



Advent is a season of both quiet reflection and joyful expectation. This service is intended to be a time of spiritual preparation, as we watch and wait for the coming of the Kingdom of God. Through our experience of sacred Word and music, the story of the coming of Christ gradually unfolds and deepens our understanding of God's message of love and redemption. May these words and this music propel you quietly toward the true joy of Christmas.

ADVENT



**December 12, 2021
8:30 & 10:45 AM**

*Welcome to Crestwood!
We are glad you have joined us for worship.
We hope your time with us is meaningful and that you return soon.*

Our Vision

Connecting People to God and Each Other

Our Mission

Crestwood Christian Church connects people to God and each other
by being a community that welcomes and accepts all people;
invites questions about how faith and life intersect;
encourages people to take the next step in their spiritual journey;
cares for each other and the stranger;
and serves God through serving others.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 12, 2021

8:30 & 10:45 AM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you are visiting with us, we'd love to hear from you. And if you have a prayer concern, we will be glad to add it to our prayer list. Please fill out the Connection Card on the back of the pew in front of you or contact the church office for more information.

PRELUDE

Prepare the Way, O Zion

arr. David Schelat

We invite you to use this time for quiet prayer and preparation for worship.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Long ago the people were given a sign of God's presence.

All: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us."

Leader: God's promise to us remains sure and true. God's Anointed One will soon walk among us to lighten our darkness, to restore the joy of our salvation, to save us from our sins.

*HYMN 119

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (v. 3)

VENI EMMANUEL

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY

Patty and Berkeley Hollingsworth (8:30 AM)

Susie and Kerry Jolliffe (10:45 AM)

CHILDREN'S TIME (10:45 AM only)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERTORY

A Lute Carol

Mary E. Caldwell

Jazmin Salaberrios, soprano

*What sweeter musick can we bring,
Than a Carol, for to sing The Birth of this our heav'nly King?
Awake the Voice, Awake the String!
Heart, Eare, and Eye, and everything Awake!
The Darling of the world is come, And fit it is, we finde a roome
To welcome Him, To do Him honour, who's our King and Lord
Of all this Rejoicing!*

*What sweeter musick can we bring,
Than a Carol, for to sing The Birth of this our Heav'nly King?
Awake the Voice! Awake the String! Awake the String!*

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

God comforts His people; preparation for redemption

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

**Please stand as you are able.*

*The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green;
 the trees of nature fruitless be, compar'd with Christ the apple-tree.
 This beauty doth all things excel, by faith I know, but ne'er can tell
 the glory which I now can see, in Jesus Christ the apple-tree.
 For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought;
 I miss'd of all, but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple-tree.
 This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive;
 which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple-tree.
 I'm weary'd with my former toil, here I will sit and rest a while;
 under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple-tree.*

THE SECOND LESSON**Baruch 4:36-5:9**

God's children are gathered from west and east; Jerusalem is assured of help

Look toward the east, O Jerusalem, and see the joy that is coming to you from God. Look, your children are coming, whom you sent away; they are coming, gathered from east and west, at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God. Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

*Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins,
 Who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be.
 Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God.
 Who was and is and is to come; sing holy, holy, Lord!
 Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
 For Christ is coming, is coming soon, for Christ is coming soon!
 E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more;
 They need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their All!*

THE THIRD LESSON**Jeremiah 23:5-6**

I will raise up a righteous branch for David

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

*Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee?
 Gave thee life, and bid thee feed by the stream and o'er the mead;
 Gave thee clothing of delight, softest clothing, woolly, bright;
 Gave thee such a tender voice, making all the vales rejoice?
 Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee?
 Little Lamb, I'll tell thee, Little Lamb, I'll tell thee;
 He is called by thy name, for he calls himself a Lamb.
 He is meek, and he is mild, he became a little child.
 I a child, and thou a lamb, we are called by his name.
 Little lamb, God bless thee. Little lamb, God bless thee.*

THE FOURTH LESSON**Isaiah 7:10-14***The Lord will give a sign; virgin will conceive and will name him Emmanuel*

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel."

CAROL**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel****Alice Parker/Robert Shaw**

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
O come, Thou Day Spring come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
O come, Thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

THE FIFTH LESSON**Isaiah 11:1-10***A shoot comes out of root of Jesse; lion lies down with lamb*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

CAROL**Creation Will Be at Peace****Anna Laura Page**

*In the holy mountain of the Lord all war and strife will cease;
In the holy mountain of the Lord creation will be at peace.
The wolf will lie down with the lamb, the cow and bear will feed,
Their young will play together; a little child will lead, a little child will lead.
In the holy mountain of the Lord all war and strife will cease;
In the holy mountain of the Lord creation will be at peace.
The leopard and goat will graze, the lion will feed on straw.
They will war no more, they will war no more;
A child will lead them all, will lead them all.
In the holy mountain of the Lord all war and strife will cease;
In the holy mountain of the Lord creation will be at peace.*

THE SIXTH LESSON**Mark 1:1-15***John the Baptist proclaims the One to come*

In the beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was

coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

HYMN 136

Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming

PLEADING SAVIOR

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14-18

The Lord will be among us; rejoice and sing

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

CAROL

In dulci jubilo

Matthew Culloton

*Dulci jubilo, dulci jubilo, dulci jubilo, dulci jubilo,
In duci jubilo, Let us our homage show, Our heart's joy reclineth In praesepio,
And like a bright star shineth Matris in gremio.
Alpha es et O, Alpha es et O.
O Jesu parvule! I yearn for thee alway! Hear me, I beseech thee, O Puer optime!
My pray'r let it reach thee, O Princeps gloriae;
Trahe me post te, Trahe me post te.
O Patris caritas! Nati lenitas! Deeply were we stained, Per nostra crimina;
But thou hast for us gained Coelorum gaudia!
O that we were there, O that we were there!
Ubi sunt gaudia, Where, if they be not there?
There are angels singing Nova cantica!
And there the bells are ringing In Regin curia.
Ding, Dong, Ding, Dong,
O that we were there, O that we were there!
In dulci jubilo, in dulci jubilo! In dulci jubilo, in dulci jubilo!*

THE EIGHTH LESSON

Micah 5:2-4

From Bethlehem shall come a ruler

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathat, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

CAROL

Salvation Is Created

Pavel Tschesnokoff

*Salvation is created, salvation is created.
We praise your holy name, O God, O Lord, our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

THE NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

Mystery of the Incarnation

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

CAROL

O Magnum Mysterium

Morten Lauridsen

*O magnum mysterium
Et admirabile sacramentum
Ut animalia viderent Dominum
Natum, acentum in praesepio!
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera
Meruerunt portare
Dominum Christum. Alleluia!*

*O great mystery,
and wondrous sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn
Lord, lying in their manger!
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb
was worthy to bear the
Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION FROM SCRIPTURE

COMMUNION

In dulci jubilo

Marcel Dupré

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

***HYMN 129**

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

TRURO

***THE ADVENT BLESSING**

May God's light, our Lord Jesus Christ, be our armor and protection, give us grace to cast away the words of darkness, and guide us into the way of peace, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

POSTLUDE

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

J.S. Bach

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Elders

8:30 AM John Royse
10:45 AM Joan Stafford

Liturgists

8:30 AM Dabney Parker
10:45 AM Katherine Steckler

Advent Sermon Series:

The Promises of Christmas

The power of the Christmas season is that it is pregnant with the promises of Emmanuel, the hope that God will become one of us and show us in new ways God's transformative power. How might Christmas be different for us this year if we look back at those promises and what they mean for us today? For our Advent sermon series, we'll be looking at the word of the prophets about the coming of Jesus, and how those promises can change our understanding of the challenges of this world. Join us for Advent as we lean into God's promises and await the birth of the Christ Child!

Next Sunday

Sermon:
The Promise of Light
Rev. Kory Wilcoxson
Isaiah 11

SRO On the Road Again

Tuesday, December 14, 1:00 PM

Lights Under Louisville

All Seniors, Retirees, and Other Adults are invited to enjoy the underground holiday light extravaganza! 30-minute tour, 900 displays, and 4 million lights! Cost \$10 per person. Includes transportation, ticket, and special holiday treat pack. Please RSVP to Trish by Monday, December 13.

Longest Night Service

Tuesday, December 21, 6:00 PM

We are approaching the Winter Solstice, the longest night of the year. But this time of year, nights are long for other reasons. Memories of lost loved ones and the pain of present experiences and situations can become overwhelming. While the holidays are supposed to be full of joy, some of us experience sadness, grief, or anxiety. You are not alone. On Tuesday, December 21, we will join together for worship acknowledging and seeking the LIGHT that comes into the darkness. Please invite friends to join you.

Church Office Holiday Schedule

The church office will be closed December 27 - 31. Crest articles for the January 10 edition are due by noon on Wednesday, January 5.

Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary by December 19. Please contact the church office if you'd like to order a poinsettia. If you are purchasing a plant, you are welcome to take it home after the Christmas Eve services. Please pick up your plant by January 3.

Disciples Women's Ministries

Circle Meetings

Please note that masks are strongly recommended for all while inside the church buildings.

Mary Martha Circle - Mon, Dec 13, 6:30 PM

Sara Gretz's Home

Christmas Potluck - please bring a dish to share!

Dorcas Circle - Wed, Dec 15, 10:00 AM

Chalice Hall and Zoom

After a brief meeting, we will enjoy Christmas music by Katherine Steckler. Our Christmas luncheon will be afterward at The Cellar.

Naomi Circle - Tues, Dec 21, 9:45 AM

Chalice Hall and Zoom

We will be sharing Christmas stories, then enjoying box lunches from The Mouse Trap.

DECEMBER SERVICE PROJECT: CHRYSALIS HOUSE

Chrysalis House is a substance abuse treatment program for women. They provide domestic violence counseling, job readiness training, medical care and child services. Items especially needed: Feminine hygiene products (Tampax), twin sheets, deodorant, body wash, body lotion, bus passes (\$1 each), diapers. Please place all items in the designated container marked "DWM" in the glassed-in breezeway between Chalice Hall and the Administration Wing. If you prefer, monetary donations are also accepted – please make checks payable to Crestwood Christian DWM and write "CH" on the memo line. Please send to the DWM Treasurer Carol Rogers. Anyone is welcome to donate. For further information on this service project, please contact Kathy Stone at 368-8327.

Christmas Eve Friday, December 24

5:00 PM Children's Service

7:00 PM Candlelight Service

10:30 PM Organ Prelude

11:00 PM Candlelight Service

WHAT'S COMING UP AT CRESTWOOD

December 12, 2019

Sunday, December 12

- 8:30 AM Advent Lessons & Carols
- 9:30 AM Sunday School
- 10:45 AM Advent Lessons & Carols
- 10:45 AM 3rd-5th Grade Bridge Class
- 3:00 PM Chi Rho Youth Group
- 4:00 PM CYF Youth Group

Monday, December 13

- 6:30 PM Mary Martha DWM - Sara Gretz Home
- 7:00 PM Property Team - Chalice Hall

Tuesday, December 14

- Noon Hungry for God - Zoom
- 1:00 PM SRO Lights Under Louisville
- 6:30 PM Childcare Council
- 8:00 PM Men's Bible Study - Zoom

Wednesday, December 15

- 10:00 AM Dorcas DWM - Chalice Hall / Zoom
- 1:00 PM Bible Study - Bradford Room
- 8:00 PM Keeping Christmas - Zoom

Thursday, December 16

- 11:00 AM Bible Study - Chalice Hall
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir - Choir Room

Friday, December 17

- 6:30 PM Childcare Center Christmas Pageant - Sanctuary

Sunday, December 19

- 8:30 AM Worship
- 9:30 AM Sunday School
- 10:00 AM Choir Practice
- 10:45 AM Worship
- Noon Elders Lunch - Chalice Hall / Zoom
- 3:00 PM Combined Youth Holiday Party

Monday, December 20

- 7:00 PM World Outreach - Bradford Room

Tuesday, December 21

- 9:45 AM Naomi DWM - Chalice Hall / Zoom
- Noon Hungry For God - Zoom
- 6:00 PM Longest Night Service
- 7:00 PM Combined Youth Zoom
- 8:00 PM Men's Bible Study - Zoom

Wednesday, December 22

- 1:00 PM Bible Study - Bradford Room
- 6:00 PM Church Caroling

Thursday, December 23

- 11:00 AM Bible Study - Chalice Hall
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir - Choir Room

Friday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

- 5:00 PM Children's Service - Sanctuary
- 7:00 PM Candlelight Service - Sanctuary
- 10:30 PM Organ Prelude
- 11:00 PM Candlelight Service - Sanctuary

Joys and Concerns

MEMBERS: Rainey McDonald, the family of Georgia Meece, the family of Bob Noel, the family of Bill Rea, Kayden Sovkoplas

FAMILY: **Gary Caudill** (brother of LaVonne Caudill), **Glenn Davis** (brother of Julie McDonald), **the family of Ronnie Hensley** (cousin of Lindsey Whealton and Ashley Brown), **Greg Powell** (brother of David Powell), **Shirley Powell** (mother of David Powell), **John Reed** (son of Marilyn Miracle)

FRIENDS: **Karen Dove** (of Joanne Brown), **Martha Duttlinger** (of Crestwood), **Carolyn Hopkins and family** (of Betty Barton), **Joan MacNair** (of Joanne Brown), **the family of Becky Witt** (Kimberly Sparks), **Joe and Anita Woods** (of Betty Barton)

ARMED FORCES: **Anar Aliyev** (of Crestwood), **Paul Baird** (grandson-in-law of Minva Hodgins), **Blake and Jill Chambers and family** (grandson of Karen Billings), **Daniel Day** (grandson of John and Carol Royse and son of Tracy Day), **Bud DeLacey** (nephew of Matt and Michelle DeLacey), **Scott Eldridge** (of Pamela Wainscott), **Andrew Lynn** (grandson of Karen Billings), **Zoe McIntyre** (granddaughter of John Sims), **Daniel Sigler** (son of David and Pam Sigler), **Dalcus Sparks** (nephew of Andrea Back)

HEART-TO-HEART MEMBERS: Jean Aspley, Karen Billings, Margaret Buchanan, Joe Clark, Faye Cooper, Carolyn Floyd, Betty Shanklin, John Sims, John & Carolyn Thomas, Mary Janice Towles

OUR WORLD COMMUNITY: We pray for the inmates of the Fayette County Detention Center and their families, for the peace of God to rule in the hearts of our local and national leaders, for those affected by COVID and natural disasters, and for God's spirit of reconciliation to bring healing during these difficult times.

*Names are included on the prayer list for one month.
If a name has been removed that you would like added
back on, please contact the church office.*

Our Church Staff

Rev. Kory Wilcoxson, Senior Minister
Rev. Trish Standifur, Associate Minister
Steph Wallace, Student Associate Minister

Peggy King, Children's Coordinator
Brianna May, Facilities Manager
Frank Spragens, Music Director
Cindy Abernathy, Pianist

Jane Johnson, Organist
Tara Monzon, PDO Director
Amber Combs, Childcare Center Director

Crestwood Christian Church

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