

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.

Order for the Divine Service of Worship

December 18, 2016 - 9:30 AM

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Please adjust all electronic communication devices so as not to disrupt the service.

Prelude

Ding Dong Merrily on High/He is Born
Anna Laura Page

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 Williams 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**

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

10 Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, 11 "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights." 12 But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test." 13 Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of men? Will you try the patience of my God also? 14 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. 15 He will eat curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right. 16 But before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste. 17 The LORD will bring on you and on your people and on the house of your father a time unlike any since Ephraim broke away from Judah-- he will bring the king of Assyria."

Isaiah 7:10-17

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

## The Confession of Our Sins

*"Jesus, for your name sake, do that which your name proclaims. Jesus, pardon the pride that pains you and look upon the unhappy one that calls upon your tender name—name of comfort, name of delight, and to sinners, name of blessed hope. For what does your name mean, Jesus, but Savior? Therefore, for your name's sake, be to me, Jesus, a merciful Savior."*

--Prayer of St. Augustine

## Assurance of Pardon

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

John 1:9

## The Second Scripture Lesson

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God-- 2 the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures 3 regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, 4 and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. 5 Through him and for his name's sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith. 6 And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. 7 To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 1:1-7

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

## 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

*Night of Silence by Daniel Kantor  
Arr. John Ferguson*

Cold are the people, winter of life, We tremble in shadows this cold  
endless night, Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping, Flowers that will  
echo the sunrise, Fire of hope is our only warmth, Weary, its flame  
will be dying soon.

Voice in the distance, call in the night, On wind you enfold us, you  
speak of the light, Gentle on the ear you whisper softly, Rumors of a  
dawn so embracing, Breathless love awaits darkened souls, Soon will  
we know of the morning.

Spirit among us, shine like the star, Your light that guides shepherds  
and Kings from afar, Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely, Rising in  
the warmth of your Son's love, Star unknowing of night and day,  
Spirit we wait for your loving Son.  
Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright Round yon Virgin  
Mother and Child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly  
peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

**THE CONGREGATION WILL SING SILENT NIGHT WHEN CUED.**

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright Round yon Virgin  
Mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly  
peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.**

## The Third Scripture Lesson

18 This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"--which means, "God with us." 24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25 But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Matthew 1:18-25

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

## \*\*The Offertory Hymn

Away in a Manger  
Hymn # 204

## \*\* Offertory Statement & Prayer of Dedication

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."

Malachi 3:10

## The Offertory

*Joy to the World*  
John Rutter

## \*\*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 Church in Rm. 8*

## **The Message**

*Rev. John K. Keen  
Senior Pastor*

## **\*\*Hymn**

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen  
Hymn # 211

## **\*Benediction**

## **Postlude**

*O Come, All Ye Faithful  
John Innes*

## *Announcements*

### **Christmas Eve Worship Service**

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

### **Exploring Church Membership Class**

We will be offering an *Exploring Church Membership* class beginning Sunday, **January 8, 2017**. Please mark your connection card if you would like to attend or learn more. **Note:** Attending this class is required for membership at CCPC. However, taking this class does not obligate anyone toward membership. It's a great way to learn more about the gospel, our church, and the specific vision we are working to accomplish.

### **Save the Date!**

There will be a church work day on Saturday, **January 28** from 9 am – noon. Please plan to join us!

### *This Week at Christ Central*

*December 18 – December 24*

- SUNDAY:** Morning Worship, 9:30 am  
Coffee and Conversation, 10:30 am  
Sunday School, 11:00 am
- TUESDAY:** Ladies' Bible Study (Tietjen home), 10:00 am
- WEDNESDAY:** Choir Practice (Rm 9), 7:30 pm
- FRIDAY:** Senior Group (Library), 10:00 am
- SATURDAY:** Christmas Eve Service, 6:30 pm



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

| <b>Class/Grade</b>                                     | <b>Class Teacher(s)</b>      | <b>Class Room</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Ages 2-3/Toddlers                                      | Bev Thomson                  | 6                 |
| Ages 4-7 / K4/K5 -2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade                | Connie Trim & Diane Keen     | 3                 |
| Ages 8-10 /3 <sup>rd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade     | Kelly Fernandez & Gail Chang | 8                 |
| Middle School / 6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade | Gregg Quick                  | Rio Center        |
| High School / 9th -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade              | Danny Dalton                 | Rio Center        |
| Adult - The Lord's Prayer                              | Ben Lambers                  | 15                |
| Adult - Life and Writings of C.S. Lewis                | Joe DeNitto                  | 14                |
| Adult - Hebrews                                        | Randy Johnson                | 13                |

## *December Birthdays & Anniversaries*

# Volunteers

## *Greeters / Ordained Officer*

|                                 | <u>December</u> | <u>January</u>       |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| <u><i>Greeters:</i></u>         | Bryan Toenes    | The 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>Hannah Johnson</i> | <i>Patrick Chang</i> |
| <i>Dec. 25:</i> | <i>Jamie Dalton</i>   | <i>Kaela Dalton</i>  |

## *Coffee Volunteers*

|                 |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Today:</i>   | <i>Glenda Williams</i>  |
| <i>Dec. 25:</i> | <i>Provided by CCPC</i> |

## *Nursery Volunteers*

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <i>Today:</i>   | <i>Geena Lang</i>                         |
| <i>Dec. 25:</i> | <i>Nursery Closed/Please use Cry Room</i> |
| <i>Jan. 1:</i>  | <i>Hannah Johnson</i>                     |

## *Fellowship Snacks*

|                                    |                         |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <u><i>Next Week - Dec. 25:</i></u> | <u><i>Jan. 1:</i></u>   |
| <i>Provided by CCPC</i>            | <i>Laura Strickland</i> |
|                                    | <i>Marsha Craig</i>     |
|                                    | <i>Jamie Dalton</i>     |
|                                    | <i>Judy Wildeboer</i>   |