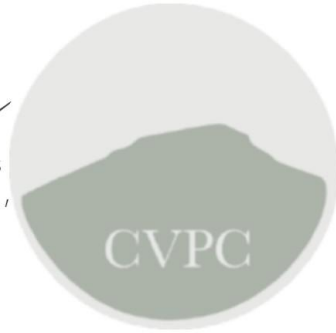


Vision

To see lives transformed
through following Jesus.

Mission

Making disciples
through worship,
fellowship &
service.



Values

Worship,
Word,
Compassion &
Community

Chattanooga Valley Presbyterian Church

Order of Worship

December 12, 2021

Liturgist: Albert Leavengood | Sermon: Rev. Dennis Louis

Worship Leader: Scott Finch

Advent Readings: Isaiah 40:1-11 | Readers: Avery & Emily Radmacher

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. 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. 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." 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. The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. 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!" Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. 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.

Luke 1:67-80

And John's father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

Call to Worship: Psalm 77:11-20

L: I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your wonders of old. I will ponder all your work, and meditate on your mighty deeds.

ALL: Your way, O God, is holy. What god is great like our God? You are the God who works wonders; you have made known your might among the peoples.

L: You with your arm redeemed your people, the children of Jacob and Joseph. When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid; indeed, the deep trembled.

ALL: The clouds poured out water; the skies gave forth thunder; your arrows flashed on every side. The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lighted up the world;

L: the earth trembled and shook. Your way was through the sea, your path through the great waters; yet your footprints were unseen.

ALL: You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

L: This is the Word of the LORD.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Adoration: O Come All Ye Faithful | 208

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him born the King of angels; O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2. God of God, Light of Light; lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb: very God, begotten, not created; O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

3. Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above; glory to God in the highest; O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning: Jesus, to thee be glory given; Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing; O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Prayer of Adoration & 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

Testimonies from the Congregation

Song of Preparation: Heal Us (*See back page*)

Sermon: "Faithfulness on the Threshing Floor"

Word: Ruth 3

Song of the Month: Lovely Child, Holy Child | 231

1. Lovely child, holy child, gentle, mild, undefiled;
infant King, fairest King, gifts we'll bring and anthems sings:

Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia!

2. Child of light, born tonight, our delight, promise bright;
child so fair: see him there; now declare him ev'rywhere: [Refrain]

3. Rest your head, sweetest head; gifts we'll spread at your bed.
Jesus lord, be adored, may this word now be outpoured. [Refrain]

4. To this boy, our great joy, we employ hymns of joy;
child so fair: see him there; now declare him ev'rywhere: [Refrain]

Prayers of the People

Doxological Hymn: All People That On Earth Do Dwell | 1

1. All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice; him serve with fear, his praise forthtell, come ye before him and rejoice.
2. The Lord ye know is God indeed; without our aid he did us make; we are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
3. O enter then his gates with praise, approach with joy his courts unto; praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.
4. For why? The Lord our God is good, his mercy is forever sure; his truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.
5. Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise him all creatures here below, praise him above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. AMEN!

Offertory Prayer, Offering, & Opportunities to Serve

The Sending Hymn: As With Gladness Men of Old | 226

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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 heav'nly King.
4. 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.
5. In the heav'nly country bright need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;
there for ever may we sing alleluias to our King.

Benediction: 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word... *so that all the peoples will say...*

ALL: Amen. Our LORD is faithful. Praise the LORD!

Questions for Reflection: Read Ruth 3

1. Biblical faithfulness can be defined as attentiveness to carry out Yahweh's will purposes in the world. In what ways do you see Yahweh's faithfulness toward the people in chapter 3? In what ways do we see Naomi, Ruth and Boaz's faithfulness towards Yahweh's will and redemptive purposes?
2. What makes Naomi and Ruth's conversation about marriage at the beginning of Ruth 3 seem so unconventional (Read Gen. 24 for context)? Did Ruth sin by asking Boaz to marry her?
3. What makes Boaz's response to Ruth in vs. 10-13 so surprising (Read Gen. 38:6-11 and Deut. 25:5-10 for context)? By saying that there is a kinsman redeemer who is nearer than him, was Boaz trying to get out of marrying Ruth?
4. The chapter ends with a bit of a cliffhanger. Ruth still doesn't know if her efforts will yield the intended results (marriage). How does the cliffhanger at the ending of Ruth 3 inform the uncertainties that often accompany our attempts to be faithful to Yahweh?
5. Many scholars and bible commentators point out the sexual induendos and overtones in Ruth 3 (Uncover his feet and lie down, she layed at his feet, and spread your wings over me). What can we infer about the character of Naomi and Boaz that would indicate that nothing immoral is happening in this text?
6. In Ruth 3, Ruth is the picture of covenant faithfulness carried out in an unconventional (not according to the normal way things are done) manner while Boaz is the picture of covenant faithfulness exercised in a conventional (the way things are normally done) manner. In what ways do you see in the Christmas story, Yahweh working through unconventional and conventional means? In what ways did Jesus Christ practice covenant faithfulness in an unconventional and conventional manner?

Today at CVPC

Leadership Elections: Please join us following today's service to elect our nominated leaders.

Lessons & Carols: Join us today at 5:00pm in the church gym for a Lessons & Carols Service led by the Children's Choir. Singers should arrive by 4:30pm. Please bring a salty and sweet item to share.

The **Finch Growth Group** is in Overflow this week.

Announcements

Advent Breakfasts: Our final Advent Breakfast will be a potluck-style breakfast on Sunday, Dec. 19 at 9am.

Caroling, Cocoa, & Cookies: Everyone is encouraged to come out for an evening of fun and caroling, as we look forward to bringing joy and song to some in our church body. Meet in the church parking lot at 5pm on Sunday, Dec. 19. Please bring your favorite Christmas cookies to share.

Christmas Eve Service: Join us with your family, friends, and neighbors at 6pm for a traditional Advent Service. The light shines in the darkness!

Please join CVPC in wishing a Happy Birthday for the month of December:

Krista Murphy | Dec. 12
Jessica Davenport | Dec. 16
Asa Williams | Dec. 17
Joseph Ibach | Dec. 21
Andy Hansen | Dec. 22
Cate Voyles | Dec. 27

CVPC would like to wish a Happy Anniversary to:

Avery & Emily Radmacher, Joe & Rachel Staven, Jim & Linda Richter, Scott & Pam Kennedy, Albert & Karen Leavengood, and Andy & Linda Burnette

Coming Up at CVPC

If you have questions or for more information, please contact the secretary at 706-820-2833 or via email at secretary@chattvalleypca.com

	Week of Dec. 13-19	Week of Dec. 20-26
MONDAY	3PM: Monday Music 4:30PM: Manse Reserved 7PM: Diaconate Meeting	3PM: Monday Music 4:30PM: Manse Reserved
TUESDAY	6PM: Session Meeting	
WEDNESDAY	10AM: Women's Bible Study 5:30PM: Chaplin/S/W GG 6PM: Women's Bible Study	
THURSDAY	6PM: Kennedy GG	
FRIDAY		6PM: Christmas Eve Service
SATURDAY	5PM: Caroling, Cocoa, & Cookies	
SUNDAY	9AM: Advent Breakfast 10:30AM: Worship	10:30AM: Worship
Elder on Call	Albert Leavengood Email: Albert@chattvalleypca.com	
Deacon On Call	Chad Dukes Email: Chaddukes@chattvalleypca.com	
Overflow	Chaplin/S/W	Louis
Greeters	Townes Family	Vines Family
Youth	No Youth	No Youth
Nursery: SS	No Sunday School	No Sunday School
Nursery: Worship	Lou Schimpf, Amy Sterkel, & Allie Finch	Emily Radmacher, Pam & Ethan Kennedy

BB 026 Heal Us Emmanuel

Cowper/Twit & Morton/arr.Finch

Final Chorus 2x

8 *C* *F* *C* *G*
 Heal us! E-mman-uel here we are. We long to feel Thy touch. —

15 *C* *F* *C* *F*
 Deep wound - ed souls to Thee we fly, O, Sav-ior hear our
 cry. —

22 *C* *F*
 faint - ly trust Thy Word; But will you pit - y
 tremb-ling for re - lief; "Lord, I be - lieve," with
 heal - ing vir - tue stole, was an-swered "Daught - er,
 touch you if we may, O send us not de -

27 *C* *E* *Dm* *Dm⁷/E* *Dm⁷/G* *C*
 us the less? Be that far from you, Lord!
 tears he cried; "O help my un - be - lief!"
 go in peace; thy faith has made thee whole!"
 spair - ing home; send none un-healed a - way. —

Back to Chorus