

## CHIMING OF THE HOUR

## THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Jason W. Crosby

Please take a moment to complete the section at the top of the insert, fold and tear it off at the perforation and put it in the offering plate. Or, you may share contact info or comments with us by sending a text message to 502-295-0285.

## ENTRANCE INTO WORSHIP

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

## PRELUDE

*What Child Is This?*  
Louie Bailey, piano

GREENSLEEVES, arr. David Lanz

## INVOCATION

Andrea V. Woolley

If spoken in a language that is unfamiliar to you, worshippers are invited to silently pray for God's presence to be felt in hearts and minds through our worship.

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE 135

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

Mark Bayman and Rickey Geary

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight," John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

The birth of Christ brought forth into the darkness of this world a great light.

**Thanks be to God.**

In Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, we find our greatest peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

Our Savior, however, promised to come again to fully redeem humanity and creation.

**Thanks be to God.**

This Advent season may we celebrate gifts already found in Christ and faithfully anticipate God's gifts yet to come.

**May we prepare the way.**

CHORAL REFLECTION

*Creation Will Be at Peace*

Anna Laura Page

Chancel Choir; June Bailey, conductor; Louie Bailey, piano

In the holy mountain of the Lord all war and strife will cease;

In the holy mountain of the Lord creation will be at peace.

The wolf will lie down with the lamb, he cow and bear will feed,

Their young will play together; a little child will lead.

The leopard and goat will graze, the lion will feed on straw.

They will war no more; a child will lead them all.

J. Paul Williams, 1992 by Alfred Publishing Co., based on Isaiah 11:6-9

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Andrea V. Woolley

\*HYMN OF ADVENT

*My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,  
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on the servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,  
So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

REFRAIN: My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me.  
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn.  
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. REFRAIN

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.  
Let the king beware for your justice tears ev'ry tyrant from his throne.  
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;  
There are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. REFRAIN

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:  
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.  
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,  
'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. REFRAIN

Rory Cooney, © 1990 by GIA Publications, Inc.; based on the Magnificat, Luke 1:39-56

WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

COVERED BY JUSTICE

Jason W. Crosby

DISCIPLINE OF SILENCE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

David Eisenmenger

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

MUSICAL OFFERING

Karen Youth Ensemble

\*ADVENT DOXOLOGY

*O Source of Peace, the Giver and the Gift*

VENI EMMANUEL

O Source of Peace, the Giver and the Gift,  
With glad and gen'rous hearts we now uplift  
Our voices in eternal praise, for all your gifts that crown our days.  
O Lord, our God, our hearts to thee are bound  
To share your peace with people all around. Amen.

Louie Bailey, Advent 2012

\*INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND COMMUNITY

We gladly welcome all who desire to unite with the community of faith at Crescent Hill Baptist Church  
to come forward during the Hymn of Response and share that decision with the minister.

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 170

*It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

CAROL

\*BENEDICTION

Jason W. Crosby

\*SILENCE

\*POSTLUDE

*Morning Reflections*

Louie Bailey

\*Worshippers are invited to rise, in body or spirit.

- CDs of today's service may be ordered through the church office.
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- We invite those who wish to be baptized or join the church to share that decision with the church near the conclusion of worship. However, if you would prefer to explore baptism or church membership privately, the ministers would be glad to discuss those decisions with you following worship.