



# COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA

The Lord's Day  
December 31, 2023

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 31, 2023

## Preparation for Worship

**Music for Gathering**

**Announcements**

**Scripture for Meditation**

Colossians 3:1-3

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

**Silent Prayer of Preparation**

## God Calls Us Into His Presence

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† **Salutation**

Pastor: We are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the LORD

People: **Who made heaven and earth.**

Psalm 124:8

**Call to Worship**

**Psalm 95:1-3**

## We Respond to God's Call

†\* **Hymn of Praise, No. 181**

*We Come, O Christ, to You*

**Congregational Response: Amen!**

† **Prayer of Adoration**

## God Cleanses Us of Our Sins

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**Call to Confession**

1 John 1:8

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**We Confess Our Sins** (congregation kneels as able)

**All:** Holy and merciful God, in Your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against You. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease You. Forgive our sins and help us to live in Your light and walk in Your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

[Silent prayer of personal confession] **Amen.**

† **Assurance of Pardon** 1 John 1:9  
If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

### **We Respond to God's Declaration of Forgiveness**

† **The Gloria Patri** (with hands lifted)

*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.*

†\* **Hymn of Praise, No. 469** *How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place*

**Congregational Response: Amen!**

### **God Consecrates us By His Word**

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#### **Prayer for Illumination**

#### **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 6:1-8

#### **Congregational Response**

Elder: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

† **Psalm 133** Tune: TRYGGARE VAN INGEN VARA, *Children of the Heavenly Father*

Be-hold, how sweet, how pleasant,  
When the brethren dwell together;  
All in unity abiding  
Find God's blessing there presiding.

Like the precious oil of blessing  
Flowing down on Aaron's vestment,  
God's anointing rests forever  
Where His people dwell forever.

Like the dew of Hermon's fountain  
Falling down on Zion's mountain,  
So the blessings of the Savior  
Dwells where unity finds favor.

**Congregational Response: Amen!**

† **New Testament Reading** **Revelation 1:9-20**

† **Congregational Response** Romans 15:4

Pastor: For whatever things were written before were written for our learning,

**People: that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.**

**Sermon**

**"Seeing Jesus"**

### **We Respond to God's Instruction**

† **Affirmation of Faith** *The Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty  
Maker of heaven and earth,

of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered and was buried;  
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
and He shall come again, with glory,  
to judge both the living and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together  
is worshiped and glorified;  
who spoke by the prophets;  
and we believe in one holy catholic\* and apostolic church;  
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;  
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*\*catholic=universal*

† **Prayer of Supplication and Intercession**

† **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.**

**Giving of Tithes and Offerings**

† **Doxology, No. 731**

(with hands lifted)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise Him all creatures here below;*

*Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;*

*Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen*

## God Communes with Us at His Table

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### The Communion

**Eucharistic Meditation and Fencing of the Table**

**Distribution of the Bread and Communion in the Body of Christ**

**Hymn:** *Behold the Lamb*, verses 1 and 2 (printed in bulletin)

**Distribution of the Cup and Communion in the Blood of Christ**

**Hymn:** *Behold the Lamb*, verses 3 and 4 (printed in bulletin)

**Prayer**

### We Respond to God's Gift

† **Hymn of Commitment, No. 642**  
**Congregational Response: Amen!**

*Be Thou My Vision*

### God Commissions Us to Go Into the World

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† **Charge**

† **Benediction**

### We Respond to God's Charge

† **Threefold Amen, No. 740**

All Scripture readings are from the NEW KING JAMES VERSION © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Assistive listening devices are available for use during worship services. Please inquire at the sound booth.

# Behold The Lamb

Words and Music by  
Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty  
and Stuart Townend

## VERSE

G2/B A/C# D Em7 D/F# A D/F# G2

1. Be hold the Lamb who bears our sins a - way, slain for us:  
2. The bod - y of our Sav - iour, Je - sus Christ, torn for you:  
3. The blood that cleans - es ev - 'ry stain of sin, shed for you:  
4. And so with thank - ful - ness and faith we rise to re - spond

D/A A7sus A7 G2/B A/C# D Em7 D/F# A D/F#

And we re - mem - ber the prom - ise made that all who come in faith find for -  
Eat and re - mem - ber the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life, paid the  
Drink and re - mem - ber He drained death's cup that all may en - ter in to re -  
and to re - mem - ber our call to fol - low in the steps of Christ as His

G2 A7sus A7 D D/F# G2 D2/F# Gmaj7 A2 D/F# G2

give - ness at the cross. So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His  
price to make us one. So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His  
ceive the life of God. So, we share in this Bread of Life, and we drink of His  
bod - y here on earth. As we share in His suf - fer - ing, we - proclaim: Christ will

Behold The Lamb - 2

D2/F# G2 A D/F# G2 D2/F# Gmaj7 A7sus G2/B Gmaj7 A7

sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of peace a - round the ta - ble of the  
sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of love a - round the ta - ble of the  
sac - ri - fice, as a sign of our bonds of grace a - round the ta - ble of the  
come a - gain! And we'll join in the feast of heav'n a - round the ta - ble of the

## TURNAROUND / OUTRO

D2 D2/G D2 D2/G D2

King.  
King.  
King.  
King.

