

The Lord's Service

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025



COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PCA

Post Tenebras Lux

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Dan Fuller Family

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION: 1 Corinthians 1:4-9

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

SILENT PRAYER

GOD CALLS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

† SALUTATION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you!

Ruth 2:4

And also with you!

† CALL TO WORSHIP: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-8

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

†* HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 196: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

† PRAYER OF ADORATION

GOD CLEANSSES US OF OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION: Romans 13:11-14

Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

CORPORATE CONFESSION: (kneel as able)

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, we excuse our sins, and we fail to love our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

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

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† THE PEACE

† 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. 203: “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

GOD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-9

The grass withers, the flower fades,

But the Word of our God will stand forever!

Isaiah 40:8

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Philippians 1:3-11 (sermon text)

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

† **PSALM 98, NO. 16:** “Come, Let Us Sing unto the Lord”

† **GOSPEL READING:** Matthew 24:36-44

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Praise be to you, O Christ!

PREACHING OF GOD’S WORD:

So That

NOTES:

1. Thanksgiving (vv. 3-8)

2. Intercession (vv. 9-11)

† **CONFESSION OF FAITH:** 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 INTERCESSION

OFFERTORY

† DOXOLOGY (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

+ SURSUM CORDA

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

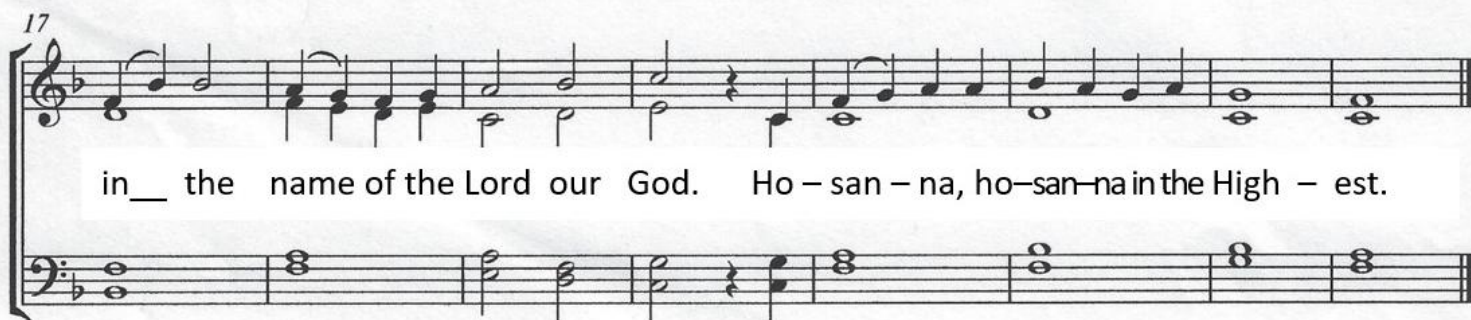
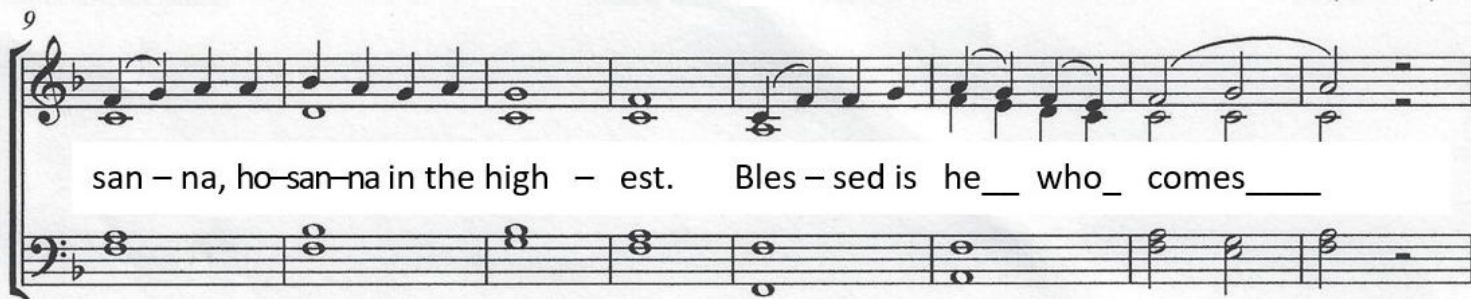
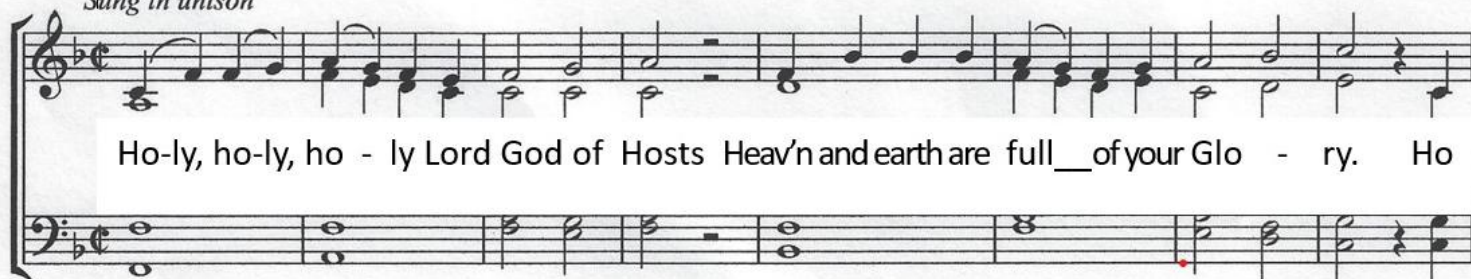
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and good, and a joyful thing, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with angels and arch angels and with all the company of heaven we praise and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing ...

+ SANCTUS

Sung in unison



† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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.

EUCCHARISTIC MEDITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Distribution of the Bread and Communion in the Body of Christ

Communion Meditation Silence

Distribution of the Cup and Communion in the Blood of Christ

Communion Song, NO. 230: "Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor"

PRAYER OF BLESSING

GOD COMMISSIONS US TO GO INTO THE WORLD

† HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 207: "Good Christian Men, Rejoice"

† BENEDICTION: 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

† THREE-FOLD AMEN

† POSTLUDE