

**GATHERED WORSHIP SERVICE**

for the  
**Glory of God  
and the**

**Renewal of His People**

**December 3, 2017**



To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors  
and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

*Glorifying God...*

*Embracing Scripture...*

*Loving Corpus Christi...*

GATHERING SONG

**Behold Our God**

Words and Music: Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird, Ryan Baird, Stephen Altrogge

Who has held the oceans in His hands?  
Who has numbered every grain of sand?  
Kings and nations tremble at His voice,  
All creation rises to rejoice.

Who has given counsel to the Lord?  
Who can question any of His words?  
Who can teach the One who knows all things?  
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

Behold our God, seated on His throne.  
Come let us adore Him!  
Behold our King, nothing can compare,  
Come let us adore Him!

Who has felt the nails upon His hands,  
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?  
God eternal humbled to the grave,  
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!

Behold our God, seated on His throne.  
Come let us adore Him!  
Behold our King, nothing can compare,  
Come let us adore Him!

*Men:* You will reign for - ev er!  
*Women:* Let Your glo - ry fill the earth!  
*Men:* You will reign for - ev er!  
*Women:* Let Your glo - ry fill the earth!  
*Men:* You will reign for - ev er!  
*Women:* Let Your glo - ry fill the earth!  
*Men:* You will reign for - ev er!  
*Women:* Let Your glo - ry fill the earth!

Behold our God, seated on His throne.  
Come let us adore Him!  
Behold our King, nothing can compare,  
Come let us adore Him!

## WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

(See the inside of the back page)

*Information Cards.* Please take a moment to fill out the information card in your bulletin, providing any information to enable us to better serve you. When you finish, place your card in offering tray as it passes or on your seat after the service.

## PREPARATION for WORSHIP

John 8:31-32

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

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## WORSHIPING GOD'S GREATNESS

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(\*Indicates where congregation is invited to stand, as able)

### \*CALL to WORSHIP

Psalm 117

Minister: Praise the LORD, all nations!

**Congregation: Extol him, all peoples!**

Minister: For great is his steadfast love toward us,

**Congregation: And the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.  
Praise the LORD!**

\*SONG of ADORATION

**Come Thou Long Expected Jesus (Hymnal #196)**

Words: Charles Wesley and Mark E. Hunt Music: Rowland Hugh Pritchard

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 every nation joy of every longing heart

Joy to those who long to see thee  
Day-spring 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

**\*PRAYER of INVOCATION**

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**ACKNOWLEDGING GOD'S GRACE**

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**\*CONFESSION of FAITH**

*Apostles Creed with Heidelberg #44*

**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 on 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.**

*Minister:                      Why does the Creed add, "He descended into hell"?*

**Congregation:              That in my greatest temptations,  
I may be assured,  
and wholly comfort myself in this,  
that my Lord Jesus Christ,  
by his inexpressible anguish, pains,  
terrors, and hellish agonies,  
in which he was plunged during all his sufferings,  
but especially on the cross,  
has delivered me from the anguish and torments of hell.**

\* We believe Christ suffered the wrath of God for our sins while He was on the cross. After His death, His Spirit was with the Father in heaven (Luke 23:43, 46).

\*\* "catholic" means universal, so we are affirming the unity of the church throughout the world in all ages.

## CONFESSION of SIN

*Please, pray the following in unison*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
We have sinned against You  
and against our fellow men,  
In thought and word and deed,  
In the evil we have done,  
And in the good we have not done,  
Through ignorance, through weakness,  
Through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us,  
Forgive us all that is past;  
And grant that we may serve You in newness of life  
To the glory of Your name. Amen.

## ASSURANCE of PARDON for BELIEVERS

*Psalm 130:7-8*

Hope in the Lord!  
For with the Lord there is steadfast love,  
And with Him is full redemption.  
And He will redeem His people  
From all their sins.

SONG of RENEWAL

**It Is Well With My Soul (Hymn #691)**

Words: Horatio G. Spafford; 1873 Music: Philip B. Bliss, 1876

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
"It is well, it is well with my soul."  
It is well (Echo) It is well  
With my soul (Echo) With my soul  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet,  
Though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
And has shed His own blood for my soul.  
It is well (Echo) It is well  
With my soul (Echo) With my soul  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin O the bliss of this glorious thought!  
My sin, not in part, but the whole,  
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more;  
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,  
O my soul!  
It is well (Echo) It is well  
With my soul (Echo) With my soul  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

O Lord, haste the day  
When the faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
The trump shall resound  
And the Lord shall descend,  
"Even so" it is well with my soul.  
It is well (Echo) It is well  
With my soul (Echo) With my soul  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

**PRAYER of COMMITAL for our OFFERINGS**

|                       |              |                             |               |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Giving Month-to-Date: | \$ 21,475.00 | Giving Fiscal Year-to-Date: | \$ 178,463.00 |
| Goal Month-to-Date    | \$ 23,612.00 | Goal Fiscal Year-to-Date    | \$ 182,993.00 |

**GIVING of OFFERINGS**

*Information Cards. Please place your card in offering tray as it passes or on your seat after the service*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Micah 6:1-8*

**PRAYER for GOD'S PEOPLE and HIS WORLD**

Please contact Tammy at the church office for prayer needs and updates.

## O Holy Night

Words and Music: Adolphe Charles Adam, John Sullivan Dwight, and Placide Cappeau

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  
O hear the angel voices  
O night divine  
O night when Christ was born  
O night divine  
O night, O night divine

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming  
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand  
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming  
Here came the wise men from Orient land  
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger  
In all our trials born to be our Friend  
He knows our need  
To our weakness is no stranger  
Behold your King  
Before Him lowly bend  
Behold your King  
Before Him lowly bend

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 power and glory  
Evermore proclaim  
His power and glory  
Evermore proclaim

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## EMBRACING GOD'S WORD

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### \*READING and PREACHING of GOD'S WORD

Isaiah 40:12-26

\*SONG of RESPONSE

**Angels From The Realms Of Glory (Hymn #218, Verses 1, 2, 4, 5)**

Words and Music: Henry Thomas Smart and James Montgomery

Angels from the realms of glory  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth  
Ye who sang creation's story  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth  
Come and worship come and worship  
Worship Christ the newborn King

Shepherds in the field abiding  
Watching o'er your flocks by night  
God with man is now residing  
Yonder shines the infant light  
Come and worship come and worship  
Worship Christ the newborn King

Saints before the altar bending  
Watching long in hope and fear  
Suddenly the Lord descending  
In His temple shall appear  
Come and worship come and worship  
Worship Christ the newborn King

All creation join in praising  
God the Father Spirit Son  
Evermore your voices raising  
To the eternal Three in One  
Come and worship come and worship  
Worship Christ the newborn King

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*There are prayers on the back of the bulletin to assist you in praying, particularly if the Christian faith is new or unknown to you.*

*Elders are available to pray with you.*

*Feel free to bring children forward even if they are not partaking of the elements.*

*If you are physically unable to come forward but wish to partake, servers will bring the elements to you.*

### **Serving of the Elements**

*Wine is in the outer ring of the trays; juice in the inner.*

**\*SONG of CELEBRATION**

**Doxology**

Words: Thomas Ken Music: Louis Bourgeois

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host  
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost  
Amen

**\*BENEDICTION**

*Psalm 23:6*

**Congregation: (Loudly) Alleluia! Amen!**

**\*GREETING**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*We praise the Lord for our accompanists this morning  
– vocalists and instrumentalists and audio and video technicians.*

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## MISSIONARY of the WEEK

### **Brenda Carter**

Mission to the World, Taiwan

Brenda Carter dreamed of being a missionary ever since she was a small child. She got her wish in 1986 when she began working with Mission to the World in Taiwan. She taught for two years at Christ College near Taipei. In 1989 she began helping with a church plant two hours south of Taipei in a small Hakka town, San Yi. Brenda has been living and working there ever since. She is involved with many aspects of local and inter-church growth and renewal ministries among the Hakkas.

Taiwan's has an overall population of 23 million, but only two percent are professing Christians. Among the Hakkas (roughly four million people), there are only 0.3% Christians. Please be praying for Brenda and her team as they try to reach this neglected people group with the gospel.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS for SUNDAY DECEMBER 3

**Today Lunch Bunch.** All are invited to lunch bunch at La Playa located at 5017 Saratoga following worship service.

**December 3 Annual Women's Christmas Party.** 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm at Becky Arvin's home, 1017 Egyptian.

**Southside Men's Chorus will be singing December 10<sup>th</sup>;** to volunteer contact Tim Mulder.

**December 12 Christmas Caroling 6:30pm at Harbor Place, 5518 Lipes.** For information contact Johnny Cotten, 361-877-4493.

**December 14 Concert at Southside.** Alex and Katherine Jeoung will be raising money for Hurricane Harvey relief.

**December 24th –Children's Lessons in Carols.** Service begins at 6:30 pm.; childcare provided.

**Volunteers needed for SCC Facilities and Lawn Maintenance Team.** Mark Pavlick is looking for skilled and unskilled volunteers to serve this vital ministry team. For more information please contact Mark at 281-605-0387 or [mpavlick4@gmail.com](mailto:mpavlick4@gmail.com)

**Weekly Women's Craft Night Wednesdays 7pm – 9pm at Becky Arvin's house.**

### **Prayer for Those Searching for Truth**

*Lord Jesus, You claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following You as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what You claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and show me the reality of who You are. – Amen.*

### **Prayer of Belief**

*Heavenly Father, I admit that I am more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through Your Son Jesus, I can be more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank You that He lived the life I should have lived, and paid the debt and punishment I deserved. Receive me now for His sake. I turn from my sins and receive Jesus to be my Lord and Savior. – Amen.*

### **Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin**

*Lord Jesus, help me to look to You as the fulfillment of all my needs, and to turn from every false satisfaction to feed on You, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to You, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. – Amen.*

### **Prayer of Commitment**

*Lord Jesus, You have called us to follow You in a life of committed discipleship in Your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with Your people, and live in the fullness of Your Spirit. – Amen*