

COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH



## Call to Worship- Isaiah 60:1-3

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will be seen upon you.  
And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

## Prayer of Adoration

## Instrumental

## Reading #1- Isaiah 7:10-14

<sup>10</sup> Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz: <sup>11</sup> “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” <sup>13</sup> And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

## Lighting of the Advent Candle: Love

## Membership Vows of Chance and Aurora Joyce

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

## Baptism of Aurora Joyce

### Baptism of Aurelia Joyce, daughter of Chance and Aurora

#### **Declaration to our Covenant Children *from the Church of Scotland***

**All:** For you Jesus Christ came into the world. For you He lived and showed God's love. For you He suffered the darkness of Calvary. For you He triumphed over death and rose to new life. For you He reigns at God's right hand. All this He did for you, Aurelia, though you do not know it yet.

#### **\*Children released to their classrooms**

### Hymn- Hark the Herald

#### Reading #2- Amos 5:18-24

<sup>18</sup> Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!  
Why would you have the day of the LORD?  
It is darkness, and not light,  
<sup>19</sup> as if a man fled from a lion,  
and a bear met him,  
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,  
and a serpent bit him.  
<sup>20</sup> Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,  
and gloom with no brightness in it?  
<sup>21</sup> "I hate, I despise your feasts,  
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.  
<sup>22</sup> Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,  
I will not accept them;  
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,  
I will not look upon them.  
<sup>23</sup> Take away from me the noise of your songs;  
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.  
<sup>24</sup> But let justice roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream

### Advent Prayer

**All:** Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through

Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. *Amen.*

## Confession of Faith- Nicene Creed

Leader: Christian, what do you believe?

**All:** We believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
begotten from the Father before all ages,  
God from God,  
Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made;  
of the same essence as the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and was made human.  
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered and was buried.  
The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.  
He ascended to heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again with glory  
to judge the living and the dead.  
His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life.  
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.  
He spoke through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,  
and to life in the world to come. Amen.

## Greeting of Peace

## Song of Praise

O come let us adore him  
O come let us adore him  
O come let us adore him  
Christ the Lord

## Tithes and Offering

## Hymn- Glory in the Darkest Place

## Homily Scripture Reading- Matthew 25:1-13

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup> For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup> but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup> But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup> Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup> But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup> And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup> Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup> But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup> Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**



## Announcements

**Advent Devotional Resource:** Advent is here and our church has a devotional resource for you to use throughout this season. Pick up a copy for your family at the resource table at the front of the auditorium.

**Christmas Carol Practices:** Our children's Christmas carol practice will be this Tuesday here at Madison Middle School from 6-7pm. The children will be learning Christmas carols, hearing Christmas stories, and making crafts together. There will be fun Christmas snacks and drinks provided as well. All adults and children are invited. We'd love for you to come enjoy the fun!

**Covenant's Christmas Celebration:** Our 2nd Annual Christmas Celebration will be held on Sunday, December 18th at Madison Middle School. Dinner will begin at 5pm, followed by a Christmas program that includes songs from our children and worship team, Scripture readings, and a Christmas homily. Please plan to join us, and feel free to invite friends and family as well.



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COMMUNITY CHURCH