

# Order of Worship

## December 25, 2022

### Prelude

*“God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”*

### Welcome & Announcements

### Preparation for Worship

*Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.*  
(Isaiah 60:3 ESV)

### Call to Worship

Pastor: Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

**People: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.**

Pastor: And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

**ALL: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!**

*(Luke 2:10-14 ESV)*

### Invocation

### Praise and Adoration

#### Angels From The Realms Of Glory

Angels from the realms of glory / Wing your flight o'er all the earth  
Ye who sang creation's story / Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

*(Chorus) Come and worship come and worship  
Worship Christ the newborn King.*

Shepherds in the field abiding / Watching o'er your flocks by night  
God with us is now residing / Yonder shines the infant light.

Sages, leave your contemplations / Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations / Ye have seen his natal star.

All creation join in praising / God the Father, Spirit, Son  
Evermore your voices raising / To the eternal Three in One.

*“Angels From The Realms Of Glory” | Henry Thomas Smart |  
James Montgomery | © Public Domain*

#### The First Noel

The first Noel, the angel did say,  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*(Chorus) Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Israel!*

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
Who hath made heaven and earth of naught  
And with his blood our life hath bought.

*“The First Noel”  
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### Scripture Reading

*But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.*

*(Galatians 4:4-7 ESV)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

#### Joy Has Dawned

Joy has dawned upon the world / Promised from creation;  
God's salvation now unfurled / Hope for ev'ry nation.  
Not with fanfares from above / Not with scenes of glory;  
But a humble gift of love / Jesus born of Mary.

Sounds of wonder fill the sky / With the songs of angels  
As the mighty Prince of Life / Shelters in a stable.  
Hands that set each star in place / Shaped the earth in darkness;  
Cling now to a mother's breast / Vulnerable and helpless.

Shepherds bow before the Lamb / Gazing at the glory;  
Gifts of men from distant lands / Prophecy the story.  
Gold, a King is born today / Incense, God is with us;  
Myrrh, His death will make a way / By His blood He'll win us.

Son of Adam, Son of heaven / Given as a ransom;  
Reconciling God and man / Christ our mighty Champion.  
What a Savior, what a Friend / What a glorious mystery;  
Once a babe in Bethlehem / Now the Lord of history.

*“Joy Has Dawned”  
Keith Getty | Stuart Townend  
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### Corporate Prayer: The Gift of Gifts

*Used with permission from the Banner of Truth*

Pastor: O SOURCE OF ALL GOOD, What shall I render to thee  
for the gift of gifts, thine own dear Son, begotten, not  
created, my Redeemer, proxy, surety, substitute, his  
self-emptying incomprehensible, his infinity of love beyond  
the heart's grasp.

**People: Herein is wonder of wonders: he came below to raise me  
above, was born like me that I might become like him.**

Pastor: Herein is love; when I cannot rise to him he draws near on  
wings of grace, to raise me to himself.

**People: Herein is power; when Deity and humanity were  
infinitely apart he united them in indissoluble unity, the  
uncreated and the created.**

Pastor: Herein is wisdom; when I was undone, with no will to  
return to him, and no intellect to devise recovery, he came,  
God-incarnate, to save me to the uttermost, as man to die  
my death, to shed satisfying blood on my behalf, to work  
out a perfect righteousness for me.

**People: O God, take me in spirit to the watchful shepherds, and  
enlarge my mind;**

Pastor: Let me hear good tidings of great joy, and hearing, believe,  
rejoice, praise, adore, my conscience bathed in an ocean  
of repose,

**People: My eyes uplifted to a reconciled Father; place me with ox,  
ass, camel, goat, to look with them upon my Redeemer's  
face, and in him account myself delivered from sin;**

Pastor: Let me with Simeon clasp the new-born child to my heart,  
embrace him with undying faith,

**People: Exulting that he is mine and I am his.**

Pastor: In him thou hast given me so much that heaven can give  
no more.

### Offertory

*“The Holly and the Ivy”*

### Preaching of the Word

*Rev. Wilson A. Shirley, Senior Pastor*

*“REJOICE! What Happened After Jesus Was Born?”*

*Matthew 2:1-12*

## Song of Response

### Go Tell It on the Mountain

(Chorus) *Go tell it on the mountain/Over the hills and everywhere!  
Go tell it on the mountain/That Jesus Christ is born!*

While shepherds kept their watching/Over silent flocks by night  
Behold throughout the heavens/There shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled/When lo above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus/That hailed the Savior's birth.

Down in a lowly manger/The humble Christ was born  
And God sent us salvation/That blessed Christmas morn.

"Go Tell It On The Mountain"  
John W. Work Jr. | Words & Music: Public Domain

## Benediction

### God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

*God rest ye merry, gentlemen/Let nothing you dismay  
Remember Christ our Saviour/Was born on Christmas Day  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r/When we were gone astray.*

(Chorus) *O tidings of comfort and joy  
Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy*

*From God our heavenly Father/A blessed angel came  
And unto certain shepherds/Brought tidings of the same  
How that in Bethlehem was born/The Son of God by name.*

*Fear not then said the angel/Let nothing you affright  
This day is born a Saviour/Of a pure virgin bright  
To free all those who trust in Him/From Satan's pow'r and might.*

*The shepherds at those tidings/Rejoiced much in mind,  
And left their flocks feeding/In tempest, storm and wind  
And went to Bethlehem straightway/The Son of God to find.*

"God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" | Public Domain

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Guest** - Welcome to Cornerstone Presbyterian Church. We are glad you are here! If you would like more information about our church and its ministries, please fill out the "Connect Card" and visit our website. Another great way to connect is through Sunday School. There are classes for all ages at 9:45am.

**Connect Cards** - Please take a "Connect Card" from the chair pocket in front of you, fill out one per family and place in the collection plate.

**Church Office Holiday Schedule** - The church office will be closed December 26-30th.

**New Year's Day** - We will have worship services at 8:30am and 11am. Sunday School classes will not be held, but will resume Sunday, January 8th.

**Year-End Giving** - Please remember that in order for your contributions to be posted this year they will need to be postmarked by Saturday, December 31st.

**Women's Bible Study** - Join us beginning Tuesday, January 17th, as we resume our study of Exodus (Chapters 19-40) using Jen Wilkin's God of Freedom material. Please see forthcoming communication regarding instructions for registration and book orders. Stay tuned for more information about FOUNDATIONS Wednesday night bible study.

**Youth Roots Retreat** - January 20-22 at Camp ToKnow Him. Please email Pastor Brian with questions at [brian@cornerstonehuntsville.org](mailto:brian@cornerstonehuntsville.org)

**Men's Ministry** - Save the Date for Men's Retreat at the Vision February 24-25.

**Abounding** - Visit [cornerstoneabounding.org](http://cornerstoneabounding.org) to learn more about the Abounding initiative.

**Join the Good News Club Team** - Cornerstone is forming a team to launch a GNC at Blossomwood elementary. Information and sign up is located in the gathering room!

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Pray for church members caring for family** - Lora Abernathy, Diana Akridge, Bryan Gassaway, Rick McCann, Randy Petcher, Mike Bayless, Bill and JoAnn Sneed, and Kyle Mosier.

**Pray for healing** - Mary Allen Junen, Matthew Lawrence, Wendorfs, Phil Freeze, Gayle Ricks, Lauren Davenport, Sharon Ibsen, and Bob Boerner.

**Pray for our nursing home resident** - Ruby Petcher

**Pray for our expectant mothers** - The Kawell adoption.

**Pray** that the Lord would raise up an assistant pastor to serve at Cornerstone.

**Pray for our Missional Partnerships** - Adair Evans (Missionary to Germany) and Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Athens, AL (Pastor Jeff Hooker).



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DECEMBER 25, 2022

CHRISTMAS DAY

*What Happened After Jesus Was Born?*

MATTHEW 2:1-12