

Charles Town Presbyterian Church  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 20, 2020

10:30am

Prelude

*"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"*

arr. Hal Leonard

Welcome and Invocation

Lighting of Fourth Advent Candle

Responsive Reading

Psalm 89:1-4

I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;  
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.  
**For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever;  
in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."**  
You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn to David my servant:  
**'I will establish your offspring forever,  
and build your throne for all generations.'**"

Prayer

Pastor John

Hymn/Song

*"O Come, All Ye Faithful"* (vs. 1, 3, 4)  
O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

*(Refrain) O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him:  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!*

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! (Refrain)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! (Refrain)

(TEXT: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, alt., MUSIC: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906)

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

An angel spoke to Mary: "Do not be afraid!" And yet, O Lord, we find ourselves paralyzed by fear of what we do not know. Forgive us of our sins, O Lord, and give us the faith to respond to your grace with lives of grateful praise. Let us hear the good news that she first heard: Light is breaking. Love is coming. The world is about to turn!

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon...

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel,  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

Response to Confession      *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”* (vs. 1)  
Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.  
(TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744; MUSIC: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1830; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906)

Special Music                      *“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”*                      arr. Anna Laura Page  
Bell Quartet: Debbie Huntoon-Gregory, Marsha Dibbern, Signe Garms, Lazan Rogers

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer and Prayer of Thanksgiving  
**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.

Sung Response                      *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”* (vs. 2)  
Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.  
(TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744; MUSIC: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1830; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906)

Scripture                                      2 Samuel 7:1-13  
Message                                      *“Promises, Promises”*                                      Pastor John

Song    *“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*(vs. 1,3)  
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king,  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”  
(TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.; MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; arr. William Hayman Cummings, 1855)

Benediction  
Brothers and sisters, as the Church of Jesus Christ, go from this place...  
**Knowing Christ, growing in God’s love, and serving as  
the Holy Spirit leads.**

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## **Christmas Eve Worship**

On Christmas Eve, we will be worshipping virtually via our church Facebook page

### **5:00pm - Story Time with Pastor John**

This will be a short time (approximately 10-15 minutes) for children. Pastor John will share the Christmas story and pray with the children.

### **7:00pm Christmas Worship**

We will worship at 7pm, with lessons, carols, special music, messages from Pastor John and celebration of the Lord's Supper. Please have communion elements ready for that part of the service.

Both of these services are available live at the times noted. If those times are not convenient, the services will be available for viewing any time after the live broadcast. Even if you don't have a Facebook account, you can click on the link below. Facebook will ask you if you want to start your own account. If you don't want to do that, you can easily bypass that info and then get right to the church page.

<https://www.facebook.com/CharlesTownPresbyterian>

## ***Virtual Poinsettias***

### ***...in loving memory of:***

Leo & Edna Kisner by their family.  
Marlene Kisner & Leo Kisner, Jr. by their family.  
Angela Camilletti by Sandy Camilletti Snook and family.  
Larry Bowser, Sr. by Sandy Camilletti Snook and family.  
Nancy Hunt Bowser by Sandy Camilletti Snook and family.  
Pat Snook by Roger Snook and family.  
Robert & Sally Saylor by Dennis and Marsha Dibbern.  
Robert & Iris Dibbern by Dennis and Marsha Dibbern.  
Bill Harner by Janet Harner.  
Raymond Frazier by Noah Portrey.  
Bill & Mary Liz Coyle, Tom & Nancy Coyle, & Mary Elinor Huyett  
by Anne Portrey and Noah Portrey.  
Jessy LaRue by Penny Liston.  
Adam Stevens by Penny Liston.  
Pat & Evelyn Grant by Patsy White, Linda Snyder and Carolyn Lane.  
Friz & Ginny Dorsey by Patsy White, Linda Snyder and Carolyn Lane.  
David Shue by Kathy Shue.  
Betty Ann & C.F. Wall by Susan Wall.  
Shirley Knott and Jane Howard Alger by the Ishman and Duncan Families.  
Kenna Knott Alger Travel by the Ishman and Duncan Families.  
Robert and Lavigne Ishman by the Ishman and Duncan Families.

### ***...in honor of:***

Ceil Frazier, Penny Liston and Jack Huyett by Anne Portrey and Noah Portrey.  
Pastor John by Anne Portrey and Noah Portrey.  
All who lift their voices, bells, and instruments to the glory of God through music ministry by Penny Liston.  
Bettye Mason by Doug & Julia McDonough.  
Shirley Ferguson by Doug & Julia McDonough.  
Jane Groves by Doug & Julia McDonough.  
Larry & Nancy Lloyd by Doyle and Sharon Criswell.

The funds collected from this ministry will be given to Jefferson County Community Ministries to be used to help the many families who are experiencing economic difficulty because of the effects of the pandemic.



**Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup>**, worship will be a joint worship produced by the ministers and congregations of Shenandoah Presbytery. The video will air at the regular time of 10:30am.

**Annual Meeting.** Since we will be worshipping virtually through mid-January at least, the session agreed to hold our annual meeting via zoom. We will hear reports from all committees, answer questions about 2021 ministry funding, and review the pastor's terms of call for 2021.

Here is the Zoom information: Time: Jan 10, 2021 11:45 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

<https://zoom.us/j/94251222796?pwd=N1BsNlAzMjZmNEt5ZWNBbFRCVkrvUT09> Meeting ID: 942 5122 2796 Passcode: CTPC21

**Christmas Joy Offering.** Because of your generous gifts of \$942.00 in 2019, the Presbyterian Mission Agency was able to help provide brighter educational opportunities for students at historically Presbyterian racial ethnic schools and colleges, a longstanding tradition of the church. Gifts to the offering also supported the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, a fund that stands in the gap to assist retired church leaders and their survivors in difficult times. Together, they make the Christmas Joy Offering a tribute to the leaders of our church—past and present. Offerings can be mail to church office or you may give online at <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org>. If you send your Christmas Joy offering to the church, please note on memo line: Joy Offering.



**Christmas Eve Offering.** This offering will go to support local missions work. You may mail your offering to the church office at CTPC, PO Box 89, Charles Town, WV 25414. Please note on memo line: Christmas Eve. Thank you for your generosity.

**Online Giving.** Online giving helps you to bring your offering before God. In addition to the no-fee Facebook donations and nominal fee Paypal service, we set up online giving through the Presbyterian Foundation. **Money donated via any of these services gets deposited to our church bank account.** By going through the Foundation, the fee they charge actually helps the mission of their organization, which is to help Presbyterian churches to be excellent stewards of their gifts and resources. The exciting part about working with the foundation is that we are able to use a mobile app that is connected to our account. The app is called Give Plus (created by Vanco) and you can find it at the Google Play Store if you have an android device or you may find the app in the Apple app store by searching for "Give Plus." The great part about the Give Plus app is that you can set up for weekly, monthly or one time giving! If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you.

**For electronic giving, please scan here:**

