№ ENTRANCE **≪**

For where two or three are gathered in my name, J am there among them.

(Matthew 18:20; NRSV)

Welcome and Announcements Ricky Tipps

*Hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" # 176 BH

*Invocation Daniel Moore

Watch and wait for Christ's coming!
Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,
remembering the promises of God with prayer.

*We light this candle in hope. Light the first candle. Daniel & Whitney

*Hear God's promise of hope from Jeremiah 33:14-16; Whitney Moore

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety.

And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

*Call to Worship (Responsively)

Pastor

Our hearts have felt the stirrings of GOD'S Presence.

The SPIRIT of truth is here to heal us, teaching transgressors GOD'S ways.

*Opening Prayer Daniel Moore

> PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD ❖

Gospel Reading Luke 21:25-36; Whitney Moore

Hymn "Away in a Manger" # 205 BH

Concerns and Prayers/Lord's Prayer Pastor

Special Music David Cost

Sermon 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Pastor

"Strengthen Your Hearts in Holiness."

*Hymn "What Child Is This" # 198 BH

*Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Pastor

Almighty GOD, YOUR promises of old strengthen us during these dark times. We yearn to learn to read the signs of YOUR coming in the tumult of our world. Yet, we have seen it all before and nothing seems to change. Grant us the wisdom that comes from waiting, and teach us the patience that leads to godliness as our SAVIOR draws near. Amen.

*Words of Assurance & Encouragement

We worship a GOD of mercy, who abounds in steadfast love.

The ONE who is GOD'S Righteous Branch draws near to save us from our weakness,

and to seal us in GOD's love. Thanks be to GOD!

*Affirmation of Faith Pastor

***Doxology** "Glory Be to the Father"

The Celebration of the Holy Communion Pastor

> SENDING FORTH ←

*Closing Hymn "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" # 213 BH

If you would like to make a profession of faith, join the church, or simply pray at the altar, you may come during the closing hymn. We welcome you to our fellowship!

*Charge & Benediction

Pastor

May your love for one another abound, just as CHRIST'S love abounds for you. Go with GOD'S love and with the SPIRIT'S fierce tenderness in your hearts. Go with God.

Amen.

Phyllis Turner

In the Life of our STONEGATE Community

Thursday, December 2, 2021;

10:00 a.m. - LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

 $Friday, December\ 3, 2021;$

9:00 a.m. – Friday's Breakfast

First Sunday of Advent, December 5, 2021;

10:45 a.m. – MUSIC & WORSHIP

Friday, December 10, 2021; Christmas Fellowship Night

6:00 p.m. – APPETIZERS FOR GAME

You Are All Invited

The Pastor's weekly messages are published on our website at www.stonegatecpc.org

& For Our Guests &

We are so thrilled to have you worship with us today. We truly hope you are encouraged and inspired to grow closer to GOD as we worship the true and living GOD together.



Some prayers, litanies, and other worship resources or their parts used in the bulletin, except as noted, come: "From The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021 Edition, edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. Copyright © 2020 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission." and others, come from unrecognized, unnamed resources, or are our own ideas.



► WORSHIP LEADERS ◆

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THEME IDEAS

The promised ONE of GOD is coming.

Jeremiah foretold of a "righteous Branch" that would spring up for David. Luke speaks of JESUS as the SON of Man who is coming in clouds of glory. Whatever title we use, GOD'S promised ONE will execute justice and bring salvation to GOD'S people. Be alert, therefore, for redemption draws near.



STONEGATE CHURCH

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday Worship Service at 10:45 a.m. First Sunday of Advent, NOVEMBER 28, 2021



Experience the Love of CHRIST in Community!