# CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP



DECEMBER 7, 2025

"Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. I will dwell in you and walk among you; and I will be your God, and you shall be My people."

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Please be seated as we gather to sing. Congregants read the bolded text aloud.

#### **GATHERING**

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Gloria

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains And the mountains in reply, Echo back their joyous strains Gloria, in excelsis Deo Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

### CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 118

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

### Silence

### LITURGY OF THE WORD Genesis 1 Psalm 118 1 Corinthians 4

When God created the heavens and earth, the earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep.

And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

And God said, "Let there be light."
And He has shone in our hearts
to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.

Truly we give thanks to God, for in Christ He has answered us and has become our salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes!

#### INVOCATION

sis!

-cel - sis! Great!

- cel -

Great!

Joy!

Joy!



Call Him Em - man - u

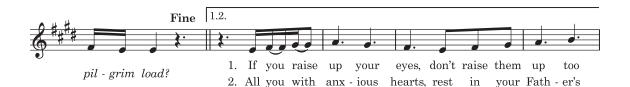
Fol - low Em - man - u

 $el._{-}$ 

- el.\_







high. Fix them on\_ Je - sus Christ, who is the Lord.

arms. Just like the babe who rests, near moth - er's heart.







Heavenly Father, You are good and Your steadfast love endures forever.

So we call out to You in our distress—
answer us and set us free!
We are weary of the battle against the reign of sin and death
in this world, in our community, in our hearts.
We often feel enslaved to obey the passions of sin.
Although we want to do right,
evil lies close at hand.
Instead of doing the good we want to do,
we end up doing the very thing we hate.
Oh Lord, forgive us for presenting our members
as instruments for sin,
and deliver us from the dominion of unrighteousness.
Make us obedient from the heart
that we may present our members as slaves to righteousness.
In the name of Christ and for His sake, amen.

Silent confession

Sisters and brothers, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do.

And so we walk not according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

And He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give us life!

Praise His name! Amen!

A reading from the Prophets: The LORD promises light to a people in darkness.

Children, Pre-K and Kinder, are invited to attend Worship Training. All children are retrieved after the sermon for Communion.

CONFESSION OF SIN & PLEA FOR PARDON

Psalm 118 Romans 6-7

ASSURANCE OF PARDON & INTERCESSORY PRAYER Romans 8

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 9.2-7

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

## LITANY OF

Let us thank God whom we worship here in the beauty of holiness.

For the assurance of pardon from our sins through faith in Christ, **We thank You, Lord.** 

For the confidence to draw near to Your throne of grace as daughters and sons, **We thank You, Lord.** 

For the beauty of the earth and the glories of the skies, and for Your abundant provision in all things, **We thank You, Lord.** 

For the many covenant children You have blessed our congregation with, and for the faithful labors of Brittanie Brandenburg and of our many volunteers!

We thank You, Lord.

For the peace we have in Christ, peace with God and with one another, **We thank You, Lord!** 

# SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

So, Church, may the peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

## TITHES & OFFERINGS

The musicians will play for a moment before singing so that you can bring your tithes and offerings and share the peace of Christ with those around you.

#### **DOXOLOGY**

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Gloria

Come to Bethlehem and see, Him whose birth the angels sing Come adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King Gloria, in excelsis Deo Gloria, in excelsis Deo. <sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup> but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called His name Jesus.

## "What Kind of Story is This?" Matthew 1.18-25

A Scandalous Story

A Re-creation Story

A Salvation Story

Following the holy fathers, we together confess the one and only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, at once complete in deity and complete in humanity, truly God and truly man with a rational soul and a body. He is of one substance with the Father in His deity, and at the same time of one substance with us in His humanity. He is like us in all respects, apart from sin. As regards His deity, begotten of the Father before the ages, but yet as regards His humanity begotten, for us men and for our salvation, of Mary the Virgin, the God-bearer. We also confess this one and the same Christ – Son, Lord, Only-begotten – in two natures without confusion, change, division or separation between them. They are together one and the same Son and only begotten Logos of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. This the prophets of old testified, our Lord Jesus Christ Himself taught us, and the creed of the fathers has handed down to us.

THE DEFINITION OF CHALCEDON AD 451

All join to praise at this holy feast, beholding the Godhead here on earth, and man in heaven. He who is above, now for our redemption dwells here below; and He that was lowly is by divine mercy raised.

Come, then, let us observe the feast. For God is now on earth, and man in heaven.

For truly He took our flesh to sanctify us; He gives us His Spirit, that He may save us. And so we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Come to the Table...

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & INVITATION TO THE TABLE Adapted from Antiochene Christmas Homilv.

386 AD

#### THE TABLE PRAYER FOR FAITH

Ushers will release you by rows after the music team has partaken
 Grape juice is in the outer ring of the tray and wine in the center
 Gluten-free bread is available at each
 If you are not a follower of Jesus, we invite you to reflect on the prayer at the bottom of page 12, and we invite you to talk with our pastor if you would like to know more about the hope of the Good News on display at

Christ's Table.

• Gluten-free bread is available at each table

#### **OFFERINGS**

- Tithes and gifts can be brought to the box in the center of the room.
- Online Giving newstpeters.org/give

**DIRECTIONS** 



- Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten,
- 2. O that birth for - ev bless - ed, er
- He whom heav'n taught sing ers
- O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him;

the worlds be - gan\_ Vir - gin, full\_ of grace,

When the

sang of old with one\_ ac - cord,

An - gel hosts, His prais - es sing;



He Al - pha and O - me - ga, Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, Whom the Scrip - tures of the proph-ets All do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him,

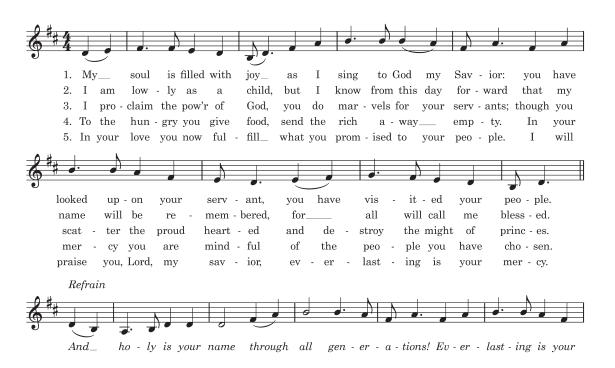
the Source, the End - ing He, He Sav - ior of \_\_\_ our race; Bore the prom - ised in their faith-ful word; And ex - tol our God and King;



Of the things that are, that have\_ been, And that fu - ture years shall see, And the babe, the world's Re-deem First re - vealed His sa - cred face. er, Now He shines, the long - ex - pect Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord, ed; Let no tongue on earth be si lent, Ev - 'rv voice in con - cert ring,



Ev - er - more and ev - er - more!







## Almighty God, eternal Father,

we have sat at Your feet, learned from Your word, and eaten from Your table. We give You thanks and praise for accepting us into Your family. Send us out with Your blessing, to live and to witness for You in the power of Your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead. SCATTERING Kenyan Reformed Prayer

Now may you walk in power of the Spirit, knowing that neither life nor death, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**BENEDICTION**Romans 8

Come quickly, Lord Jesus! Amen.

**POSTLUDE** 

Please enjoy the fellowship of believers in the lobby or outside.

PRAYER FOR FAITH

Good Father, open my heart and my eyes to see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, even against the darkness of my sin and suffering; and help me to draw near, believing that You exist and that You meet those who seek You in Christ. In my doubt, guide my mind. In my wandering, guide my feet and bring me ultimately home through Jesus, the Way. (2 Corinthians 4, Hebrews 11)

Scripture References from the ESV ©2002 Songs printed with permission, CCLI # 2521275

## **GATHERED**

As a church family, we gather weekly to celebrate God's grace in worship and teach and encourage one another as we follow Jesus.

#### **WEEKLY WORSHIP**

(Sundays, 10:15-11:30am)

The church is an outpost of heaven on earth, and nowhere is this more evident than in its worship. So, even on the road with Jesus, we taste home each Lord's Day in the worship gathering, as we feed on Christ through His preached word, the sacraments, fellowship, and prayer. (Matthew 11:28–29).

#### **SOLD**

(Sundays, 9-9:50am)

School of Life & Doctrine (SOLD) is our Christian education ministry for all ages. We meet here at the Dallas Children's Theater, including classes for kids, youth, and adults.

#### **KIDS - WORSHIP TRAINING**

(Sundays, 10:15-11:30am)

Our goal is to prepare our children in Worship Training to enter into the "big" Worship Service with their parents, better able to listen and engage with the liturgy as they grow in maturity. In Worship Training, leaders guide the children in singing, prayer, a simple liturgy, and a curriculum lesson with age-appropriate activities.

#### **YOUTH - RYF**

(Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00pm)

Reformed Youth Fellowship (RYF) is our ministry to Middle School and High School students. In our dedicated teaching times the youth at New St. Peter's work through the topics of Basic Bible (Old and New Testament), Apologetics, Spiritual Disciplines, and Christian History. During the School year, we meet most regularly on Sunday mornings during SOLD, but also meet outside of that time for fellowship, encouragement, and service in both large and small groups.

## SCATTERED

When we are scattered throughout the city, we are no less the church. In our diverse neighborhoods, we want to invite disciples and skeptics to join us on the road with Jesus.

#### **PARISHES**

In order to better equip our members for fellowship and outreach, we have organized our city into parishes. Each parish is overseen by an Elder—with assistance from the Deacons and Women's Leadership Team—who shepherds the neighborhood group leaders in that parish.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS**

Our neighborhood groups meet in people's homes at different frequencies and locations throughout the metroplex. The aim of these groups is to walk together in fellowship, prayer, and service in the community.

## **MEN'S & WOMEN'S MINISTRY**

There are a number of ways to get involved in men's and women's ministry at NSP, including Bible and book studies, discipleship and prayer groups, and special events.

## 20somethings

Anyone from college through the late 20s is welcome—both married and single! This group enjoys bi-monthly fellowship dinners in homes of different families in our church and also gets together for seasonal Bible studies and occasional celebrations.

To learn more about these ministries, scan the QR code below or visit www.newstpeters.org



## ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR

#### **THIS WEEK**

- **Vespers at the new building** Vespers begin at 6:30pm on December 10 and 17. They are on the 3rd floor. Cookies and hot chocolate afterwards. **No childcare will be provided for these services.**
- Women's Christmas Party Please RSVP today for our Christmas party on December 11 at Denise Walker's home. An evite has been sent. Please let Jan know if you did not receive. Also, we still need some desserts (signup in the evite)!

#### **UPCOMING**

- **Children's Christmas Party** Sunday, December 14 during the SOLD hour! All families and children are welcome to come. The invitation has been sent with more details. Parents, we will need volunteers so please reach out to Brittanie Brandenburg if you are able to help.
- Youth Christmas Party Join us Thursday, December 18, from 5:00-8:00pm at the new building.
- **Christmas Eve Service** We will gather at Dallas Children's Theater at 4:00pm for our annual service. Childcare will be provided for those 0-3 years of age. The signup link is in Tuesday's email.

NEW ST. PETER'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

10440 East Northwest Highway Dallas, Texas 75238 Phone 214.438.0120 jan.james@newstpeters.org

#### SUNDAY WORSHIP (Dallas Children's Theater)

5938 Skillman Street Dallas, Texas 75231 214.978.0110

**NEWSLETTER:** www.newstpeters.org/contact **ELDERS:** session@newstpeters.org **DEACONS:** deacons@newstpeters.org **WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP:** wlt@newstpeters.org



**Are you new to NSP?** Scan this QR code to fill out a short visitor's form.

#### **STAFF**

Alex Dean, Lead Pastor Stephen Buerger, Associate Pastor Brittanie Brandenburg, Dir. of Children's Ministry Alex McEwen, Pastoral Intern (Youth) Jan James, Office Administrator

**ELDERS:** Brian Franklin, Jay Horne, Jeff Murray, Blake Phillips, Jim Pocta, Mark Ratliff, Rodman Ricketts. David Rice

**DEACONS:** Steve Adams, Steve Brown, Steve Chambers, Grant Clay, Jonathan Goetsch, Sam Hall, Ben Hillman, Andrew Luter, Evan Opgenorth, Jano Pretorius, Robert Waterman

**WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP TEAM:** Sheryl Brown, Tricia Horne, Linda Pocta, Arleen Ratliff, Melanie Rice, Shannon Temple, Denise Walker