

# NEW COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN

Order of Worship for the Lord's Day

Sunday, December 3, 2023

10:30 am

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## Welcome and Announcements

*Congregation asked to stand if able when indicated by \**

## Prelude

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.  
Revelation 22:13

## \*Call to Worship

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. Isaiah 9:6-7

## \*Hymn of Adoration #196

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

## Prayer of Invocation

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

. John and Ginna Holyoak

## Call to Confession

Your hands have made and fashioned me; give me understanding that I may learn your commandments. Those who fear you shall see me and rejoice, because I have hoped in your word. I know, O Lord, that your rules are righteous, and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me. Let your steadfast love comfort me according to your promise to your servant. Let your mercy come to me, that I may live; for your law is my delight. Let the insolent be put to shame, because they have wronged me with falsehood; as for me, I will meditate on your precepts. Let those who fear you turn to me, that they may know your testimonies. May my heart be blameless in your statutes, that I may not be put to shame! Psalm 119:73-80

## Silent Confession of Sin

## Assurance of Pardon

And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. 1 John 5:11-13

## \*Hymn of Thanksgiving #211

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

## Children's Sermon

## Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on 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*

## Tithes and Offerings

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” Hebrews 13:5

## \*Doxology #731

*(Tallis Canon)*

## \*Prayer of Thanksgiving

## Hymn of Preparation #203

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

## \*Reading of Scripture

John 1:1-2 (pg. 1127)

## \*Gloria Patri #735

*(Gretorex)*

## Prayer for Illumination

## Sermon:

“Christmas before the Beginning”

## \*Communion Hymn - Insert Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery (vs.1-2)

## \*Confession of Faith - The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Celebration of the Lord's Supper

**\*Hymn of Response - Insert.** Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery (vs.3-4)

### **\*Benediction**

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. Hebrews 13:20-21

### **Announcements and upcoming events:**

There will be NO New Covenant women's circle meeting in December.

#### **Sunday, December 3 - Communion**

Discretionary fund giving  
Evening worship - 6:00 pm.

**Sunday, December 10 - 5:30 pm** - Church Christmas party - Bring your favorite hors d'oeuvres, finger sandwiches, dip and chips, cake or whatever you wish. We play cajun Christmas with a \$15-20 gift limit

**Sunday, December 10** The Session has called a Congregational Meeting immediately following the Morning Worship service for the purpose of presenting the 2024 Church Budget that the session approved at their November meeting.

#### **Nursery Schedule**

**December 3:** Kacie Bee  
**December 10:** Sterling Dossett  
**December 17:** David Timm  
**December 24:** Beth Bee  
**December 31:** Vicki Watts

#### **Church Leadership at New Covenant**

*Ruling Elders (Session)* – Joseph Byrne, Tommy Ellett, Richard Griffing

*Elder Emeritus* – Frank Heard    *Teaching Elder* - John Franklin

*Treasurer*- Andy Montgomery    *Pianist* - Kathy Rogers



NEW COVENANT  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023

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