

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

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John and Rebecca McMahan, and Nela Souckova

## THE ANNOUNCEMENT

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### John 1: 1-5, 14

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

### \*Christmas Sanctum (Holy, Holy, Holy)

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.  
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty,  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy, in a manger lowly  
Christ the son now veiled in flesh, in our humanity  
Kingdoms bow before him, heaven and earth adore him  
God here in person, hail his majesty

Holy, holy, holy, though the darkness hide Thee  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see  
Only Thou art holy - there is none beside Thee  
Perfect in pow'r, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Heaven's angels sound his praise with earth and sky and sea!  
Join the song of triumph, glory in the highest!  
Let all creation, crown him King of kings.

Advent verses added by Matt Boswell & Matt Papa; Music: John B. Dykes (1861)

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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## CALL TO WORSHIP

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### **\*Psalm 36: 7-8**

*LEADER: How precious is Your steadfast love, O God!  
The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.  
They feast on the abundance of Your house,  
and You give them drink from the river of Your delights.*

**All: For with You is the fountain of life;  
In Your light do we see light.**

### **\*Immortal, Invisible**

Immortal, You are not like a man  
That You change Your mind, or change Your plan.  
Invisible, our human eyes can't see  
The depth of Your majesty

(chorus)

You're the God of forever and ever amen!  
The Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End  
We sing Hallelujah, we worship in awe  
Immortal, Invisible God

Immortal, You are not bound by death  
You're the living God, my very breath  
Invisible, You are not bound by space  
But Your glory is filling this place  
Yes, Your glory is filling this place

(repeat chorus)

Immortal, yet You once died for me  
To pay my debt, to set me free  
Invisible, You will not always be  
Cause You're coming to reign as our King  
And the saints will fall down at Your feet

(repeat chorus 2x)

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## SCRIPTURE READING

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### Zechariah 9:9-17

*“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.*

*As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double. For I have bent Judah as my bow; I have made Ephraim its arrow. I will stir up your sons, O Zion, against your sons, O Greece, and wield you like a warrior's sword.*

*Then the LORD will appear over them, and his arrow will go forth like lightning; the Lord GOD will sound the trumpet and will march forth in the whirlwinds of the south. The LORD of hosts will protect them, and they shall devour, and tread down the sling stones, and they shall drink and roar as if drunk with wine, and be full like a bowl, drenched like the corners of the altar.*

*On that day the LORD their God will save them, as the flock of his people; for like the jewels of a crown they shall shine on his land. For how great is his goodness, and how great his beauty! Grain shall make the young men flourish, and new wine the young women.”*

## PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

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**ALL:** Our Father in Heaven, who gave Your Son for us,  
we give You thanks for Your inexpressible gift.

We confess that we have not loved You or one another as we ought.  
We have not forgiven one another as You have forgiven us.  
We have too often lived in selfishness and worldly pride,  
trusting in our own wisdom rather than Yours,  
and hoarding the good gifts that You have given,  
rather than relieving the burdens of others.

Forgive us and blot out our sins,  
through the incarnate life and willing sacrifice of Your Son.

## PRIVATE CONFESSION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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### **\*Ephesians 1: 7-10**

*LEADER: In him we have redemption through His blood,  
the forgiveness of our trespasses,  
according to the riches of His grace,  
which He lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight  
making known to us the mystery of His will,  
according to His purpose,  
which He set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time,  
to unite all things in Him, things in heaven and things on earth.*

## **\*His Mercy is More**

What love could remember no wrongs we have done  
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

(chorus)

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more  
Stronger than darkness, new every morn  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam  
What Father, so tender, is calling us home  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

(repeat chorus)

What riches of kindness he lavished on us  
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

(repeat chorus 2x)

Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Matt Boswell & Matt Papa ©2016 Messenger Hymns, Love Your Enemies Publishing. Administered by: Music Services, Inc., Love Your Enemies Publishing

## **\*God With Us**

You've come to bring peace, to be love, to be nearer to us  
You've come to bring life, to be light, to shine brighter in us  
Oh Emmanuel, God with us

(chorus)

Our Deliverer, You are Savior  
In Your presence we find our strength  
Over everything, our Redemption, God with us  
You are God with us

You've come to be hope, to this world, for Your honor and name  
And You've come to take sin, to bear shame, and to conquer the grave  
Oh Emmanuel, God with us

(repeat chorus)

You are here, you are holy,  
we are here to give you glory (Lord) (4x)

Our Deliverer, You are Savior  
In Your presence we find our strength  
Over everything, our Redemption, God with us

(repeat chorus)

You are God with us

All Sons and Daughters; Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan / © 2012 Open Hands Music (Admin. by Sony/ATV Sounds LLC)UBP.CCLI#245668

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

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# The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead and buried;  
He descended into Hell;  
the third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into Heaven,  
and is seated on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty;  
from thence He shall come to judge the quick 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.

(Note: Although not written by the apostles, this creed is a summary of their teachings. Though its origin is traced to the second century, it developed into its present form by the sixth or seventh century. For the sake of clarity, please note that we believe that Jesus suffered the agony and punishment of Hell on the cross, most especially when He knew that He had been forsaken by His Father, and that He died a real death from which He was resurrected. We believe also that "holy catholic church" refers to the church universal.)

## PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION

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*Although giving is a significant part of worship, we do not collect the offering during our service. Two boxes are placed by the doors to receive your offering. Tithes and offerings for the General Fund are placed in the box without the "steeple." Offerings for the Building Fund are to be placed in the box with the "steeple." Please make checks payable to Grace PCA, with "General" or "Building" included in the check memo.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.  
Your kingdom come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

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**SERMON: ACTS 28:17-31**

George Boomer

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**ALL: The grass withers and the flower falls,  
but the word of the Lord remains forever.**

## LORD'S SUPPER

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### What Child Is This?

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?  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through; the cross be borne for me, for you:  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own Him;  
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high, the Virgin sings her lullaby:  
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

# His Glory and My Good

I have seen my Father's glory, revealed in Jesus Christ  
And the more that I behold Him, the more He satisfies  
When I gaze upon His beauty, when I see Him as I should  
Then my eyes are lifted upward, for His glory and my good

There is hope in every trial, for I can trust the Lord  
He will turn my heart towards Him, and help me bear the thorn  
So in faith I follow Jesus, on the road not understood  
For I know that He is working, for His glory and my good

(chorus)

To our God be the glory, to our God be praise  
He alone, the name above all names  
I will boast ever only in the Lord my God  
For I know His glory is my good

See the open arms of Jesus, upon the cross that day  
What they understood as weakness, deserves my every praise  
For the charge that was against me, it was nailed into the wood  
Yes I know that He has saved me, for His glory and my good

(repeat chorus)

Would I gladly be made nothing, that Christ would be made more  
Would I seek the only kingdom, that far outweighs them all  
I will stand before my Father, where the faithful saints have stood  
And with joy my heart shall praise Him, for His glory and my good  
And with joy my heart shall praise Him, for His glory and my good

(repeat chorus 2x)

Yes I know His glory is my good

CityAlight / Words and Music by Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson & Ben Fielding

# Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King  
He the theme of heavens praises, robed in frail humanity  
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come  
Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous mystery, He the perfect Son of Man  
In His living, in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin  
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man  
Christ the great and sure fulfillment, of the law; in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree  
In the stead of ruined sinners, hangs the Lamb in victory  
See the price of our redemption see the Father's plan unfold  
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery, slain by death the God of life  
But no grave could e'er restrain Him, praise the Lord; He is alive!  
What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope  
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when he comes

What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope  
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when he comes

Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, Michael Bleecker ©2013 The Summit Church

## THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

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John & Rebecca McMahon	Tucker & Sara Flory	
Steve & Joan Heide	Achira Kerschbaum	
Sean & Beka Gordan	Thomas & Grace Buckley	
Howard & Cheri Brooksbank	Matt & Isabel Alsum	
Isaiah & Caitlin Garrett	Peter, Sarah, Ellie and Hector Bennett	
Ryan Schrock	Ashley Whorton	Peter Anderson
Mary Anderson	Ethan Selim	Aubrey Day
Levi Hinegardner	Laura Lock	Cora Banz
Carolyn Knutzen	Samuel Greene	David Winton
Hadley Mayo	Teagan Fertig	Will Banz
Maxwell Huff	Henry Lamb	Ida Ney

## BENEDICTION

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## DOXOLOGY

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Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

## AFTER SERVICE PRAYER

Clay Phillips & Jason Lichte

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*It is our sincere desire to pray effectively for the particular needs of those worshipping with us this morning. If you have a prayer concern that you want shared with the congregation during the prayers of the people, please email [prayer@gpca.church](mailto:prayer@gpca.church) or contact one of the pastors prior to the service with your request. If you desire prayer on a personal matter, we invite you to meet with the elders in the front pews after the Benediction.*

## \*CONGREGATION WILL STAND

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Use this QR code to let us know you're here today.



Elders are available to pray and assist you at [elders@gpca.church](mailto:elders@gpca.church).