

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020

“Only Jesus says,  
‘I have come for  
the weak. I have  
come for those  
who admit they  
are weak. I will  
save them not by  
what they do but  
through what I do.’”

— Timothy J. Keller



Order of Worship  
CrossSound.org

# Gathering

**God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen** — 16th cent. English carol

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay!  
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray

*O, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!*

*O, tidings of comfort and joy!*

In Bethlehem, in Israel, this bless-ed Babe was born  
And laid within a manger upon this bless-ed morn  
The which, His mother Mary, did nothing take in scorn

From God, our heavenly Father, a bless-ed angel came  
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same  
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name

The shepherds at these tidings rejoic-ed much in mind  
And left their flocks a-feeding in tempest storm and wind  
And went straightway to Bethlehem, the bless-ed Babe to find

Now, to the Lord sing praises all ye within this place  
And in true love and brotherhood each other now embrace  
This holy tide of Christmas doth bring redeeming grace

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The largest book in the Bible is primarily a book of poems set to music to sing God praises. This is all part of God's design to surround His presence with singing. Gratitude to God expresses dependence upon God and is an antidote for cynicism, criticism, and bitterness.

# Welcome

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

2nd candle – (purple) The Bethlemlen Candle or The Candle of Preparation: God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to “get ready”. Help us to be ready to welcome you, O God!

“As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: ‘A voice of one calling in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all mankind will see God’s salvation”. — Luke 3:4-6

**O Come, All Ye Faithful** — Words: John F. Wade, c. 1743 (written in Latin, later translated to English), Music: ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O co-me ye to Bethlehem  
Come and behold Him, born the King of Angels.

*O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us a - dore Him,  
O come let us a - dore Him,  
Christ, the Lord.*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation;  
Sing all ye citizens of heav’n above:  
Glory to God in the Highest.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee  
Born this happy morning  
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv’n;  
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing

## JESUS STORYBOOK BIBLE

SONG — Zach Fleury

# Message

**Title: A Necessary Christmas**

**Text: 1 John 1:1-4**

**Speakers: Victor Cruz**

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup> the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—<sup>3</sup> that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

**Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence** — *Words: Liturgy of St. James, 4th Century, Translated from Greek to English by Gerard Moultrie, 1864.*  
*Music: PICARDY, French carol melody*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand  
Ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessing in His hand  
Christ our God to Earth descendeth our full homage to demand

King of kings yet born of Mary as of old on Earth He stood  
Lords of lords in human vesture in the body and the blood  
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way  
As the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day  
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away

At His feet the six wing-ed seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye  
Veil their faces to His presence as with ceaseless voice they cry  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Lord most high!

THANKSGIVING STORIES — Robert Freeman, Maree Zawoywsky  
Paul and Cindi Schuler

BENEDICTION

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The benediction, different from good wishes or even a prayer, is a pronouncement of God's blessing. God sends us out in peace, giving us his presence as we go to be blessing-bearers to the world.

# Announcements

**Prayer Request** Pray for our neighbors who do not have food, shelter or the basics and pray for Helpline, Fishline, ShareNet and our deacons as they work to meet these needs.

**Cross Sound Digital Christmas Pageant!** Inviting EVERYONE to record a scene, share a musical gift, perform a pageant song, or just a quick “Merry Christmas” or “Happy Birthday Jesus!” greeting! Sign-up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084aaea728a64-cross2>

Covid-safe, self-video instructions here:

- Recordings must be in landscape orientation and either 720p (1280x720) (preferred) or 1080p (1920x1080).
- We have tripods at the Cross Sound office if you need one
- Submit via <https://crosssound.wetransfer.com>
- See <https://crosssound.org/video-info> for more information
- *Videos need to be submitted by Monday, Dec 14th!!!*

Questions? Contact: Laura O’Connell at [lauraoc@crosssound.org](mailto:lauraoc@crosssound.org)

**Volunteers needed for Coffee Oasis’ Crisis Hotline** The Coffee Oasis, a ministry that helps local homeless youth, have seen a huge increase in the number of kids struggling emotionally and thus using a text hotline they offer. Because of Covid, volunteer numbers have decreased. They need volunteers that would be willing to go through training to take one or more 3-hour oncall slots to respond to any youth that reach out to the hotline. For details and next steps, please go here: <https://thecoffeooasis.com/volunteer/>. If you have other questions, you can reach out to The Coffee Oasis Crisis Manager, Josh at [joshua.goss@thecoffeooasis.com](mailto:joshua.goss@thecoffeooasis.com)

**Angel Tree** We are sponsoring 100 kids this year! Instead of buying wrapping and delivering gifts, we are making \$22 donations online. Prison Fellowship will then send sponsored gifts directly to Angel Tree kids. Each gift package will include a gift card, a personal message from the parent, an age-appropriate Gospel presentation, and an opportunity to request a Bible. *The sponsorship process is easy.* Just click the link, enter our access code, and make your donation. Access Code: 4YPD4 / Angel Tree URL: <https://vat.angeltreetool.org/2e5bf11a-9e37-4aea-b96b-aec6df67e140>

**Men’s Ministry** BIBLE STUDY: Friday mornings via zoom. Email Roger: [irbarbers@gmail.com](mailto:irbarbers@gmail.com) for link

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**Financial Update:** Last week’s total \$23,201.75 Actual Income to Date \$392,154 Budgeted Income to Date \$408,398 Annual Budget (7/19-6/20): \$1,019,623 You can support the worship and the work of the church at [www.crosssound.org/give](http://www.crosssound.org/give)