THE LORD'S SERVICE
November 29, 2026

Gathering & Hospitality
Welcome & Announcements

Welcome! If you would like to receive our E-announcements, leave your contact info (including email) at the welcome stand. Please reference the insert for upcoming events and announcements.

THE LORD CALLS US INTO HIS SPECIAL PRESENCE
Call to Worship

Psalm 98.1-4 (*ESV*)

Oh sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.

The Lord has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

***Songs of Praise**
"Holy, Holy, Holy" Isaac Watts (1719)

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, all the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.

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 power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty.
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty.
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

You are God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

Prayer

Scripture Reading Isaiah 40:1-11 (*ESV*)

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

3 A voice cries:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
4 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.
5 And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

6 A voice says, “Cry!”
And I said, “What shall I cry?”
All flesh is grass,
and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.
7 The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the Lord blows on it;
surely the people are grass.
8 The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

9 Go on up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not;
say to the cities of Judah,
“Behold your God!”
10 Behold, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
11 He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.

“How Sweet And Awesome Is The Place” Isaac Watts (1707)

How sweet and awesome is the place with Christ within the doors
While everlasting love displays the choicest of her stores

While all our hearts and all our songs join to admire the feast
Each of us cry with thankful tongues “Lord, why was I a guest?”

“Why was I made to hear Thy voice and enter while there’s room
When thousands make a wretched choice and rather starve than come?”

’Twas the same love that spread the feast that sweetly drew us in
Else we had still refused to taste and perished in our sin

Pity the nations, O our God, constrain the earth to come
Send Thy victorious Word abroad and bring the strangers home

We long to see Thy churches full that all the chosen race
May with one voice and heart and soul sing Thy redeeming grace

THE LORD CLEANSES US

† Confession of Sin

O Lord, rebuke me not in your anger,
Nor discipline me in your wrath.
For my iniquities have gone over my head;
Like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me.
Do not forsake me, O Lord!
O my God, be not far from me!
Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation. (Ps. 38:1,4,21,22)

And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?
My hope is in you.
Deliver me from all my transgressions for the sake of your dear Son, Jesus Christ. (Ps. 39:7,8)

****Declaration of Forgiveness*** from Luke 1:67-79 (*ESV*)

Blessed be the Lord God, for he has visited and redeemed his people. He has raised up a horn of salvation for you in the house of his servant David for the forgiveness of your sins.

We have received the mercy promised to our fathers, that being delivered from the hand of our enemies, we might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

Missions

Jeremiah & Kari Pitts
African Bible University in Uganda

****Prayer of Petition***

Leader: Lord, in your mercy;
People: Hear our prayer.
Leader: And now let us offer the prayer that our Lord has taught us:
All: Our Father, who is 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 and ever.

Children's Homily

Dismissal to Little Sprouts. (Available for kids 3-PreK, to be picked up at the beginning of the Lord's Supper. Drop-off and pick-up are as you exit the sanctuary.)

THE LORD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD

Scripture Reading Luke 1.5-25

Pastor: This is the word of God.
People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon AJ Babel

"God Prepares His People"

THE LORD COMMUNES WITH US AT HIS TABLE

Prayer of Thanksgiving
Words of Institution
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Jesus Christ himself invites all true believers to his table. If you are a baptized Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ, and a faithful member or adherent of this or some other congregation, recognizing its belonging to the fellowship of Christian believers, please know how welcome you are to eat this gracious meal with us. By taking the bread and the wine, you are acknowledging that you are a sinner, without hope except in God's sovereign mercy, and that you are trusting in Christ alone for your salvation. If you have any questions about your participation in the Lord's Supper, please speak to one of our elders.

"My Heart Is Filled With Thankfulness" Getty/Townend (2003)

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who bore my pain;
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace and gave me life again.
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness and clothed me in His light,
And wrote His law of righteousness with power upon my heart.

Continued on next page

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who walks beside;
Who floods my weaknesses with strength and causes fears to fly;
Whose every promise is enough for every step I take,
Sustaining me with arms of love and crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who reigns above;
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace, whose every thought is love.
For every day I have on earth is given by the King.
So I will give my life, my all, to love and follow Him.

To love and follow Him, to love and follow Him.

We Confess Our Faith from Romans 8:31-39, except v. 36

Leader: What then shall we say to any and every enemy of our salvation?
All: If God be for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Leader: Who shall bring any charge against God's elect?
All: It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Leader: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword.
All: No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For we are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our LORD.

Collection of Offerings

Leader: *What gifts do you offer to your Lord in response to His grace?*
People: We offer ourselves through praise and thanksgiving,
We offer our prayers and offerings for the sake of the world.

"Gloria Patri" Ancient Text (ca. 2-4 cent.)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.

Hymn of Response
"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" Charles Wesley (1744)

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.



THE LORD BLESSES AND COMMISSIONS US

Benediction

** all who are able, please stand*
† all who are able, please kneel

"Look up, you whose gaze is fixed on this earth, who are spellbound by the little events and changes on the face of the earth. Look up to these words, you who have turned away from heaven disappointed. Look up, you whose eyes are heavy with tears and who are heavy and who are crying over the fact that the earth has gracelessly torn us away. Look up, you who, burdened with guilt, cannot lift your eyes. Look up, your redemption is drawing near. something different from what you see daily will happen. Just be aware, be watchful, wait just another short moment. Wait and something quite new will break over you: God will come."

– Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *God Is In the Manger*

Pastor Jim Powell, Preaching & Vision | Pastor Bill Leuzinger, Counseling & Care
Pastor AJ Babel, Discipleship & Community | Pastoral Intern Troy Cash, Liturgy & Music
Pastoral Intern JT Reagor, Students & Young Adults
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UPCOMING

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SUNDAYS, 10-10:50 | THEOLOGICAL AND TOPICAL TEACHING:

- **TODAY:** Missionaries Jeremiah and Kari Pitts share about the African Bible University in Uganda
- **12/6:** Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter 22: Of Lawful Oaths and Vows
- **12/13 & 20:** Spheres of Influence (Pastor Jim)

TONIGHT, 6 PM | YOUTH CHRISTMAS DECORATING: Middle and high school families are all invited to decorate the church for the advent season! Food will be provided.

FRI, DEC 4, 6:30PM | GIRLS NIGHT – COOKIE SWAP: Ladies, join us for our annual cookie swap! We will gather at the church at 6:30pm for some nibbles, intentional fellowship, and cookie swapping! Bring 3 dozen cookies to exchange. If you are not a cookie lover, please join us anyway for the fellowship! Reach out to Shannon (423.557.4669) with any questions.

SUN, DEC 6, 6PM | CHRISTMAS CAROLING: Join us as we Christmas carol to our neighbors! Meet at the church. Enjoy warm drinks, baked goods, & fellowship afterwards! All are welcome to make a joyful noise! QR for sign up.

FOOD & TOY DRIVE: Partner with Good Samaritan, Inc this holiday season as they collect toys for Christmas! There are bins for donated items in the front room.

- These toy items through Dec 6: new toys and other gifts that a child between the ages of 3 & 18 would like to receive on Christmas morning. Toys must remain in their original packaging.

Contact Jeanette Ransom at jeanettehransom@gmail.com with any questions.

FRI, JAN 22 | VISION DINNER: Our annual Christmas Dinner and evening of Stories & Vision has become a shared special event for CCC. For scheduling and shepherding reasons, we are bumping this Vision Dinner into 2027- which we believe will be beneficial and wonderful! Please save the date!

FEBRUARY 19-21 | LADIES' RETREAT @ JUBILEE IN ABINGDON, VA: Ladies, please save this weekend for a special time away together in 2027! More details and registration link coming soon!

SCHEDULE

EACH LORD'S DAY

8:30-9:50, 1st Worship Service
10-10:50, Classes & Fellowship
11-12:15, 2nd Worship Service

Adult Classes

Theological & Topical Teaching: Sanctuary, 10-10:50AM
Fullbright Community Group: 2nd Floor, 10-10:50AM

Weekly Prayer

Jim's Office, 3rd Floor, 9:30-10AM & 11-11:30AM

Children's Classes, 10-10:50

K-1st: Elaine DeVusser 2nd Floor
2nd-3rd: Arika Smith & Peter Gaultney, 2nd Floor
4th-5th: Josh Beatty & Caleb Osborne, 2nd Floor

Youth Classes, 10-10:50

Middle School (6th-8th): Bill & Susan Kowalski , 3rd Floor, Youth Room
High School (9th-12th): JT & Mackenzie Reagor, Rex & Lina Hardy, 3rd Floor, Pastor Bill's Office

FAMILIES AND CHILDREN:

We are thankful to be an intergenerational congregation that prioritizes family worship. We love little ones in our gathered worship learning the rhythm of corporate worship.

FRONT ROOM & 2ND FLOOR LARGE CLASSROOM: A live stream of the service is available in the front room & on the second floor in the large classroom.

NURSERY: On 2nd floor for children under 3, for the duration of the worship services.

LITTLE SPROUTS (3-PREK): On 2nd floor, during the sermon with age-appropriate teaching. Check your child in/out of class in the front room (after children's homily & before Communion).

COMMUNING MEMBERSHIP: If you or your child is ready to profess faith in Christ and partake of the Lord's Supper, please contact Pastor AJ (or any elder), so we can arrange a time to talk.

MEN

WEDNESDAYS @ 8AM | MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Scriptural study for the upcoming sermon on the CCC 2nd floor. Bring your Bible and coffee, and contact Paul Gorman (423-483-8782) if planning to attend for the first time, as the location can change.

WOMEN

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES: Currently on break for the holidays. Keep an eye out for upcoming announcements regarding studies to be offered in 2027!

Luke 1.5-25

God Prepares His People

[5] In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. [6] And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. [7] But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.

- 5-10, A People & A Problem

[8] Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, [9] according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. [10] And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. [11] And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. [12] And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. [13] But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. [14] And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, [15] for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. [16] And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, [17] and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

- 11-17, God's Promise: John
    - A Glorious Messenger & Message
    - John's Birth and Life
    - John's Work of Preparation

[18] And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." [19] And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. [20] And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." [21] And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. [22] And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. [23] And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

- 18-23, Help Me Out

[24] After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, [25] "Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people." (*ESV*)

- 24-25, God Graciously Acts