



GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11100 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS 66210 ♦ 913-345-1256 ♦ gcpc.org

Service of Worship
The First Sunday After Christmas Day

December 30, 2018

10am

Gathering all People in a Caring Christian Community

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please sign and pass the Grace Greetings books at this time.)

INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We are here because we have heard a promise of peace, and we have faith its day will come.

ALL: We have heard a rumor of justice, and we have faith its day will come.

ONE: We have heard a whisper of hope, and we have faith its day will come.

ALL: We have heard a hint of love, and we have faith its day will come.

ONE: We have heard of the birth of the Christ-child, and we have faith his day is here.

THE LIGHTING OF THE WREATH — RESPONSIVE LITANY

ONE: God of all humanity, you offered your peace to anyone who would be satisfied with your Presence.
(the first candle is lit as the people say...)

ALL: We celebrate your peace in your Church and accept your commission to share it in all the world.

ONE: God of the shepherds, you announced your arrival among us to the poorest, the most humble.
(the second candle is lit as the people say...)

ALL: We celebrate your good news to each of us and to everyone, right here where we are.

ONE: God of the manger, you came to us through your son in a small and simple place.
(the third candle is lit as the people say...)

ALL: We celebrate your presence with us this day in this small place made glorious by your being in it.

ONE: God of deliverance, you came to be one of us in order to deliver all of us.
(the fourth candle is lit as the people say...)

ALL: We celebrate your protection and mercy toward all who are sick or in trouble.

ONE: God of birth, when you became as we are, you opened yourself to each of us, no matter who or what we are.
(the Christ candle is lit as the people say...)

ALL: God of Christmas, bless us as we once again celebrate your coming into your creation. Amen.

*HYMN SING *(an opportunity to sing your favorite hymns of the season)*

COME AS A CHILD

Sing 114, v. 3

“Away in a Manger”

Be near me, Lord Jesus;

I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray.

Bless all the dear children in thy tender care;

and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(spoken together)*

We believe in Jesus Christ; God born among us as a fragile baby, embodying both love and the need for love, and calling us to rest in God as trustingly as a tiny child. We believe in the reconciliation of the world to God, through Christ. Hunted at birth and humiliated at death, Christ entered our fearful darkness so that we might enter his glorious light and share the life of his resurrection. And we believe that each new child is a glimpse of the face of God, a sign of the life to come, and a call to live in peace and celebrate living together.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the peace of Christ be with you and everyone.

All: And also with you and all others!

(Let us greet one another with expressions of Jesus' love.)

*HYMN 148 “Mary and Joseph Came to the Temple” EVENING HYMN

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND SILENT PRAYER

*Equipping People to Develop and
Share a Faith that Works in Real Life*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Luke 2:21-35, 36-40 Rick Randolph
(New Testament, Page 59)

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words,
Thanks be to God!

SERMON “A Holy Family of Faith” Rev. Sue Trigger

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

Sending People to Serve Christ in the World

*HYMN 136 “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” GO TELL IT

*CHARGE AND BEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**If convenient/able, please stand.*

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