

Order of Worship For Honor and Praise of the God

COMING TOGETHER

Prelude Anthony Xu, organ

Welcome

Call to Worship Liturgist

One: The desert shall rejoice and blossom;

All: We come seeking the joy God promises.

One: The weak are strengthened, the fearful encouraged;

All: We come leaning on the One who makes all things new.

One: God opens our eyes to see, our ears to hear, our hearts to hope;

All: We come with expectation, waiting for Christ's coming.

One: Let us worship the God of joy!
All: We rejoice and give praise!

Passing the Peace

* **Hymn 134** *Joy to the World* Antioch

* Call to Confession

Liturgist

God's joy breaks into our world even when we are not ready. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

* Prayer of Confession

Liturgist

God of joy and promise, we confess that we are not always people of rejoicing. We let worry overwhelm us, we cling to frustration and fear, and we forget the nearness of your coming kingdom. Forgive us, Lord. Turn our hearts toward your light so that we may walk in hope, live in gratitude, and wait with joyful expectation for Christ our Savior. Amen.

* Assurance of Pardon

Liturgist

Hear the good news: the wilderness blooms, the weak are made strong, and God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

* Gloria - 113 Angels We Have Heard on High (Refrain)

THE ADVENT WREATH

Hymn 85

Light One Candle to Watch For Messiah (Verse 3)

Tif In Veldele

Gloria

Lighting the Advent Candle

Advent Readers

Hymn 88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (Verse 1)

Veni Emmanuel

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Children's Moment

Liturgist

Hymn 106

Prepare the Way, O Zion
... Bereden Väg För Herran

Prayer for Illumination

Liturgist

Holy God, as we watch for signs of your coming and listen for the good news you speak, open our hearts by your Spirit. Shine your light upon your Word, that we may see with hope and walk in the joy of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn 97

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night (Verse 1)

Aberystwyth

SCRIPTURE

Old Testament Lesson

New Testament Lesson

James 5:7-10; pg. 663

James 5:7-10; pg. 231

Matthew 11:2-11; pg. 11

Hymn 136 *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

Go Tell It

Hymn Sing Sunday

During our hymn sing, you're invited to call out a favorite hymn. Advent and Christmas hymns are found in hymns 82–156.

* Affirmation of Faith

An Affirmation of Faith for Advent

I believe in the spirit of Christmas, for it is the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose birth it celebrates; I believe in the lights of Christmas, for they remind me of him who is the Light of the world; I believe in the greenery of Christmas, for it symbolizes the eternal life of those in Christ; I believe in giving gifts at Christmas, for it is in keeping with the greatest gift the world has ever known; I believe in being childlike at Christmas, for Jesus said we must become as children to enter the kingdom of heaven; And I believe in the angels' song about peace on earth among persons of good will, for when my will is good, as it is at Christmas, I feel a peace and joy

in my heart that is unlike anything else in all the world. It has to be the peace and joy of God! Amen.

Prayers of the People and 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

BRINGING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Invitation to the Offering

Liturgist

Liturgist

Offertory Carol of the Bells
Anthony Xu, piano

Traditional Arr. Ross

* Advent Doxology - Hymn 606

Praise God, for Prophets' Voice of Old

Old Hundredth

* Dedication of the Offering Liturgist

GOING OUT IN MISSION

* **Hymn 119** Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Mendelssohn (Verses 1 and 2)

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* Charge and Benediction Liturgist

* **Hymn 119** Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Mendelssohn (Verse 3)

Postlude Anthony Xu, organ



Welcome, Guests and Visitors!

Greetings in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ! We hope and pray that you will grow in relationship with the living God as we worship together. Members and guests are asked to sign the Ministry of Friendship book as it is passed from the front pew to the back.

New members come into our fellowship by Profession of Faith, Letter of Transfer, or Reaffirmation of Faith. Please call the church office (405)751-2546 or speak to a serving elder, denoted by a gold flag on their name tag, for more information.

About Our Worship

In worship, God is the audience. We are participants who have gathered to give thanks and praise. In reverence to God and out of respect for other worshippers, please silence your cell phones.

Children are welcome in worship each Sunday. Activity tote bags for children are available at the welcome table each week. The nursery is open for parents with little ones as well.

The congregation is invited to stand, in body or spirit, when an asterisk (*) is notated in the bulletin. Where there is **bolded** text, the congregation is invited to speak aloud in unison.



We are looking for people who have stories, memorabilia, or photos to share from Covenant over the years. To celebrate the life of our church, we need people to help with preparation for events over the course of the year as well!

Interested in volunteering or sharing your memories of our church home? Contact the church office!

Staff and Participants in Worship:

Rev. Kathleen Luke	Minister
Emily Sawyer	Administrative Assistant
Morgan Magelssen	Music Director
Alice Showalter	Childcare Provider
Meagan McCrary	Orchestra Assistant
Anthony Xu	Accompanist
John Magelssen	Streaming Attendant
CPC Orchestra	Music
Covenant Singers	Music
John Magelssen	Liturgist
Orchestra	Advent Readers
Youth	Acolyte

Resources used for worship today include:

• Prayers and liturgical texts reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word* © 2015.

Hours of Operation:

Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Connect with us on Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/covpresokc
Locate us online at www.covenantokc.org

10100 Ridgeview Drive The Village, Oklahoma 73120 (405)751-2546 <u>Info@CovPresOKC.org</u>

* **PA Hearing Assist Units** are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Please take one if you need it and return it to the same spot after the service. Thank you!

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3rd Sunday of Advent, Year A December 14, 2025 - 10:30 a.m.

