

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Second Sunday of Christmas

January 3, 2021 – 11:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern, Krebs-WV 552
(*How brightly shines the morning star*)
Samuel Libra, Organist

Johann Ludwig Krebs

WELCOME

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

*HYMN 143

Angels, from the Realms of Glory
Stanzas 1 and 3
Hymn can be found on page 5

REGENT SQUARE

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Nathan Sautter

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Read in unison*)

Holy God, you have given us everything; we fail to respond with gratitude. In Jesus Christ, you have given us your Word; we answer with empty promises and lies. In Jesus Christ, you have given us your light; we try to hide ourselves from your glory. In Jesus Christ, you have given us your life; even this precious gift we have not always received. Have mercy on us, O God; forgive us. In Jesus Christ, give us the faith and power to become what you created us to be: beloved children, full of grace and truth.

(Time for silent prayer)

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE

Angels, from the Realms of Glory, St. 5

REGENT SQUARE

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Nathan Sautter

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

ANTHEM

The Glory of the Father
The Octet

Egil Hovland

GOSPEL READING

John 1:1-5, 10-18

SERMON

The Human Face of God

Rev. Steve Jester

THE RESPONSE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Col. 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

*HYMN 377

I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light
Stanzas 1 and 2
Hymn can be found on pages 6-7

HOUSTON

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy and right it is, and our joyful duty ... and we join with them and with all people to praise your holy name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy God, as the travelers with their treasures ... Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Send the power of your Holy Spirit ... This we pray in Jesus' name, the one who taught us to pray together saying ...

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION MUSIC *Meditation* Samuel Libra, organ

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SHARING GRACE

THE SENDING

*HYMN 459 *O Word of God Incarnate* MUNICH
Stanzas 1 & 3
Hymn can be found on page 8

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*, Bux-WV 223 Dietrich Buxtehude

IN WORSHIP TODAY

TODAY we welcome **Samuel Libra** as our Organist. Sam successfully completed his doctoral work at University of Washington last month, and he and Dylan have moved to Louisville in the last several weeks. We are grateful to God for the beginning of Sam's ministry with us. Welcome, Sam!

OUR MUSIC AND PRODUCTION

The Octet of the Sanctuary Choir; Samuel Libra, Organist
Evan Vivic, audio/video technician; Virginia Fortner, visual editor; Elder Nick Moloney, video
All Music is used by permission for livecasting under OneLicense.net #718492, and CCLI License No. #2036813.

WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER

Robert Webb and his family on the death of his mother, Mary Webb, 12/28/20.
Tim Clark and his family on the death of his mother, Ruth Clark, 12/28/20.
Patrice Paton and her family on the death of Patrice's nephew, Zeke Snow, 12/5/20.
Carol and Robert Kemp, Sister Stites and their families and friends on the death of Ashton Harcourt Kemp, 12/2/20.

THE MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Steven P. Jester, Pastor
Rev. Nathan Sautter, Associate Pastor for
Community Life
Rev. Jordan Akin, Associate Pastor for Youth
Jim Rittenhouse, Director of Worship and Music
Ministries
Lorie Williamson, Director of Children's Ministries
Hayley Abell, Director of Weekday School
Lisa Bickett, Pastoral Assistant
Chelsea Beasley, Formation Assistant
Beth Haendiges, Community Life Assistant

Keith DeCosta, Sexton
Samuel Libra, DMA, Organist
Christina Recktenwald, Children's Choirs
Co-Coordinator
Ricky Case, Children's Choirs Co-Coordinator
Elizabeth Clay, Parish Associate
Jackie Grimley, Bookkeeper
Virginia Fortner, Worship and Music Assistant
Rev. Samuel Oboamah Asiedu, Seminary Intern
Paula S. Roberts, Organist Emerita

UPCOMING EVENTS: Week of January 3, 2021

Sunday School – *Frozen* - Children's Sunday School for the month of January will begin on January 10th and will be based on the movie "Frozen". Bags will be available under the portico on the 10th and during office hours for the remainder of the month. The Sunday School bags contain materials that relate to a lesson that will go out each Sunday morning via the Children's Ministry Newsletter, 2PK (2nd Pres Kids) and will be posted on the church's website under Resources.

Thank You for joining us live and on our livestream for Christmas Eve! Please return the candles and wax shields you picked up for the services in the box located underneath the portico at Door 3. We will leave this out for the next week.

The **Morning Joy** weekday Bible study beginning January 7 is: "Luke's Jesus: A Thematic Study of The Gospel According to Luke." Morning Joy meets on Thursdays at 9:45 a.m. via Zoom. The link appears in Seconds to Go. If you would like to be on the Zoom mailing list, please contact Chelsea Beasley at cbeasley@2ndpreslou.org or call her at 895-3483.

Second Cup returns January 10 following the 11 a.m. online service. We will be changing the structure of this Zoom gathering, using it as a time to discuss scripture with guidance from one of our pastors. Look for more information in next week's Seconds to Go.

Update from Stewardship and Mission

"Sharing the grace of God with one another and the world around us."

As we continue our journey through the Covid-19 changed world, Second Presbyterian Church continues to show its compassion and love for others. With the generosity of our time, talents, and wealth, we are truly making a difference to ourselves and communities around us both locally and abroad.

Finances

2020 Pledges - \$1,316,639; Budget - \$1,300,00; Number of pledges - 277.

2020 Money received from pledges - \$1,248,647; Deficit - \$67,992.

2020 Non-pledge income - \$109,398; Budget - \$135,000.

2021 Pledges - \$988,531: Number of pledges - 194.

Covid-19 Response Fund: Donations - \$175,001

Session & Pastor Fund - \$68,460

Total Disbursements- \$131,995

143 Angels, from the Realms of Glory

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

all the earth; you, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing;
 beam a - far; seek the great de - sire of na - tions;
 Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 yon - der shines the in - fant light: come and wor - ship,
 you have seen his na - tal star:
 to the e - ter - nal Three in One:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king!

This familiar carol was first published as a poem in the Christmas Eve 1816 issue of a newspaper the author edited in Sheffield, England. The tune name celebrates the location of a prominent Presbyterian Church in London, sometimes called the "Presbyterian cathedral."

377 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to fol - low
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to look at
 3 I'm look-ing for the com - ing of Christ. I want to be with

Je - sus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The
 Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness, shine on my path, and
 Je - sus. When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

Refrain

star of my life is Je - sus.
 show me the way to the Fa - ther. In him there is no dark-ness at
 shall know the joy of Je - sus.

all. The night and the day are both a - like. The Lamb is the

The author/composer of this unrhymed hymn regards it as a meditation and prayer deeply rooted in many scriptures, most connected with the theme of light: Genesis 1:17; Psalm 139:12; Isaiah 60:19; Malachi 4:2; John 14:8; Ephesians 5:8; Hebrews 12:1-2; 1 John 1:5; Revelation 21:23.

459 O Word of God Incarnate

1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
 2 The church from you, dear Sav - ior, re - ceived this gift di - vine;
 3 O make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of pur - est gold

O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
 and still that light is lift - ed on all the earth to shine.
 to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;

we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
 It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,
 O teach your wan - dering pil - grims by this our path to trace,

a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
 a - mid the rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.
 till, clouds and storms thus end - ed, we see you face to face.

The opening four lines of this hymn celebrate attributes of Christ that are revealed through holy Scripture, which serves as a lantern, a chart, and a compass for the church in seeking to know Christ better. The setting of the tune comes from Felix Mendelssohn's *Elijah*.