, <sup>2</sup>in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. <sup>3</sup>And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they.

Hebrews 1:1-4 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 Third Scripture Lesson

Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip was tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>in the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, the son of Zacharias, in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>And he came into all the district around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins; <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness, ‘Make ready the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.

*(Continued...)*

<sup>5</sup>‘Every ravine will be filled, and every mountain and hill will be brought low; the crooked will become straight, and the rough roads smooth; <sup>6</sup>and all flesh will see the salvation of God.’”

Luke 3:1-6 NASB

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

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

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Hymn #201

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

### **The Offertory**

*Mary, How Could You Have Known?*

*By Albrecht/Althouse*

*© 1999 Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.*

Mary, How could you have known  
That an angel would come and proclaim the holy birth,  
And you would be chosen to bring God's son to earth?  
Mary, How could you have known?

Mary, How could you have known  
That your child would be the Savior just as the prophets said,  
And that he would be born in a lowly manger bed?  
Mary, How could you have known?

Were you not bewildered, was it very strange?  
Did you ever wonder how your life would change?  
How could you be ready? How did you prepare?  
How could you imagine?  
Did you say a prayer?

Mary, How could you have known  
That your son would be Messiah and all the world behold  
That you would name him Jesus as angels had foretold?

Mary...  
How could you have known?

## 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

Once in Royal David's City

Hymn #225

(v. 1-2)

## \*\*The Great Thanksgiving *(Remain Standing)*

*The Sursum Corda*

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is good and right so to do.

**Pastor:** It is very good, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; eve more praising thee, and saying,

**Pastor and People:** Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

# The Words of Institution & The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*Wine is served in the outer most ring of the tray; Grape juice in the inner rings.*

*- Each row will be dismissed by one of our deacons in order to come forward to receive the elements.*

*- Please return to your seat with the bread and cup, as we will all partake together.*

## **\*\*Hymn**

Once in Royal David's City  
Hymn #225  
(v. 3-4)

## **\*\*Benediction**

## **\*\*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.*

## **Postlude**

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

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

## Announcements

### Congregational Meeting

Please make plans to attend our annual congregational meeting on **Sunday, December 12, immediately after the morning worship service.**

The purpose of this meeting is: 1) present the 2022 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*).

### Metropolitan Food Drive

The holiday season is upon us and Tampa is in need. Please help Metropolitan Ministries fill in the gap and share some joy this year. We will be taking donations of food, toys, gift cards and hygiene items for four weeks until **December 16<sup>th</sup>**. You can find out more information about specific needs at the Welcome Desk or by contacting Loretta Salgado.

### Nursery Volunteers Needed

We are blessed to have several new babies and toddlers attending our church! With this blessing, our nursery is in need of a few more volunteers. Would you prayerfully consider volunteering for this important ministry to our youngest congregants? Spending time with our “littles” is indeed a blessing! Please don’t let age or inexperience hinder you from serving - we have a young and experienced nursery worker that will always be with you to do the hard tasks. If you would like to serve in this ministry, please mark your Connection Card or contact Lisa Johnson to be added to the next schedule beginning in December. *Note: A background screening is required for all volunteers desiring to serve in the nursery or among children and youth.*

### Sweet Hour of Prayer

Please make plans to join us for our next congregational prayer meeting on Sunday, December 5. Once again we will have a potluck fellowship luncheon immediately after the worship service followed by a time of congregational prayer (starting shortly after 1:00 pm).



*This Week at Christ Central*  
*November 28 – December 4*

- SUNDAY:** Morning Worship, 11:00 am
- TUESDAY:** Women's Bible Study, 10:00 am  
Women's Zoom Bible Study, 7:30 pm
- WEDNESDAY:** Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm, Room 9

**CHRIST CENTRAL AT WORK AND WORSHIP**

Last Sunday's Attendance: 113  
Last Sunday's Offering: \$ 6,295.25

*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 2-3/Toddlers	Bev Thomson	6
Ages 4-5 / K4-K5 Grades	Lisa Johnson	5
Ages 6-10 / 1 <sup>st</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> Grades	Tami Lang	8
Middle School /High School 6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Ben Lambers	Rio Center
Adult - I & II Thessalonians	Bryan Toenes	13
Adult - Sermon on the Mount	Steve Strickland & Steve Pothoven	15

## *Volunteers*

### *Greeters / Ushers*

	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>
<u><i>Greeters:</i></u>	Nancy Burks	The Armstrong Family
<u><i>Ushers:</i></u>	Darby White Randy Johnson	Servy Fernandez Olanzo James

### *Nursery Volunteers*

<i>Today:</i>	<i>Raquel Fernandez</i>
<i>Dec. 5:</i>	<i>Randa Gravanti &amp; Tara Pilecki</i>
<i>Dec. 12:</i>	<i>Laura Strickland, Lisa Johnson, Tami Lang</i>

### *Fellowship Snacks*

<b>December 5:</b> <i>Judy Smith</i> <i>Randa Gravanti</i>	<b>December 12:</b> <i>Laura Strickland</i> <i>Lisa Johnson</i>	<b>December 19:</b> <i>Donna Waugh</i> <i>Cathy Armstrong</i>
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## *November Birthdays & Anniversaries*

### *Birthdays*