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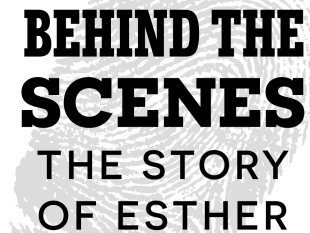


## ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

*East Charlotte Pres is a church that strives to be defined by the Gospel-  
inviting everyone to See, Savor, and Serve Jesus as the Author & Perfecter of our faith.*

10101 ROBINSON CHURCH RD. CHARLOTTE, NC 28215  
[WWW.EASTCHARLOTTEPRES.ORG](http://WWW.EASTCHARLOTTEPRES.ORG)

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**BEHIND THE  
SCENES**  
THE STORY  
OF ESTHER

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARRIE DIRKS

- ANNOUNCEMENTS -

CALL TO WORSHIP

REV. TYLER DIRKS

SONGS OF PRAISE

COME THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS  
*R.H. Prichard, C. Wesley*

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 ev'ry nation Joy of every longing heart

Joy to those who long to see Thee Dayspring 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

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY  
*C. F. Alexander | H. J. Gauntlett*

Once in royal David's city, Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her Baby, In a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from Heaven, Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable, And His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor, and mean, and lowly, Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His own redeeming love,  
For that Child so dear and gentle, Is our Lord in Heav'n above,  
And He leads His children on, To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see Him; but in Heaven, Set at God's right hand on high;  
Where like stars His children crowned, All in white shall wait around.

HOMELESS MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY - We have a great opportunity to love our homeless neighbors this winter. We'll be coming along side Albemarle Rd. Presbyterian Church as they provide food and overnight lodging every Wednesday night from 12/8 - 3/31/22. A volunteer sign-up was included in this week's email so make sure you look through those to find a way you can help fill these needs. See Jim Saunders for more information - 704-361-0973.

LESSONS & CAROLS - Mark your calendars for this years' Lessons and Carols service. Please join us at 6pm on December 24th @ 10101 for a time of worship as we prepare Him room. This is a beautiful opportunity for our church body to fellowship and reflect on how our God took on flesh to come rescue us. Feel free to invite friends, family, and neighbors.

- UPCOMING EVENTS -

- DEC 1 YOUTH GROUP
- DEC 2 WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS DESSERT
- DEC 3 MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
- DEC 5 SUNDAY WORSHIP
- DEC 8 YOUTH GROUP
- DEC 10 MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
- DEC 12 SUNDAY WORSHIP
- DEC 15 YOUTH GROUP
- DEC 17 MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
- DEC 19 SUNDAY WORSHIP
- DEC 24 LESSONS & CAROLS
- DEC 26 SUNDAY WORSHIP

WHILE NURSERY FOR CHILDREN WALKING THROUGH AGE 3 IS AVAILABLE, WE HAVE ALSO MADE A SPACE IN THE MODULE WITH COUCHES FOR NURSING MOMS. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO USE THIS SPACE AS NEEDED.

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

TYLER DIRKS

### SONG OF RESPONSE

COME BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY  
M. Boswell, M. Papa, M. Bleecker

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry in the dawning of the King  
He the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity  
In our longing in our darkness now the light of life has come  
Look to Christ who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, He the perfect Son of Man  
In His living in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin  
See the true and better Adam come to save the hell-bound man  
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, Christ the Lord upon the tree  
In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory  
See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold  
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry slain by death the God of life  
But no grave could e'er restrain Him, praise the Lord He is alive!  
What a foretaste of deliv'rance, how unwavering our hope  
Christ in power resurrected as will we be when He comes  
Come behold the wondrous myst'ry slain by death the God of life  
But no grave could e'er restrain Him, praise the Lord He is alive!

### BENEDICTION

REV. TYLER DIRKS

## ADVENT READING

YOUNGBLOOD FAMILY

ISAIAH 9:2-7

### CONFESSION OF SIN

JUSTIN CLARK

Almighty and most merciful Father, we are thankful that your mercy is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin. Forgive our careless attitudes toward your purposes, our refusal to relieve the suffering of others, our envy of those who have more than we have, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our neglect of your wise and gracious law. Help us to change our way of life so that we may desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you command, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

I PETER 1:3-4

### SONG OF THANKSGIVING

BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE  
*C.L. Bancroft | V. Cook*

Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea  
A great High Priest whose name is Love, Whoever lives and pleads for me  
My name is graven on His hands, My name is written on His heart  
I know that while in heaven He stands, No tongue can bid me thence depart  
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair, And tells me of the guilt within  
Upward I look and see Him there, Who made an end of all my sin  
Because the sinless Savior died, My sinful soul is counted free  
For God the Just is satisfied, To look on Him and pardon me  
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there the Risen Lamb, My perfect spotless righteousness  
The great unchangeable I Am, The King of glory and of grace  
One with Himself I cannot die, My soul is purchased by His blood  
My life is hid with Christ on high, With Christ my Savior and my God  
With Christ my Savior and my God

IF YOU ARE VISITING WITH US THIS MORNING, WE ARE SO HAPPY THAT YOU ARE HERE AND WOULD LOVE TO GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER! PLEASE CONSIDER FILLING OUT A VISITOR'S CARD FOUND ON THE TABLE IN THE VESTIBULE AND PLACE IT IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR GIVE TO TYLER OR ONE OF OUR OTHER OFFICERS. THANK YOU!

## GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### SONG OF PREPARATION

Savior of the nations, come,  
Show yourself, the virgin's son.  
Marvel heaven, wonder earth,  
That our God chose such a birth.

Not by human power or seed  
Did the woman's womb conceive;  
Only by the Spirit's breath  
Was the Word of God made flesh.

Mary then was found with child,  
Still a virgin, chaste and mild.  
God had favored her with grace  
To receive the Prince of Peace.

Christ laid down his majesty,  
Passed through dark Gethsemane.  
Though he left his Father's home,  
Christ now sits on God's own throne.

Christ in glory intercede  
For your creatures' suffering need.  
Let your resurrecting power  
Soon complete the victory hour.

Praise to you, O Lord, we sing.  
Praise to Christ, our newborn King!  
With the Father, Spirit, one,  
Let your lasting kingdom come.

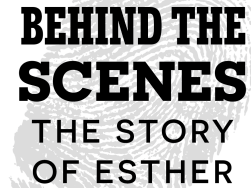
### THE DOXOLOGY

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.

### PASTORAL PRAYER

SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME  
Ambrose of Milan, M. Luther, C. Seerveld

JUSTIN CLARK



## BEHIND THE SCENES

### THE STORY OF ESTHER

### PREACHING OF THE WORD

REV. TYLER DIRKS

“IRREVOCABLE WRATH”  
ESTHER 8:3-8

#### I. AWARENESS

#### II. APPALLED

#### III. A NEW EDICT

#### – REFLECTION QUESTIONS –

- 1) What's a problem that you don't allow yourself to look into, because you know it will disrupt your comfort, happiness, and/or addiction to convenience and productivity? (e.g. Revelation 3:17; Luke 10:30-42)
- 2) How have you experienced Jesus joining you in your sorrow, and thoroughly acquainting Himself with your grief (Isaiah 53:3)?
- 3) What do you find appalling? Does God display the same degree of outrage about that thing?
- 4) How would you explain the irrevocable wrath of God to a kindergartener? How would you explain the mystery and marvel of the lamb who was slain!? (John 10:18; Mark 12:11; Hebrews 12:2; 1 Corinthians 2:2; 4:1; John 19:30; Revelation 5:6, 12).