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**Chattanooga Valley Presbyterian Church**  
*Service of Worship<sup>1</sup>*  
**First Sunday of Advent**  
**Sunday, November 30, 2008**

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*\* Please stand if you are able.*

Prelude

Greetings & Life of the Church

Meditation

Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'

...

And the LORD will guide you continually  
and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.  
And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to dwell in.

-- Isaiah 58:9a, 11-12

Lighting the First Advent Candle

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

John 4:10-15

Prayer

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<sup>1</sup> "Worship" is not something that WE initiate; not primarily something that WE do for GOD; rather, God calls us to worship as a means of His grace by which to shape and tune US to declare and display HIS glory in Christ for HIS pleasure and our good.

*God Gathers His People ...*

You will say in that day:  
"I will give thanks to you, O Lord,  
for though you were angry with me,  
your anger turned away, that you might comfort me.

Isaiah 12:1

*\*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

#196

*\*Invocation & Lord's Prayer*

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in 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<sup>2</sup>

*God Tunes the Heart of His People ...*

*... by Opening Our Eyes to See Christ Our Savior ...*

**Congregation Left:** What Child is this who, laid to rest On Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping?

**Congregation Right:** This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary.

*... resulting in Praise to our God through Christ our Lord*

*\*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

#194

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<sup>2</sup> "Amen" grows from the Hebrew root meaning "true and faithful;" we pray with hope and confidence because our covenant God is "true and faithful" to his covenant promises.

*... God Teaches His People...*

Scripture Reading

*Acts 13:26-43*

Message

*A Word of Encouragement in Days of Distress, Pt 2*

*\*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

#197

*Celebration of Communion*

*God's People Respond to His Word by Faith...*

*\*Doxology*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

Praise him, all creatures here below!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts!

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen

*We Offer Ourselves & Our Resources to Him*

*God Sends His People ...*

*\* ... with Rejoicing*

*Hark the Herald Angels Sing, #203*

*\* ... and the Benediction<sup>3</sup> of His Grace*

**Leader:** The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace so that all the peoples may say,

**Congregation:** "Amen! Our LORD is faithful!" Praise the LORD.

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<sup>3</sup> "Benediction" is the "good Word" of God's blessing by which He secures, sustains and equips his people by his steadfast, covenantal love in Christ for the display of His glory

## For Individual & Family Worship

First Week of Advent, Nov 30, 2008

("Advent Devotions" taken from Covenant Magazine. Visit [www.LivingChrist360.com](http://www.LivingChrist360.com) each Friday for meditations on the Scripture passages for that week.)

### Scripture Reading:

**Monday:** Genesis 3:1-20; Genesis 22:1-18

**Tuesday:** Genesis 48:15-16; 49:8-10

**Wednesday:** Numbers 23:18-24; 24:3-9, 15-19

**Thursday:** Deuteronomy 18:14-22

**Friday:** 2 Samuel 7:1-17

**Saturday:** Psalm 2

### Hymn:

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (Trinity, #196)*

1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art, dear Desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Dayspring from on high, appear; come, though promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear! O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth: "Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."
3. Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end; by his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend. Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall; this the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.
4. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

### Prayer in Fellowship with the Church:

O God, who did look on humanity when they had fallen down into death and resolve to redeem them by the advent of your only-begotten Son, grant, we ask you, that they who confess his glorious incarnation may also be admitted to the fellowship of him their Redeemer; through the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

-- Ambrose of Milan (339-397 A.D.)

### CVPC CONTACT INFORMATION

... if the Body of Christ @ CVPC may be praying for or otherwise serving you, please call ...

#### Session

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John Michal, Chairman

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Andy Burnette, Paul Blaylock, Gerald Collins, Edward Henry, Stephen Ibach, Doug

Sikkema

## The Candles Of Advent

*Starting the fourth Sunday before Christmas and ending on Christmas Eve, the season of Advent is when we celebrate the coming of Christ into the world as a tiny baby born in Bethlehem. Advent candles provide a guide through these weeks, sharing with us the messages of our salvation in Jesus*

**Be enlightened!** One candle glows the first week of Advent, then two, three and four are lit in the weeks following. As we watch the light of candles glow and grow each week, we are reminded that our souls are being enlightened as well by the message of this season: "Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you" (Isaiah 60:1). Jesus, who is our Light, comes into our world and continues to dispel the darkness of sin, death, and the devil.

**Get ready!** Advent is when we "prepare the way for the Lord" (Mark 1:3). The candles serve as signals to us to brighten things up around our home and our church in preparation for Jesus' entry into our midst. Just as the brides demonstrated their expectation of the bridegroom's arrival, our work to decorate is one way to demonstrate our expectation of our Guest's arrival which brings rejoicing and celebration!

**Wait and see!** The Advent candles provide us with a way to count the weeks until Christmas. They subtly teach us that waiting is a part of the process of God's unfolding plan. "At just the right time, God sent his Son," Galatians 4:4 says. Advent helps us remember that we are living in God's time, not our own.

**Gather Round!** The candles of Advent (most often arranged in the form of a circle) beckon us to gather round to worship and pray, to give thanks and sing, to read God's Word together and share our experiences. We do this when we come to church on Sunday mornings and when we sit around the dinner table with family and friends. The candles of Advent make us realize how important it is to love one another as God has loved us in Christ, our Lord.

Poinsettias for the decoration of the sanctuary during the weeks of Advent are given with thanksgiving for the glory and faithfulness of our God through Jesus Christ as displayed in the lives of His children:

Bishop Henry & Downs Henry  
Irene Cox & Bishop Henry  
Guy Stonecypher & Clark Blaylock  
Maxine "Mackie" McGregor  
Henry & Terry Thomason  
Raymond Campbell  
Charles & Lillie Morse  
Charles Jr & Jane Morse  
Luke Michal  
Lynda Henry

... given with thanksgiving by  
Juanita Henry  
Edward Henry  
Macie Stonecypher  
Todd Keith  
Wayne & Claude Burke  
Ron Campbell  
Hilda Morse  
Hilda Morse  
John & Barb Michal  
Edward Henry

Welcome to

## CHATTANOOGA VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

*By God's Grace, For God's Glory*

... to see Chattanooga Valley and the Nations  
overwhelmed by the glory of God and transformed by the grace and  
peace of God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ  
working in His people empowered by His Spirit for His glory.

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