lives and let us be bearers of Your peace to others. Remind us that this is a season of waiting and preparation for the greatest Gift of all. We open our hearts to You, O God and we confess

(Personal quiet confession)

Father, you have heard our confessions. Forgive us, we pray. Empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. And we all agree by saying, **Amen**

Words of Comfort & Affirmation

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9 KJV)

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. All: Glory be to God! Amen

Prayers of the People: (liturgy on screen)

The Peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be with you always.

People: And, with you (Passing of the Peace)

Corporate Affirmation of Faith: Apostle's Creed

Benediction and Sending

Authorities we want to remember specifically in prayer

MO US House of Rep District 6 – Sam Graves

MO US House of Rep District 7 – Billy Long

MO State House of Rep District 106 – Travis Wilson

St Peters Alderman Ward 4 – Nick Trupiano

Emergency Weather Response

An arctic front is forecast next week with multiple days of temps lower than 20. Please share the Continuum of Care hotline number 636-395-0492 with anyone in need or those who help serve them. http://www.communitycouncilstc.org/coc/warming-center-response



FAITH COVENANT MINISTRIES

LOVE | LIFE | LORDSHIP | LEADERSHIP

faithcovenantstl.com

Purpose Statement:

We exist to glorify God by serving as a conduit for the grace of God whereby faith the Love, Life, Lordship and Leadership of the Kingdom of Heaven is revealed and expanded to all nations.

Mission Statement:

We desire to be a multi-cultural, multi-generational conduit of the grace of God to be used to fulfill our purpose, for the glory of God.

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 430 St. Charles, MO 63302 636-373-9001

Weekly Corporate Gatherings: Sunday Worship Service- 10:00 AM Discipleship Groups (times vary)

Staff:

Rev. Michael Hammond, Sr. - President & Senior Pastor Rose Hammond- Receptionist

Order of Worship Sunday, December 18, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Congregation responses spoken together appear in **bold** print.

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

God's Spirit has led us here. Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is peace, there is hope, there is joy, and there is love. There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and we know that it's the Spirit of the Lord! (prayer)

Worship in Song (click on the song title for a YouTube track)

I Came to Magnify the Lord Emmanual

You Are the Living Word

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, by the presence of your Holy Spirit, bless this our proclamation of your Word that we may receive the gift of your grace and share it with those who we will meet on this journey to which we are called. Speak to us this day for we, your servants, are listening. In Jesus name we pray, and we all agree by saying, **Amen**

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 7:10-17 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

People: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word (reflection)

Responsive Scripture Reading: Psalm 24 (NASB95)

- ¹ The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains, the world, and those who dwell in it.
- ² For He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.
- ³ Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? And who may stand in His holy place?
- ⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood and has not sworn deceitfully.

- ⁵He shall receive a blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
- ⁶ This is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek Your face—even Jacob. Selah.
- ⁷Lift up your heads, O gates, and be lifted up, O ancient doors, That the King of glory may come in!
- ⁸ Who is the King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, The Lord mighty in battle.
- ⁹Lift up your heads, O gates, and lift *them* up, O ancient doors, That the King of glory may come in!
- ¹⁰ Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory.

Worship in Song: Hymn of the Month

Go Tell It On The Mountain | View the lyrics here

Scripture Reading: Romans 1:1-7 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

People: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word (reflection)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon (10:30 a.m.) https://www.facebook.com/fcmstl

Confession & Prayer of Repentance

Trusting in God's tender mercy, let us confess our sin to God with one another.

Holy Lord, in this time of Advent, we confess we are often distracted by the season's busyness, by the stress of commitment, and even by putting our own traditions ahead of the true meaning of Christmas. We confess we also often prefer being sentimental to being sacrificial. Forgive us for all the times we have missed seeing You in our midst, for all the times we have doubted Your presence, and for all the times we have failed to hold the holidays as holy days. Pour peace into our

Do You Want to Be Made Well? John 5:1-9	18 Dec 2022 Pastor Adam Robidou	By Stuart & Jill Briscoe <u>John 1:1-2,14</u>
		The opening verses of John's Gospel may not seem rat first. But they tell us something incredible. The etc. before all things determined to leave eternity, break in Himself our humanity, and be born as a baby.
		It's impossible for us to comprehend God. Just as you ocean into a thimble, you can't fit the mind of God in So God decided that He would translate Himself into could understand. And that's why Jesus was born. He God to us in our own language. The invisible God do us without Jesus, the visible expression of God. The V baby in order to interpret God to us.
		The Word also became flesh in order to identify with easily have chosen to be born in very different circumcame to identify with ordinary people. Ordinary people circumstances. Ordinary people are surrounded by mabout who they are and what they are about. In Jesus, with humanity at every point of our pain.
		God, whom we can't see, is interpreted to us in Chris heaven indifferent to our pain, but identified with us it the point of taking upon Himself our sin. Out of love, chose to die a shameful death on a cross. He dealt wit stood between us and God.
		So as we travel to that long-ago manger to meet the C see more clearly the Father who sent Him. This is the season.

God Speaking Our Language

related to Christmas ernal God who was nto time, take upon

u can't pour an nto the human brain. a language humans e came to interpret pesn't make sense to Word became a

us. Jesus could nstances, but He ple live in stressful nisunderstanding God identified

st. He didn't sit in in Christ, even to the sinless One th the one thing that

Christ child, let us reason for the