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ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26TH, 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

A large, light-colored fingerprint graphic is positioned behind the text "BEHIND THE SCENES THE STORY OF ESTHER". The text is in a bold, black, sans-serif font. "BEHIND THE" and "SCENES" are on the first line, "THE STORY" is on the second line, and "OF ESTHER" is on the third line. A thick black horizontal line is drawn below the text.

**BEHIND THE
SCENES**
THE STORY
OF ESTHER

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARIA FREY

- ANNOUNCEMENTS -

CALL TO WORSHIP

MR. BAILEY WAGNER

SONGS OF PRAISE

JOY TO THE WORLD
G. F. Handel | I. Watts

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let every 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

No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as, far as the curse is found

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

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING
D. Crowder, W.H. Draper, B. Milligan

All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing
O praise Him, Alleluia
Thou burning sun with golden beam, Thou silver moon with softer gleam
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heaven along
O praise Him, Alleluia
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice, Ye lights of evening find a voice
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

ROOM IN THE INN - Albemarle Road Presbyterian's ministry to the homeless is ongoing through March. Along with the weekly volunteer and food donation needs, there's a special need for donations of adult winter coats, gloves, and winter hats. Coats can be second hand in very good condition. Please see the display in the foyer where there are tags labeled with the specific size and item needs. Please grab one of those tags if you are able and willing to help, and return those donations to Stephanie Baker by 1/16/22 (PLEASE ENSURE ONLY ADULTS ARE TAKING TAGS FROM THE DISPLAY).

Stephanie - stephrbaker92@gmail.com or 937-581-1322 - coats, hats, gloves
Jim Saunders (704-361-0973) - all other RIIN participation.

GETTING INVOLVED IN THE NEW YEAR

There are a lot of moving parts that make up the ministries of ECPC and we'd love to help you get plugged in if you aren't already (or just want to be plugged in more!). See Bailly Wagner to get involved with the youth; Michael or Kim Domras if you'd like to take a turn preparing our fellowship time, Justin Harwood to get involved with the music team, or Kristen Parman for the children's ministry.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 2nd, for a Sunday school interest meeting following the service. If you are interested in teaching children/youth Sunday school or you're just curious about what Sunday school will be like here in our new building, join us for the meeting. Reach out to Kristen Parman with any questions.

- UPCOMING EVENTS -

DEC 24	LESSONS & CAROLS
DEC 26	SUNDAY WORSHIP
DEC 31	MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
JAN 02	SUNDAY WORSHIP
JAN 07	MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
JAN 09	SUNDAY WORSHIP
JAN 12	WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
JAN 14	MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
JAN 16	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.

SONG OF RESPONSE

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All, Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Til on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid, Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day, Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine, Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand
'Til He returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

BENEDICTION.

MR. BAILEY WAGNER

IN CHRIST ALONE

K. Getty, S. Townend

Let all things their Creator bless, And worship Him in humbleness
O praise Him, Alleluia
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, And praise the Spirit, Three in One
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, And praise the Spirit, Three in One
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

CONFESSION OF SIN

JON WILKINSON

Father, we praise you for sending your Son into this world, to suffer and die on our behalf, to save us from our sins. We confess that in this season that is meant to celebrate the birth of your Son, we so often focus instead on the material aspects - gifts, food, drinks, decorations, traditions. We ask your pardon for our misaligned priorities and ask that your grace might come upon us, that we may place Jesus first and foremost in our heart. That in all things we do, think, and say, Christ would have preeminence.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

JOHN 6:47-51

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

BLESSED ASSURANCE

F. Crosby, P. Knapp

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

chorus

*This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels, descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

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

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' name

chorus

*On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand*

When darkness veils His lovely face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay

When he shall come with trumpet sound
O may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless to stand before the throne

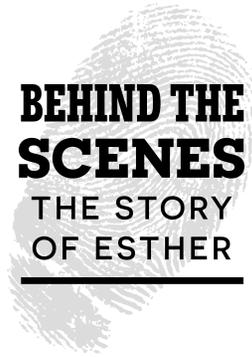
THE DOXOLOGY

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

MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS
E. Mote | W.B. Bradbury

JON WILKINSON



BEHIND THE SCENES

THE STORY OF ESTHER

PREACHING OF THE WORD

MR. BAILEY WAGNER

“CELEBRATING REDEMPTION”
ESTHER 9:20-32

- I. REMEMBERING GOD'S PROVISION

- II. THE IRONY OF CONTROL

- III. THE PROMISE OF PURIM

- REFLECTION QUESTIONS -

- 1) In what ways has God provided for you?
- 2) How can you celebrate God's provisions for you in a way that you are not the focus of the celebration?
- 3) How is God in control of the events in Esther?
- 4) What are some ways that you avoid feeling helpless and, as a result, avoid depending on God's sovereignty over your life?
- 5) Do you find yourself dwelling on God's promises? If not, what would that look like?