

ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD		
“Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?...For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.” – 1 Corinthians 1:20, 26–27		
December 15, 2019	Third Sunday of Advent	10:00 a.m.

God Calls Us to Worship		
Welcome		
Prelude	Tidings of Joy Ms. Lisa Barry, organ, and David German,piano	Arr. Larson
The Christmas Story		Selected Readings
Call to Worship		
* Hymn	As With Gladness Men of Old	DIX
<b>As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold; As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright; So, most gracious God, may we evermore be led to Thee.</b>		
<b>As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly cradle-bed, There to bend the knee before Him whom heav’n and earth adore; So may we with willing feet ever seek Thy mercy seat.</b>		
<b>As they offered gifts most rare at that cradle rude and bare; So may we with holy joy, pure, and free from sin’s alloy, All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King.</b>		
<b>Holy Jesus, ev’ry day keep us in the narrow way; And when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds Thy glory hide.</b>		
<b>In the heavenly country bright need they no created light; Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down; There forever may we sing alleluias to our King.</b>		

\* Prayer of Adoration

# God Calls Us to Repent

First Gospel Lesson

John 15:18–25

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

General Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God our Heavenly Father, please forgive us of our many sins. We are without excuse for the many times and different ways we have rebelled against Your steadfast love. Purify our hearts, transform our minds, and renew our spirits that we may love and serve You wholeheartedly from this day forth, and forevermore, through Jesus Christ our blessed Redeemer. Amen.**

Silent Prayers of Confession		
Assurance of Forgiveness		Pastor Heath Cross
* Hymn	Silent Night! Holy Night!	STILLE NACHT
<b>Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright Round yon virgin mother and child, holy infant so tender and mild; Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.</b>		
<b>Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight! Glories stream from heaven afar, heav’nly hosts sing alleluia; Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!</b>		
<b>Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace; Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth; Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.</b>		
<b>Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; With the angels let us sing alleluia to our King; Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!</b>		

God Calls Us to Give and Serve		
God's Tithe and Our Offerings		
Anthem	We Three Kings Stephens Valley Church Choir	arr. Courtney
<p>We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star. O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown Him again, King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. Glorious now behold Him arise; King and God and sacrifice: alleluia sounds through the earth and skies.</p>		
Presentation of Gifts	GO TELL IT	
<p><b>Down in a lowly manger our humble Christ was born, And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.</b></p> <p>(Children ages 4–6 may be dismissed to Children's Church, room #38.)</p>		

Prayer of Dedication		
God Calls Us to Study His Word		
Prayer for Illumination		
Second Gospel Lesson	Matthew 2:1–12	
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 Conflict	Pastor Jim Bachmann
Prayer of Supplication		

God Calls Us to His Table		
Words of Institution		
Breaking the Bread	Mary, Did You Know Mrs. Mica Copeland, soloist, and Mr. David German, piano	Greene/Lowry
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water? Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters? Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new? This child that you’ve delivered will soon deliver you. Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man? Mary, did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with His hand? Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod? When you kiss your little baby, you kiss the face of God. The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again, the lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb. Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation? Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day rule the nations? Did you know that your baby boy is heaven’s perfect lamb? The sleeping child you’re holding is the great I AM.		
Sharing the Cup		
* Hymn	O Little Town of Bethlehem	ST. LOUIS
<b>O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by: Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light; The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.</b>		
<b>For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above, While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond’ring love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth! And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.</b>		
<b>How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv’n! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heav’n. No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin, Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.</b>		
<b>O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.</b>		
* Benediction		
* Postlude	Prepare the Royal Highway Ms. Lisa Barry, organ	Wilbur Held
* congregation standing		

– ANNOUNCEMENTS –

**Greetings** in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! We warmly welcome you on this third Sunday in Advent and invite you to the cafeteria following the service for refreshments and fellowship.

**Recreational Items, Etc.:** The youth room is looking for recreation equipment that is in good condition. If you have something you would like to donate to the youth or children’s ministries please let us know. Among the items are: pool table, ping pong table, foos ball table, air hockey table, shuttle board, game tables, etc.

**SVC Men’s Bible Study:** Mr.Craig Valentine has offered to lead a men’s Bible study after the first of the year. If you are interested in participating please speak to Craig or sign up in the school lobby.

**Christmas Eve service:** Join us at Chaffin’s Barn Dinner Theater for a candlelight service from 4:30–5:15 p.m.

**Mercy Offering:** Our elders have approved a special mercy offering for Tuff Slate, 14-year-old grandson of Phil Slate who is the superintendent of our construction project. Tuff was recently run over by an SUV and is hospitalized at Vanderbilt Hospital facing numerous surgeries and a very long road to recovery. This offering will be collected at our Christmas Eve service and administered by our Benevolence Committee. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

**Finding God’s Will for Your Life:** Beginning next Sunday, Pastor Heath Cross will teach a Sunday School series on discovering God’s will for your life. The series will start next week with Heath sharing his testimony of how reading Genesis 3 as a non-believer led to him seeking God’s will for his life. If you find yourself struggling to know God’s will for your life, this class should be helpful.

**Carpooling:** If you are currently carpooling to church on Sundays, please confirm that your arrangement will continue in our new church home. If you need a ride now or when we move to the new church building, please contact Roy Pearson.

**Building Update:** As of 12-11 casework / cabinetry was being installed; toilet partitions installed in most bathrooms; fellowship hall painting scheduled to begin 12-13; ceiling grid complete on 2nd floor and nearing completion everywhere except fellowship hall; electrical light fixture installation nearly complete on 2nd floor, drywall installation should be complete by 12-20; landscaping underway at back of property; permanent power scheduled for 12-16.

– THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR –

Today, 8:20 a.m.	Officers’ prayer meeting, Room 18
Today, 8:30 a.m.	Council meeting, conference room
Today, 9:00 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
Today, 10:00 a.m.	Worship service
Tuesday, 4:00 p.m.	Sweet half-hour of prayer, 5031 Hillsboro Pike, #St. Paul parlor
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.	Choir rehearsal (Julia Green auditorium)

ELDERS

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Emeritus</u>
*Mike Bishop	*John Avery	*Keith Day	Joe Eades
*Ron Kimery	*Bob Edwards	Danny Hale	Charlie Fentress
*Jim Spann	*Louis Joseph	*Bill Kenny	Clarence Sutherland
	*Dale Lewelling	Dick Speece	
		William Tice	
		Walt Valentine	
		Terry Warren	
		<i>* denotes Council member</i>	

DEACONS

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Bill Clark	Ron Hamilton	Dick Baxter
Jesse Mayo, Chair	Carlos Lara	Steven Moore
Roy Pearson	Mike Miller	Bill Serie
Vernon Prevatt		Caleb Raymer

Corporation Officers

President: John Avery  
Vice-President: Dale Lewelling  
Secretary: Ron Kimery  
Treasurer: Terry Warren

CHURCH STAFF

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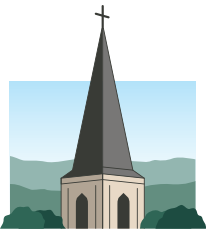
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Anita Murphy, Director of Preschool Ministry (part-time)  
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The Christmas Conflict

DECEMBER 15, 2019



Biblical, Reformed, Independent

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