

**ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD**

“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; He shall bruise your head and you shall bruise His heel.”

– Genesis 3:15

November 28, 2021                      First Sunday in Advent                      10:40 a.m.

**“I will sing of the Lord’s great love forever!”**

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude                      Sleepers Wake for Night Is Flying                      Miller  
    Ms. Lisa Barry, organ

\* Responsive Reading    Isaiah 40:3–5  
    A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
    **Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**  
    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.**  
    **And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together,**  
    **For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”**

\* Hymn                      Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus                      HYFRYDOL

**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 ev’ry nation, Joy of ev’ry longing heart.**

**Joy to those who long to see Thee, Dayspring from on high, appear.  
Come, Thou promised Rod of Jesse, of Thy birth we long to hear.  
O’er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth:  
“Go to Him, your praises bringing: Christ the Lord has come to earth.”**

**Come to earth to taste our sadness, He whose glories knew no end;  
By His life He brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;  
This the everlasting wonder: Christ was born the Lord of all.**

**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.**

\* Affirmation of Faith    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 Ghost,  
    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 sitteth at 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 Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,  
    the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
    Amen.**

\* Congregational Response    St. Thomas  
    **The advent of our God with eager hearts we greet;  
    And we must praise Him in this hour with hymns and anthems sweet.**

\* Prayer of Adoration

**“You shall call His name Jesus,  
for He will save His people from their sins.”**

New Testament Lesson    Galatians 4:1–7  
    This is the word of the Lord.  
    **Thanks be to God!**

General Prayer of Confession  
    **Our Father in heaven, we acknowledge that we have sinned and broken Your  
    law. We are sorry for every idle word, every sinful thought, and every evil  
    deed. Please have mercy upon us and forgive us of our many sins, through  
    the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness    Pastor Heath Cross

\* Hymn                      Of the Father’s Love Begotten                      DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

**Of the Father’s love begotten ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega, He the Source, the Ending He.  
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore!**

**O that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race;  
And the Babe, the world’s Redeemer, first revealed His sacred face,  
Evermore and evermore!**

**This is He whom heav’n-taught singers sang of old with one accord,  
Whom the Scriptures of the prophets promised in their faithful word;  
Now He shines, the long-expected; let creation praise its Lord,  
Evermore and evermore!**

**O ye heights of heav’n adore Him; angel hosts, His praises sing;  
All dominions, bow before Him and extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent, ev’ry voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore!**

**Christ, to Thee, with God the Father, and O Holy Ghost, to Thee,  
Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be,  
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore!**

**“God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son.”**

God’s Tithe and Our Offerings

Anthem                      Whence Is That Goodly Fragrance Flowing?                      arr. Wilberg  
    Stephens Valley Church Choir

Whence is that goodly fragrance flowing, stealing our senses all away? Never the  
like did come abloding, shepherds, from flow’ry fields in May. Whence is that  
goodly fragrance flowing, stealing our senses all away? What is that light so

brilliant, breaking here in the night across our eyes? Never so bright, the daystar  
waking, started to climb the morning skies! What is that light so brilliant,  
breaking here in the night across our eyes? Bethlehem! there, in manger lying,  
find your Redeemer, haste away. Run ye, with eager footsteps hieing! Worship  
the Savior born today.

\* Presentation of Gifts    GREENSLEEVES  
    **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.**

\* Prayer of Dedication

**“The people walking in darkness have seen a great light...”**

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson    Isaiah 11:1–11  
    All flesh is grass, and all its loveliness is like the flower of the field.  
    **The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.**

Sermon                      The Christmas Prophecy                      Pastor Jim Bachmann

Prayer of Supplication and Intercession

**“He has filled the hungry with good things  
but has sent the rich away empty.”**

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper  
    Words of Institution  
    Breaking the Bread    O Come, O Come, Emmanuel                      Powell  
    Ms. Lisa Barry, organ

Sharing the Cup

\* Hymn                      It Came Upon the Midnight Clear                      CAROL

**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, good will to men, from heav’n’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 prophet bards foretold,  
When with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold;  
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.**

\* Benediction

\* Postlude                      Prepare the Royal Highway                      Held  
    Ms. Lisa Barry, organ

\* Congregation standing

– ANNOUNCEMENTS –

**Welcome** to our time of worship on this first Sunday in Advent! We are delighted to have all of you here and invite you to join us for all of our services throughout this special season.

**Prayer Needs:** An elder will be available each Sunday in the Rutherford Room (north entrance) following the worship service for specific prayer needs you may have.

**SVC Kids Family Christmas Event:** All families with children 3 years old–5th grade are invited to join us Sunday, December 5 from 12:00–2:00 p.m. We will serve lunch, decorate cookies, do crafts and games, sing carols, and hear the Christmas story. Invite your friends to join us! Register at [stephensvalleychurch.com](http://stephensvalleychurch.com) by December 2.

**SVC Women’s “The Gift of Christmas” Brunch:** Join us on Tuesday, December 14 at 10:00 a.m. Cost for SVC members is \$15; visitors eat free. Invite your friends for good food, inspiration from speaker Krin Valentine, and a celebration of the birth of Jesus. Register at [stephensvalleychurch.com](http://stephensvalleychurch.com).

**Advent Services Schedule**

**December 9, 6:00 p.m. | Advent Dinner**

Our Advent Dinner will be held at the church on Thursday, December 9 at 6:00 p.m. This festive evening includes dinner and entertainment provided by Wes and Carolyn Ramsey (harp and trombone). The menu is a choice of beef tenderloin or salmon, red potatoes, roasted carrots and asparagus, yeast rolls, fresh fruit, and chocolate cherry torte and banana pudding. The recommended donation is \$30/person. Half portions for children ages 6 and up are \$10. Don’t let the cost stand in your way. We want everyone to be able to attend. Childcare provided for ages 0–5, and reservations are required for the evening. (Food will not be provided for this age; feel free to pack a meal for a nut-free environment.) Register at [stephensvalleychurch.com](http://stephensvalleychurch.com).

**December 12, 6:00 p.m. | A Stephens Valley Christmas**

Our adult and children’s choirs will be accompanied by a 28-piece orchestra in what promises to be a very special evening! Childcare provided for ages 0–5; make reservations for childcare at [stephensvalleychurch.com](http://stephensvalleychurch.com).

**December 24, 4:30 p.m. | Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Invite your family members and visitors to join us for this special service from 4:30–5:15 p.m. We are unable to provide a nursery, but all “little people” are most welcome to be with the family of God in the fellowship hall as we enjoy this happy time together.



– THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR –

- Today, 9:00 a.m. Officers’ Prayer Time
- Today, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
- Today, 10:15 a.m. Fellowship (Solid Rock Café)
- Today, 10:40 a.m. Worship Service
- Monday, 9:00 a.m. Sabbatical Search Career Group
- Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. Sweet Half Hour of Prayer (St. Paul Chapel, first floor)
- Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- Thursday, 10:00 a.m. SVC Women’s Prayer Shawl Ministry (Room 201A)

**Financial Update**

Average Weekly Offering Needed	\$40,305
November 21 General Fund Offering	\$27,630
Total November General Fund	\$74,155
FY 21–22 General Fund Deficit	\$161,662
Construction Loan to Refinance	\$8,650,000

**CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES**

**Birth–3 Years Old**

Room 133

**4 Years Old–1st Grade**

Room 131

**2nd–5th Grade**

Room 203

Studying the book of John

**6th Grade Catechism**

Choir Room Office

Studying the Westminster Shorter Catechism

**7th–12th Grade**

Room 204

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LINEUP**

**Starting Point**

Pastor Jim Bachmann | Office Suite Conference Room

**Friends and Family Class**

Bill Kenny | Room 201A

Studying Genesis 25–50

**Westminster Class**

Pastor Heath Cross | Room 201B

Spiritual Depression, Declension, and Renewal: Principles of Personal Revival

**Geneva Class**

Dr. David Lawrence | Rutherford Room

Exploring Islam: Conclusion

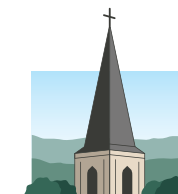
STEPHENS VALLEY CHURCH  
**CHRISTMAS**

•••• 2021 ••••



The Christmas Prophecy

November 28, 2021



Biblical, Reformed, Independent

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