

Cornerstone Presbyterian Church
Sunday Worship Service
December 22, 2024

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Melinda Merkley King

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Perez Family

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*SHARING THE WELCOME OF CHRIST

*GATHERING SONG

"I Pray on Christmas"

*PRAISE SONGS

"God So Loved"

"Your Love Defends Me"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*In Unison*)

Lay Leader

We confess that while we anticipate your coming and we desire your coming, we do not feel ready. We have done too much and we have not done enough. We have focused our attention and efforts on things that hold little value. We have turned away from neighbors in need. We have loved things that are not good for us and have not loved You or our neighbors or ourselves. Forgive us and redirect us. Save us from our sins that we may live the life of abundance that you desire for us. (Time of silent, personal confession)

Response:

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Lay Leader

One: Hear this good news. Emmanuel is coming, God-with-us!

All: In Jesus, God reclaims, redeems, and restores us and all of creation.

One: Through God's grace, our sins are forgiven.

All: We are made new and can begin again. Alleluia! Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Carolyn Lowry

After the Children's Message, children are welcome to go to Kid's Church.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #43

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

OFFERING

(Donations can be put in the collection plate, mailed, or be made via CornerstoneCary.org using the "Give Now" button)

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Micah 5:24

Lay Leader

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 1:39-55

Rev. King

Leader: This is the word of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Something to Sing About! Something to Do!"

*SONG OF RESPONSE

"Good Good Father"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

IN OUR PRAYERS

Joann McMenamin and family on the death of Ron McMenamin

Carol Abrahamson, Baby Lily (Joann Minor's friend), Karin Baxter (JoAnn Minor's sister), Kara Berry (friend of the Johnston's), Jeff Briggs (friend of Carol Ennis), Jean Bullock, Mary Campbell, Sean Cavanaugh (friend of Debby Wells), Elijah Cernoch (Tricia's son), Anna Culchin (friend of Carrol Ennis), Dana Dorrenbacher, Jennie Linn Duffie (John Duffie's mother), Shannon Earle (Brad Earle's niece), Kent Forester, HC Gilliam (Beth Earle's Uncle), Ed Grizer (Jeff Grizer's father), Jim Johnston (Mame & Doug Johnston's son), Dan Krautheim (Kathryn Fiebich's father), Gladys Livingston (friend of Joann Liss), Robert Lowry, (Carolyn's father), Dan McMains (Carey's son), Worth McMains, Norma Miller (friend of Joann Liss), Scott Monday (Deb Hilliard's brother-in-law), Tina Moscone (Rhonda Olds' friend), Joe Patak (Diane Bensley's father), Cathy Peters (friend of Marcia Marvin), Margaret Rapp, Joe Schruhl (Julie LaNeave's father), Cherry Thomas (Aaron Thomas' mother), Tom and Lois Walker, Carmela Williams (Debby Well's friend), Buddy Young, the brave men and women in the US military, the Pastor Nominating Committee, and all those greatly affected by Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton. If you would like someone to be added to our prayer list, please email the church office: tricia@CornerstoneCary.org

God So Loved

Come all you weary
Come all you thirsty
Come to the well That never runs dry
Drink of the water Come
and thirst no more

Come all you sinners
Come find His mercy
Come to the table He will satisfy
Taste of His goodness
Find what you're looking for
For God so loved The world
that He gave us
His one and only Son to save us
Whoever believes in Him
Will live forever

Bring all your failures
Bring your addictions
Come lay them down
At the foot of the cross
Jesus is waiting there With open arms

Chorus

The power of hell forever defeated
Now it is well I'm walking in freedom
For God so loved God so loved the world

Praise God, praise God
From whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, praise Him
For the wonders of His love

Praise God, praise God
From whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, praise Him
For the wonders of
His love His amazing love

For God so loved the world
that He gave us
His one and only Son to save us

Chorus

The power of hell forever defeated
Now it is well
I'm walking in freedom
For God so loved God so loved the world

Bring all your failures
Bring your addictions
Come lay them down
At the foot of the cross
Jesus is waiting
God so loved the world

Your Love Defends Me

You are my joy
You are my song
You are the well
The one I'm
drawing from
You are my refuge
My whole life long
Where else would I go
Surely my God is
the strength of my soul
Your love defends me
Your love defends me
And when I feel
like I'm all alone
Your love defends me
Your love defends me

Day after day
Night after night
I will remember
You're with me
in this fight

Although the battle
it rages on the war
is already won
I know the war
is already won

Chorus

We sing hallelujah
You're my portion
my salvation Hallelujah

Chorus

Chorus

We sing hallelujah
You're my portion
my salvation Hallelujah
You're my portion
my salvation

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie
Above thy deep
and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by

Yet in thy dark
streets shineth
The everlasting light
The hopes and fears
of all the years
Are met in thee tonight

For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep the
angels keep
Their watch
of wondering love

O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing
to God the King
And peace to all on earth

How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is given
So God imparts
to human hearts
The blessings
of His heaven

No ear may hear
His coming
But in this world of sin
Where meek souls will
receive Him, still
The dear Christ enters in

O holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin
and enter in
Be born in us today

We hear the
Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell
O come to us abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel

Good Good Father

I've heard a thousand stories
Of what they think You're like
But I've heard
the tender whisper
Of love in the dead of night
You tell me that You're pleased
And that I'm never alone
You're a Good Good Father

It's who You are
It's who You are
It's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am It's who I am
It's who I am

I've seen many
searching for answers
Far and wide
But I know we're all
searching for answers
Only You provide
'Cause You know
just what we need
Before we say a word

Chorus

You are perfect in
all of Your ways
You are perfect in
all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of
Your ways to us

Love so undeniable
I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable
I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
Into love, love, love

Chorus

Repeat

You are perfect in
all of Your ways
You are perfect in
all of Your ways
You are perfect in
all of Your ways to us
Repeat