

**Welcome-
We are glad YOU
are here!**

To aid you in your worship
experience:

A Hearing Loop
is installed and available.
Switch your hearing aid
to “T-Cell”.

Please ask an Usher if you
need assistance.

Before worship, please
silence cell phones and other
electronic devices.

When directed in the Bulletin,
please stand
as you are able.

Congregational spoken
responses appear
in **bold type**.

Hymns and sung
responses will be found
in the **BLUE HYMNAL**
under the seat
in front of you.

Please join us —
after Worship today
for coffee
and fellowship
in the Gathering Hall,
outside of Sanctuary. Wheth-
er you are a
long-time member, or
a visitor, we’d like to
get to know you!

We Gather in Love

The Introit *Once in Royal David’s City*
The soloist will sing stanza 1, please join on stanza 2.

Hymnal No. 49

Please stand for The Call to Worship
Like the people who found hope in a manger,
Christmas Spirit, Holy Spirit, rest on us!
Like Wise Men traveling to see a new star,
Christmas Spirit, Holy Spirit, reveal to us!
Like Scrooge yelling from his bedroom window,
Christmas Spirit, Holy Spirit, guide us!
Great, good news-carrying Spirit
Rest on us as you did on Simeon.
Illuminating, light-bringing Spirit
Reveal to us as you did to Anna!
Holy, Holy, Holy Spirit
Guide us as you guided the wise long ago, Amen.

Please remain standing for The Hymn of Praise
Joy to the World!

Hymnal No. 40
(Antioch)

You may be seated.
The Prayer of the Day

The Gloria Patri
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
World without end, Amen, amen.

Hymnal No. 579

The Prayer of Confession
**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word,
and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**
**We have not loved you with our whole heart and soul and mind and
strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**
**In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**
~ Book of Common Worship

A Time of Silent Confession

The Doxology is given a unique placement in the order of service at Christ Presbyterian Church. It brings the congregation back to a unison focus following the moment of personal greeting.

When I was asked to return to CPC during John Rafoth's absence this Winter, I asked three of my friends who are published composers to write a Doxology Introduction for me to share during this time. All three friends shared their creative gifts. Today I will play the Introduction written by Bradley Ellingboe. The choir at CPC enjoys singing Brad's beautiful music so we have an immediate connection there. The other two Introductions by Michael Sitton and Matt Limbaugh will be used in the weeks ahead. I really enjoyed putting this together for the church and I am excited to premiere them for you. It was so nice to be asked to come back and play for you again. Enjoy the music. Happy New Year!

- Robert Haigler

The Assurance of Forgiveness
Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Please stand for The Response of Praise
See, Amid the Winter's Snow, stanzas 1 and 2 Hymnal No. 51
The soloists will sing the verses. Please join in singing the Refrain.

Please remain standing to share The Peace of Christ
The peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

The Doxology (introduction by Bradley Ellingboe) Hymnal No. 592
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.
You may be seated.

We Grow by Grace

News of the Church

The First Scripture Reading Isaiah 49:5-7 Pew Bible, page 592

The Anthem Go, Tell It On the Mountain arr. Harry T. Burleigh

*While shepherds kept their watching o'er wandring flock by night;
Behold from out the heavens, there shone a holy light
Go, tell it on the mountain—over the hills and everywhere:
Go tell it on the mountain: our Jesus Christ is born!
And lo! When they had seen it, they all bowed down and prayed;
The travelled on together, to where the Babe was laid;
Go, tell it on the mountain...*

African-American composer, John W. Work, is credited with writing the verses of "Go Tell It On the Mountain."

The Second Scripture Lesson Luke 2: 21-40 Pew Bible, page 833

The Sermon Don't Keep Christ in Christmas