



# Longview Evangelical Presbyterian Church

*Coming together to know Christ and to make him known.*

**First Sunday of Advent and Confirmation Sunday**  
**December 2, 2018**

## CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

*With a Voice of Singing*

Music and texts (Drawn from scriptures) by Martin Shaw / © 1923 Martin Shaw

## WELCOME & \*INVOCATION

**Pastor:** In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.

**People:** **In him was life,  
and the life was the light of men.**

**Pastor:** The Word took on flesh;  
he became King in order to make peace and be our peace!

**People:** **The Word, our Prince of Peace, is ridding the world of conflict;  
making right all wrongs;  
healing all that has been broken  
until all humanity and the cosmos are redeemed and complete.**

**All:** **Glory to the newborn King!**

Shelley Kral

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

\* *Hark the Herald Angels Sing (Mendelssohn)*

Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild; God and sinners reconciled.  
Joyful all ye nations rise! Join the triumph of the skies!  
With the angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored; Christ the everlasting Lord.  
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail the incarnate Deity.  
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel.  
Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace. Hail the sun of righteousness.  
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by. Born that we no more may die.  
Born to raise us from the earth. Born to give us second birth.  
Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Texts: Charles Wesley (1739) / Music: Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy  
Words: Public Domain, Music: Public Domain

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Michael Wayne Smith  
Son of Eric and Melanie Smith

Ruling Elder Kerri Daugbjerg  
Matthew 28:18-20

**Welcome!** We are so glad you are here today! This morning we will be celebrating the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. If you have not professed faith in Christ, though you will not be partaking of the sacrament we want you to know this time is still for you. Please consider using this time to contemplate taking Christ himself, or to contemplate what is happening around and/or inside you. After the service if you would like to visit with a Pastor about the joy of our life in Christ and/or the significance of the Lord's Supper we would be happy to do so.

*Hearing devices are available in the foyer...ask an usher.*

*Please sign the friendship pads located at the end of each pew.*

**The Advent Wreath.** Advent (which includes the four Sundays before Christmas, as well as Christmas itself) is the season in which we prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ. The Advent wreath helps us to remember his coming in terms of the biblical theme of light. When Jesus came he entered a world of darkness, full of sin, ignorance, hate and pride. He penetrated that darkness as light bringing joy, peace, faith, justice and love. As Scripture tells us, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5) So we light the candles each week, in remembrance of the coming of the Christ child, until all are aflame on Christmas Eve when we celebrate the arrival of he who would refer to himself as "the light of the world" (John 8:12)

## CONFIRMATION

Doug Ashley

### Confirmation Sunday.

This morning we celebrate the public profession of our Confirmation Class in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. These young people have been provided with intensive instruction in the gospel of Jesus Christ and what it means to be part of his church. They have proclaimed their faith before the Session (the ruling board of our church) who sensed in them a true desire to follow Christ so now come before our faith family to celebrate this commitment and become full members of our church body. Please welcome our newest members up front at the close of worship this morning.

Grant Carlile, Hayes Daugbjerg, Joel Hale,  
Matthew Metzler and Michael Smith

### DEDICATION

**Leader:** Like Zechariah & Elizabeth, you are the parents through whom God has given these young people the gift of life.

**Parents:** **Our children are a gift from the hand of God. We set before the Lord to day our children and promise to nurture their faith in Jesus Christ.**

**Leader:** Like Abraham, Moses, and the Apostles of the early church, you represent those who have led these young people to the gospel of Christ. You stand for those whose character is a witness of Christ's power.

### **Children and**

**Youth Leaders:** **For this gospel we were appointed teachers, and for this reason we live as we do. With God's help, we shall guard them, as good treasure entrusted to us. [2 Timothy 1:11-14]**

**Leader:** We, the congregation, are God's covenant family. We are the body of Christ. We are the light of the world. We are the ones who are called to provide an environment where these young ones can be transformed by the renewing of their minds, so that they may discern what is the will of God - what is good and true, and perfect. [Romans 12:2]

**Congregation:** **We are the body of Christ, each one of us is a part of it; and the Holy Spirit has given each of us gifts so that we may build each other up until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. [1 Corinthians 12:27]**

### PROFESSION OF COMMITMENT

#### RECEPTION INTO FAITH FAMILY

*\* Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

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.

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.

Blessed Jesus we adore You; light of life and Son of love.  
All Your children bow before You. Speak Your name and lift You up.  
King of kings from highest heaven; Lord of lords, come rule alone.  
Son of God so sweetly given, make our hearts Your holy throne.

Music: Rowland Hugh Prichard / Texts: Charles Wesley  
© Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain

### SONG OF ILLUMINATION

*\* Speak O Lord*

Speak O Lord and renew our minds, help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak O Lord till Your church is built and the earth is filled with Your glory.

Music and Lyrics: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend  
2005 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

### SERMON LESSON

John 1:1-5

Doug Ashley

### SERMON

“Jesus Before Creation”

# THE LORD'S SUPPER

## Prayer of Confession

**Lord Jesus we admit to having hearts that continually incline us to sin  
and to being spiritually powerless to change them without your help.  
And yet, that doesn't stop us from feeling superior to people.  
Forgive us and remind us of our deep need for your amazing love every time we are  
tempted to dismiss or dismantle someone. In your name we pray. Amen.**

## Words of Institution

## Distribution of Elements

## Music for The Lord's Supper

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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.**

## \*Passing of the Peace

### *Joy to the World*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King!  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room.  
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing;  
and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing!

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns. Let men their songs employ.  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy;  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love,  
and wonders of His love, and wonders wonders of His love.

Music: George Frideric Handel / Texts: Isaac Watts / © Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain

# THE LORD AT WORK THROUGH LONGVIEW EPC

*\* God With Us (including "Go Tell it on the Mountain")*

## **(Children sing)**

**GOD WITH US! It's the miracle of Christmas!  
God with us! Go and tell the whole wide world!  
He has come To proclaim God's love for sinners.  
Bringing light into this world, that's God with us!**

## **(Congregation)**

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!  
Down in a lowly manger, the humble Christ was born;  
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.  
Go, tell it on the moun-tain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
Go, tell it on the moun-tain that Jesus Christ is born!

## **(All)**

**GOD WITH US! It's the miracle of Christmas!  
God with us! Go and tell the whole wide world!  
He has come To proclaim God's love for sinners.  
Bringing light into this world, that's God with us!  
God with us! God with us! GOD WITH US!**

Music: John W. Work Jr. and David Luna / Texts: John W. Work Jr. and David Luna  
God With Us words and music © 2018 DNL Music Publishers / Go Tell It On The Mountain © Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain

*(Continued next page)*

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*POSTLUDE

*\*Please stand as able*

Lyrics used by permission. CCLI License # 11081661

---

# Sunday, December 2, 2018 Announcements & Information

### TODAY, CONFIRMATION SUNDAY AND FIRST SUNDAY

**COMMUNION:** No potluck lunch, Sunday classes at 10:45 a.m.

**TODAY, "GOD WITH US" AT 5:00 PM:** Come join us as the children tell God's big story of grace through our Savior's presence. All are welcome! Reception to follow. Invite your friends!

**BUCKNER CHRISTMAS MARKET TREE IN FOYER:** Only 10 cards left! The trees in the foyer were decorated with items for children of all ages, separate cards for teens and Christmas meal gift card opportunities. Please pick a "card (s)" you would like to fulfill and please SIGN the List with the Card number. All **unwrapped** gifts, etc. can be dropped off at 1014 South High Street through December 7 or drop them off at the church office by Wednesday, December 5 and the church will deliver them for you. For questions, call the church office (903.234.0032).

**HANGING OF THE GREENS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5:** Light supper and cookie decoration (for dessert or to take home). We gather in the sanctuary to prepare our hearts for the wonder of the incarnation and the joy that it brings as we celebrate together and decorate!

**LUNCH BUNCH DECEMBER 12 at 11:30 AM:** Christmas Carols Sing along—Come join the fun! Lunch main dish provided. Bring sides and desserts.

**CARDS & CAROLS DECEMBER 16 AT 10:45 AM:** Immediately following worship join Sunday School classes of all ages to travel to area Assisted Living facilities to share Christmas love.

**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS:** Our 2018 Advent devotional booklets are available to pick up in the church foyer or in Trinity Hall.

**NEW TO LONGVIEW EPC?** Go to [longviewepc.org](http://longviewepc.org) for most info.

**Prayer Ministry:** Confidential prayer requests may be made by emailing [prayerteam@epclongview.org](mailto:prayerteam@epclongview.org) or by using the cards located in the fellowship pads in your pew. Monthly prayer calendars are located in the foyer.

**Tithes and Offerings:** Boxes at each entrance. Text 903-484-1002 for credit/debit cards and electronically via the website—Serve/Giving.

**Sunday classes:** Children meet in room 105 in Trinity Hall. Adults, three class options.

**Sermons and bulletins:** Available on the website. You can listen to today's sermon immediately following the service.

**Parents and kids:** Don't forget the special activity bags in the foyer just for you!

**Blankets are available** on the table by the sanctuary entrance if you or your little ones get cold during the service.

**New Guest WiFi:** EPCGuest Password: Guestttt

### THIS WEEK:

- **Today:** Sunday Classes at 10:45 a.m.  
Children's Musical Final Dress Rehearsal 12-2 p.m.  
God With Us at 5:00 p.m.  
Youth Fellowship at 5:00 p.m.
- **Tuesday:** Choir Rehearsal at 6:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday:** Hanging of the Greens at 5:30 p.m.  
Supper followed by service
- **Thursday:** Praise Team at 6:00 p.m.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- December 12 at 11:30 a.m.—Lunch Bunch
- December 16—Cards & Carols
- December 24 at 4:30 p.m.—Family Service
- December 24 at 6:30 p.m.—Candlelight Communion Service

### NURSERY :

**Dec. 2:** Infants: Victoria Ratliff & Mary LeTourneau

Toddlers: Sarah Harder & volunteer needed

**Dec. 9:** Infants: Nancy Hale & volunteer needed

Toddlers: Jim Brun & Suzi White

### USHERS & GREETERS:

Morning openers: Bob & Barbara Linthicum

Today's Head Usher: Rick Poland

**Dec. 2:** Bill & Debbie Bankston,

Bill Bagley & Keith Moyes

**Dec. 9:** Head Usher Rick Poland, Bill & Debbie

Bankston, Cody Parks, Todd Parks

### SAFETY TEAM:

**Dec 2:** Bill Bankston & Bill Bagley

**Dec. 9:** Bill Bankston & Todd Parks

---

Longview Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Worship 9:30 • Sunday Classes 10:45

### RULING ELDERS

Gena Bunn '18

Ginia Northcutt '18

Kathie Ramey '18

Michael McMahon '19

Matt Yost '19

Jim Brun '20

Kerri Daugbjerg '20

Eric Skoog '20

### STAFF

Rev. Doug Ashley — Pastor / [dashley@epclongview.org](mailto:dashley@epclongview.org)

Rev. Shelley Kral — Associate Pastor / [skral@epclongview.org](mailto:skral@epclongview.org)

Jason Hubbard — Director of Youth Ministry / [jhubbard@epclongview.org](mailto:jhubbard@epclongview.org)

Suzi White — Administrator / [swhite@epclongview.org](mailto:swhite@epclongview.org)

David Luna — Interim Music Director / [dluna@epclongview.org](mailto:dluna@epclongview.org)

Carrie Northcutt -- Interim Children's Dir. / [childrensministry@epclongview.org](mailto:childrensministry@epclongview.org)

3800 Judson Road

Longview, TX 75605

[info@epclongview.org](mailto:info@epclongview.org)

[longviewepc.org](http://longviewepc.org)

Phone: 903-234-0032

Guest Wi-Fi: EPCGuest

Password: Guestttt

Facebook: Longview EPC