

# TATES CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

4 December 2011

The Second Sunday of Advent

**WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION**

**8:30 and 11:00 AM**

We cross the threshold of the secular to the sacred,  
From the common to the uncommon,  
From the profane to the Holy . . .

## The Prelude

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day  
Handbell Choir

arr. Lamb

## The Call to Worship

Isaiah 40:3-9

The Minister: A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

**The People:** "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.

The Minister: "And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

**The People:** **Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news.**

The Minister: Lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news.

**The People:** **Lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"**

## \*The Hymn

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

No. 196

## \*The Invocation

**Unison: Our Sovereign Christ, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace, give us eyes this morning to see the beauty of Your incarnation, the power of Your salvation, and the eternity, righteousness, and peace of Your kingdom. Fill our eyes with Your glory, so that our hearts and lips will be filled with Your praise. Come Lord Jesus, raise us to Your sanctuary. Amen.**

## \*The Gloria

The Gloria Patri

GREATOREX





Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -  
gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,  
world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

### The Reading of Scripture

The Minister: The Word of the Lord.

The People: Thanks be to God!

**Luke 3:1-9**

Pew Bible page 858

The Reverend Mark Randle (8:30)

The Reverend Robert Cunningham (11:00)

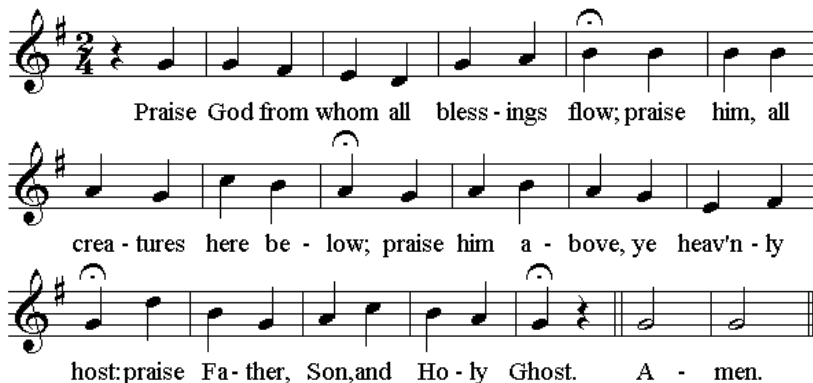
### \*The Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

**Unison:** 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-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### \*The Doxology

OLD HUNDRETH



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all  
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly  
host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

## The Giving of Tithes and Offerings

\*The Offertory Reading

The Minister: Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.

**The People: For the Lord is good, His steadfast love endures forever.**

\*The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory

Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain

Megan Binkowski, solo

The Anthem

Jennings

*Climb to the top of the highest mountain, joyous tidings proclaim to the world. Lift up your voice, shout the good news: Behold, your Lord comes to you. He will feed his flock like a shepherd, He will carry the lambs in his arms, He will ever keep them safe from harm. Behold, your Lord comes to you. He who made the stars in the heaven, He who fashioned the earth and the sea, from time eternal he was God, the Alpha and Omega, He. Behold, your Lord! He will come in power and glory, He will rule with mercy and truth, Hope of all the nations, Light of all the world. He will love the little children, He will hold them in his arms. Love him and trust him as a little child, Behold, your Lord comes to you. Love him as a child, Trust him as a child.*

(Children 4 yrs – Kindergarten are dismissed for children’s worship in Room 118)

## The Sermon

**The Reverend John P. Sartelle, Sr.  
Senior Minister**

### “How Do You Prepare for Jesus?”

The Text: *“A voice cries: ‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.’ ”* – Isaiah 40:3

## \*The Hymn of Preparation

No, Not Despairingly Come I to Thee

**No. 495**

stanzas 1-3

The Minister: Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed.

**The People: God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.**

The Minister: It was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from your empty way of life, but with the precious blood of Christ.

## The Prayer of Preparation

**Unison: Our Lord Christ, who has the authority to forgive our sins, we come in sorrow and joy to Your table. We grieve that we are constant in our sin. We rejoice that You are a Savior for sinners. We come infirm to the Physician of life. We come unclean to the Fountain of mercy. According to Your word, heal us from our present sin and the anguish it has brought to our lives. Wash away the**

**foulness of our immorality in the power of Your Spirit. Grant that we will receive Your body and blood in true faith so that this Sacrament will bring refreshment to the soul, confidence to the conscience, and grace to the heart. As You strengthened Elijah with holy food, strengthen us with this spiritual manna that we will walk in the assurance of our risen, ascended, and reigning King. Amen.**

The Minister: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!

**The People: Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed.**

The Minister: Take and eat; this is my body given for you.

**The People: This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. Drink from it, all of you.**

**All: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!**

### **The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**The Hymn**

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

**No. 195**

The diaconal (mercy) offering will be received during this hymn.

### **\*The Benediction**

**The Postlude**

Unto Us Is Born a Son

Colin Mawby