

COVENANT CHURCH OF THOMASTON

*Passionately Pursuing Jesus
Sacrificially Serving Our Neighbor*



December 22, 2024
Worship 10:00 am
“Making Room for Wonder”
Luke 2:8-18

Pastor:

Rev. Stephanie Nelson
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Our mission
is to go and be living evidence of God's love
by the transforming power of his forgiveness and grace.

PRELUDE Tricia Dunn Oporto and Brenda Tousignant

WELCOME AND LIFE TOGETHER

CALL TO WORSHIP The Power of the Cross
The past that held regret over my head is gone.
These chains are ashes now that once were rusted on.
I was a runaway; now I am finally home.

My mind was a ghost town, haunted by yesterday
Until your hand reached down, pulled me out of my grave
Into the freedom found only in Jesus' name.

(chorus 1) I am forgiven, no longer lost.
Now I am living in the power of the cross.

The Father gave his Son so I could be set free,
And now the scales are gone. My eyes can finally see.
I'll tell the world of all Jesus has done for me.

(chorus 2) I am forgiven, no longer lost.
Now I am living in the power of the cross.
Goodbye to sorrow; welcome my joy.
Now I am living in the power of the cross.

(bridge) And on that cross his love held true,
Through sacrifice, the old made new.
This life I live, I live in faith now
in Jesus' name.

(chorus 3) I am forgiven, no longer lost.
Now I am living in the power of the cross.
Goodbye to sorrow (goodbye to sorrow),
Welcome my joy (welcome my joy)
Now I am living in the power of the cross.
(tag) Thank you, O God, I thank you.
Jesus, I thank you. Thank you for the cross.
Praise you, O God, I praise you.
Jesus, I praise you, praise you for the cross.

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Words and music by: Brett Younker, Brooke Ligertwood,
John Mark Hall, Kristian Stanfill, and Scott Ligertwood | CCLI 1481213

The Lord's Prayer (It's Yours)

(chorus) Father, let your Kingdom come.
Father, let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven,
Right here in my heart. *(repeat chorus)*

(verse) Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us; Forgive us.
As we forgive the ones who sinned against us,
Forgive them.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one.
Let your kingdom come.

(chorus)(chorus)(verse)

(bridge 1) It's yours; it's yours, all yours, all yours.
The kingdom, the power, the glory are yours.
It's yours; it's yours, all yours, all yours.
Forever and ever the kingdom is yours.

(bridge 2) It's yours; it's yours,
All yours, all yours.
The kingdom, the power, the glory are yours.
It's yours (it's yours); it's yours (it's yours),
All yours (all yours), all yours (all yours).
Forever (forever) and ever (and ever)
the kingdom is yours.

(chorus) (chorus)

(tag) On Earth as in Heaven, right here in my heart.

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Words and music by: Matt Maher / Bryan Christopher Fowler / Jacob Lee Sooter

PRAYER OF ADORATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts, debtors)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT: THE ADVENT WREATH Karen Anticoli
Advent Week 4: Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love

HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD Peggy Schwetz
Psalm 86:8-12
Hymn # 162 Angels We Have Heard on High

**OFFERING – GIVE AS THE LORD LEADS YOU, WITH OPEN HANDS
AND ALL YOUR HEART**

Offertory
*Doxology
*Prayer of Dedication

SPECIAL MUSIC

Holy Forever

SERMON

Pastor Stephanie Nelson

“Making Room for Wonder”

Luke 2:8-18 (p. 1459)

SENDING SONG O Holy Night

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining;
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees, Oh, hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night, divine, O night, O night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another,
His law is love and his gospel is peace.
Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother.
And in his name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise his holy name.
Christ is the Lord! O praise his name forever.
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!

Fall on your knees, Oh, hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night, divine, O night, O night divine!

Public Domain

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Tricia Dunn Oporto and Brenda Tousignant

TODAY

9:00 am Sunday School / D/C

10:00 am Worship

Nursery: Sue Sundell

4:00 pm CHYG Caroling and Christmas Party

THIS WEEK

Mon. 3:00 pm Private (Fellowship Room)

Tue. 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Family Worship

Wed. 6:30 am Julotta

6:30 pm NA (Fellowship Room)

Sun. 9:00 am Sunday School / D/C

Sun. 10:00 am Worship

- **JULOTTA WORSHIP** on Christmas morning at 6:30. This traditional service will be followed by a continental breakfast, hosted by Janet Ryan Cappelletti and Sean Corey. Contact Janet (203 560 1660 or janet_cappelletti@yahoo.com) if you can help with food, serving, or cleanup.
- **PASTOR STEPHANIE** will be away vacationing with family December 26-January 3. If you have pastoral needs during that time, contact Diaconate chair Cathy Fredlund (203-841-7239 or cathyfredlund@gmail.com).
- **FAREWELL TO TED AND ANN RYAN:** We are planning a farewell to Ted and Ann Ryan next Sunday during the coffee hour and fellowship time. Questions: contact any member of the Deacon Board.
- **WM BOOK CLUB:** The book for January 8 is *The Small and the Mighty* by Sharon McMahan. We will meet at 6:00 pm at Jean Morton's.

• **CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**

<u>GIVEN BY</u>	<u>IN HONOR OF OR IN MEMORY OF</u>
Linda Chandon	Ed and Eleanor Grabherr
Ted and Ann Ryan	Edna Billings
Mary and John Butkevich	Loved ones
The Bedosky Family	Michael Bedosky III, Gabriel and Antonia Gomez, Rubina Ciccarelli, and Martha Gomez

Elsa and Stan Hurlbert

Martha and Robert Thulin

Cathy and Jay Fredlund

Pops Fredlund & Bill Berg

Tim and Sue Sundell LaVonne Sundell and Dave Crannell

Ken and Ruth Hopkins

Kenneth and Beryl Hopkins
Roger and Ruth Pierpont

Sarah Morton and Patricia Vigeant

Pam Morton

The Mortons and the Vigeants, Frank and Jean Morton
Robert Morton

Lori & Tim Vigeant

Frank & Dorothy Vigeant
and Bachie

Patricia Vigeant, Adrianna, and LJ

Linda Lawrence

William and Marion Lawrence
Michael Hansen

Ruth Johnson

Family loved ones and Dale Holder

• **ANNUAL MEETING REPORTS DUE:** Our annual meeting will be **January 19, 2025.**

Annual Reports: Reports to be included in the Annual Report that are already typed are due in the Church Office by January 4. If your report will need to be typed, please submit it no later than noon on Monday, December 30. Reports are needed from:

Pastor (including entries into the church record and membership summary)

Financial Secretary
Treasurer/Budget
Nominating Committee
(*slate of officers*)

M & E Board Chair

M & E Treasurer

Diaconate Chair

Diaconate Treasurer

Trustees Chair

~~CE Board Chair~~ (received!)

Sunday School Supt.

Sunday School Treasurer

CHYG Youth Group

UNITE Fund

Trailblazers/Pathfinders Group

Women Ministries Chair

WM Treasurer

Investment Funds

Memorial Fund

Men's Ministry Fund

- **All boards and committees** are reminded to meet before the January Annual Meeting to elect officers. Diaconate, Trustees, Christian Education, and Missions & Evangelism

Boards must also appoint a representative to the Nominating Committee. *(If you were Chair of any Board or Committee in 2024, please convene an organizational meeting, before the Annual Meeting, of that group even if you will not be serving with that group in 2025.)*

- **Auditor Bill Dayton** must audit all financial records before the Annual Meeting on January 19. *(Leave clearly marked records at Red's Hardware for Bill or give them to Ken Hopkins to deliver to Bill.)* These include the **Church operating and savings/restricted accounts, Investment Funds, Women Ministries Fund, Missions & Evangelism Fund, Diaconate Fund, Memorial Fund, Sunday School Fund, Men's Ministry Fund, and the UNITE Fund.**