

January 2 9:00AM Common Thread Worship

Please tell the lot attendant how you will be worshiping so they can direct you where best to park. Thanks!



Greeting

Song – Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

*UMH 196. Charles Wesley, Rowland H. Prichard; harm. From *The English Hymnal*. CCLI# 1374588*

Sharing Peace

Song – Adore

You stepped down from Heaven. Humbly You came, God of all creation here with us.
In a starlit manger, Emmanuel, Light of the World, to save.
Adore; come let us adore. O come, let us adore Him, the Lord.
Worship Christ, the Lord. Let all that is within us adore.

Wise Men bring their treasures, shepherds bow low. Angels' voices sing of peace on earth.
What have I to offer to Heaven's King? I will bring my life, my love, my all.
Adore; come, let us adore. O come, let us adore Him, the Lord.
Worship Christ, the Lord. Let all that is within us adore.

Angels sing, praises ring to the newborn King.
Peace on earth here with us, joy awakening. At Your feet we fall.
Angels sing, praises ring to the newborn King.
Peace on earth, here with us, joy awakening. At Your feet we fall.

Adore; come, let us adore. O come, let us adore Him, the Lord.
Worship Christ, the Lord. Let all that is within us adore.

Graham Kendrick & Martin Chalk ©2015 Common Hymnal Publishing, worshiptogether.com Songs, sixsteps Music, Vamos Publishing, S.D.G. Publishing. CCLI#1374588.

Prayer Time & 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.

Song – Praise Him (All This for a King)

Turn your ear to heaven, and hear the noise inside,
The sound of angel's awe, the sound of angel's songs, and all this for a King.

We could join and sing all to Christ, the King.

How constant, how divine, this song of ours will rise.

O how constant, how divine, this love of ours will rise, will rise.

O praise Him, O praise Him; He is holy, He is holy.

Turn your gaze to heaven, and raise a joyous noise.

The sound of salvation come, the sound of rescued ones, and all this for a King.

Angels join to sing all to Christ, our King.

O praise Him, O praise Him; He is holy, He is holy.

How infinite and sweet this love so rescuing.

O how infinitely sweet this great love that has redeemed. As one we sing.

O praise Him, O praise Him; He is holy, He is holy.

Alleluia, Alleluia. He is holy, He is holy.

Alleluia, Alleluia. He is holy.

David Crowder ©2003 worshiptogether.com Songs/sixsteps Music. CCLI#1374588

Gospel Lesson – John 1: 1-18

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.

The Word was with God in the beginning.

Everything came into being through the Word, and without the Word nothing came into being.

What came into being through the Word was life, and the life was the light for all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light.

A man named John was sent from God. He came as a witness to testify concerning the light, so that through him everyone would believe in the light. He himself wasn't the light, but his mission was to testify concerning the light.

The true light that shines on all people was coming into the world.

The light was in the world, and the world came into being through the light, but the world didn't recognize the light.

The light came to his own people, and his own people didn't welcome him.

But those who did welcome him, those who believed in his name, he authorized to become God's children, born not from blood nor from human desire or passion, but born from God.

The Word became flesh and made his home among us.

We have seen his glory, glory like that of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

John testified about him, crying out, "This is the one of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is greater than me because he existed before me.'"

From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace; as the Law was given through Moses, so grace and truth came into being through Jesus Christ.

No one has ever seen God. God the only Son, who is at the Father's side, has made God known.

Message – Clinging to Light

Sharing Holy Communion

Song – *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,

From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:

"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men, from heaven's all-gracious King."

The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,

Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
Look now! For glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hast'ning on, by prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And thw hole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

Edmund Sears, Music: Richard Willis, arr. Don Chapman. ©2004 Hearts to God Music. CCLI#1374588.

Blessing & Sending Out

Forward to Share Our Offerings

Out to Serve Our Lord

What to know this week ...

You are invited to prepare a card or note for Law Enforcement Appreciation Day! If you bring your card or note to the church office by January 5, we will deliver them for you! Take a moment to show appreciation for the hard work undertaken by these public servants. Thank you!

St. James UMC is happy to announce the return of our sign-up for weekly altar flowers – now digitally! You may sign up on any 2022 date (beginning January 16) to provide live, fresh flowers on the sanctuary altar for the Sunday worship service. Please visit www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e48a4aa2da2F85-2022, review the available dates, and click on the button to sign up. Add any additional information to honor or remember someone, and that information will be shared in the order of worship. All arrangements and payments must be made 2 weeks prior directly with John's Flowers at 919-266-1397. Flowers should be collected or disposed of by the donor at the end of worship. Flowers will be provided only on weeks when someone has signed up. The SignUp is open now – grab your preferred date before it's gone! If you need assistance signing up online, contact Martha in the church office (919-876-5796 or office@stjamesraleigh.org) during regular office hours.