

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Third Sunday in Advent

December 12, 2021

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE “Allegro” from *Trio Sonata in F-major*, Op.5, No.6 G.F. Handel
Jennifer Potochnic & Jayne Drummond, oboes; Allison Olsen, cello
Unto Us Is Born a Son arr. David Willcocks
Chamber Orchestra; Samuel Libra, organ

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

8:30 a.m. *From Heaven Above* Johann Pachelbel
Samuel Libra, organ
11 a.m. ⁺*Star Child* Carlton Young
Chapel Choir
⁺*Texts for anthems and reflections can be found in the back of your bulletin.*

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES 8:30 a.m. Chip, Susan, & Henry Snyder
read responsively 11 a.m. Ronnie and Sunny Seale; Stephanie, Drew and Morgan Fellon

As we light our third Advent candle,
We pray for hope, peace, and joy.
O come all ye faithful, O King of Angels.
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 133** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* ADESTE FIDELES

*CALL TO CONFESSION

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *read responsively*

O promised Christ, your bountiful joy is to be our strength. And yet, we choose to draw our strength from the empty promises of the world, rather than from you.

God of joy, hear our prayer.

We confess to you, O God of joy,

our ambivalence to the wondrous deeds you are doing in and around us.

We confess to you, O God of joy,

our exploitation of our neighbors for the sake of convenience.

We confess to you, O God of joy,

our selfish refusal to seek your justice.

Forgive us, we pray.

Restore in us renewed visions of your eternal kingdom.

Lord Christ, Word made flesh, our world waits for your joy.

Time for silent prayer.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

***RESPONSE**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel VENI EMMANUEL
Austin Memorial Handbells & Congregation arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

**O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

**O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*Children ages 3 through completed 3rd graders are welcome to come forward during the Passing of the Peace.
Children will be dismissed through the side door for activities.*

MUSICAL CELEBRATION

Go, Tell it on the Mountain African-American Spiritual
Austin Memorial Handbells arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Jordan Akin

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 12:2–6

ANTHEM

And the Glory of the Lord from MESSIAH G.F. Handel

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 3:7–9;15–18
Rev. Steve Jester

REFLECTION

Now Burn, New Born to the World Gerard Manley Hopkins
Russ Dunlap

ANTHEM

A Babe Is Born William Mathias

REFLECTION

Mosaic of the Nativity: Serbia, Winter, 1993 Jane Kenyon
Lorie Williamson

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 1:50–55
Elizabeth Clay

ANTHEM

Suscepit Israel from MAGNIFICAT J.S. Bach
Erin Shina, Krista Heckmann, & Laura Atkinson

ANTHEM

Sans Day Carol traditional Cornish carol
arr. John Rutter

REFLECTION

The Creatures of the Field

Jimmy Webb
Janet Rittenhouse

INSTRUMENTAL REFLECTION

How Far Is It to Bethlehem?

STOWEY, arr. Gordon Lawson

How far is it to Bethlehem,
not very far?
Shall we find the stable room
lit by a star?
Can we see the little child,
is He within?
If we lift the wooden latch,
may we go in?

May we stroke the creatures there,
oxen or sheep?
May we peek like them and see
Jesus asleep?
If we touch His tiny hand,
will He awake?
Will He know we've come so far
just for His sake?

Frances Chesterton

ANTHEM

O Magnum Mysterium
The Octet

Tomas Luis de Victoria

REFLECTION

Remembering that it happened once

Wendell Berry
Jim Rittenhouse

ANTHEM

Serenity (O Magnum Mysterium)

Ola Gjeilo

THE RESPONSE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *read responsively*

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *adapted*

As if to shame the mightiest human efforts and achievements ... As the redeemed people of God, please stand as you are able as we confess what we believe:

The infinite mercy of the almighty God comes to us in the form of a child, his son.

That this child has been born for us,

that this son has been given,

that this human child, this son of God, belongs to me;

that I know him, have him, love him,

that I am his and he is mine—

my very life now depends entirely on all these things.

A child has our life in his hand. Amen.

SHARING GRACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Please also see the information about ways to give on the inside of the front cover of the bulletin.

You are invited to pass the Friendship Pad found at the end of the pen.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Ding Dong Merrily on High!

David Willcocks

Sanctuary Choir; Chamber Orchestra; Samuel Libra, organ

Ding dong merrily on high,
In heav'n the bells are ringing.
Ding dong! verily the sky
Is riv'n with angel singing,
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And "Io, io, io!"
By priest and people sungen.
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers.
May you beautifully rhyme
Your eve'time song, ye singers.
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!

*DOXOLOGY

While Shepherds Watched Their Flock

WINCHESTER OLD

**All glory be to God on high, to Jesus, Prince of Peace,
And to the Spirit, Three in One, our praises never cease.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *read in unison*

Christ calls us to live generous and grateful lives. Take these gifts we offer today in joy, O God, and use them to the fulfillment of Christ's ministry. May these gifts help to heal the sick, comfort the lonely, feed the hungry, house the homeless. As Christ's hands and feet, use us too, in service to building your beloved community. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 134

Joy to the World
Stanzas 1, 2 & 4

ANTIOCH

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Toccata on ANTIOCH

Pamela Decker

We are called to go out from our worship to share the grace of God with one another and the world.

You are welcome to remain seated for the postlude or exit quietly.

**Please stand if you can do so comfortably.*

Bold text *is read or sung in unison.*

For our worshipers who use hearing devices, please be reminded that we have the T-Coil system available. If you have the T-coil feature on your hearing device, and most devices do have that feature, you simply need to switch it to that setting. If you would like a unit, please ask an usher to provide one.

IN WORSHIP TODAY

THE MEANS OF GRACE

Our life is in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. The Bible is the written witness to Jesus Christ, therefore it is "The Word of Life." Our lives are claimed by God through our baptism. It is God's seal on who we are as the children of God, therefore it is "The Font of Identity." The Table is the center of our home in the Body of Christ, the place where we are welcomed, renewed, and strengthened for the life to which we are called, therefore it is "The Table of Sustenance."

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are given in loving memory of Caroline and Jim Mapother and Peyton Wells by their family.

USHERS

8:30 a.m.—Patti Ogden, Scott Carothers, Chip Snyder, Susan Snyder

11:00 a.m.—Henry Kelsey, Leigh Parrott, Linda Watson, Greg Treitz, Harriet Treitz

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Steve Jester, preacher; Rev. Jordan Akin, Parish Associate Elizabeth Clay, Director of Children's Ministries Lorie Williamson, Janet Rittenhouse, & Russ Dunlap, liturgists
Evan Vicic, Audio/Video Engineer; Mike Beasley, camera

LEADING OUR MUSIC TODAY

Sanctuary Choir and Octet*: Laura Atkinson*, Mary Ayers, Brittany Carwile, Ricky Case*, Lamoine Cash, Terry Cissell, Dick Clay, Jonathan Cornell, Jeanne Curtis, Patty Dailey, Kit Davis, Russ Dunlap*, Chris Ellis, Richard Ellis, Karen Hadley, Krista Heckmann*, Jean Herp, Carol Hull, Lindsey Hundley, Clay Kannapell, David McCandless, Bill McDowell, Susan McDowell, Kenneth Oeth*, Harrison Palmer-Ball, Christina Bouras Recktenwald*, Janet Rittenhouse, Erin Shina*, Deborah Skaggs, Martha Spencer, Jason Steigerwalt*, Camille Williams-Neal

Austin Memorial Handbells: Bonnie Boram, Ricky Case, Terry Cissell, Elizabeth Clay, Lindsay Cook, Kit Davis, Kitty deVoogd, Steve Farris, Karen Hadley, Jean Herp, Diana Jester, Katharine King, Sue Rogers, Becca Ruark, Susanne Wright

Chapel Choir: *Christina Bouras Recktenwald & Ricky Case, directors*

Eden Baltzell, Kate Cahill, Ava Claire Beasley, Michael Beasley, Kyle Church, Phoebe Church, May Davis, Georgia Dierking, Charlie Dobbins, Lucy Farnsley, Evie Hughes, Nolan Hughes, Chappell Mayer, Nora Steigerwalt, Briggs Tyler, Kate Watkins

Chamber Orchestra: *Violin 1*: Julia Noone, Kim Tichenor, Cynthia Burton, *Violin 2*: Julia Cash, Andrea Daigle, Isabella Christensen; *Viola*: Jonathan Mueller, Laura de St. Croix; *Cello*: Lillian Pettitt, Allison Olsen; *Bass*: Karl Olsen; *Oboe*: Jennifer Potochnic, Jayne Drummond; *Percussion*: Tanner Leonardo

Conductor: Jim Rittenhouse, Director of Worship & Music Ministries

Organist: Samuel Libra

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER

Priss Hovious and her family on the death of her father, Nelson D. Rodes Jr., 12/01/21.

The family and friends of Bill Brittain on his death, 11/21/21.

Jean Herp and her family on the death of her aunt, Elizabeth (Betsy) Gray, 11/19/21.

Charlie Castner and his family on the death of his brother, Henry Castner, 11/19/21.

COVID PROTOCOL & UPDATE: The church's Re-opening Task Group, consistent with CDC and Presbytery advice, emphasizes that regardless of vaccination status, wearing masks while gathering inside the building is strongly encouraged. All individuals are strongly encouraged to mask for their own protection and as an additional layer of protection for those around them. Masks are required in the Weekday School spaces.

On November 18, Session approved the Task Group's recommendation that January 2, 2022 be set as a target date to adjust our masking protocol. The intention is to then strongly encourage masking for the unvaccinated and at-risk members of the congregation when in worship. The Task Group, composed of active elders, at-large members, and members of the church staff, will continue to monitor the situation and meet regularly to recommend any necessary changes.

CHILDCARE: Childcare is available in room 117 for children ages 5 and under during 9:00 Worship and for children ages 3 and under for the 11:00 Worship. Room 117 is in Hilbert Hall, adjacent to the Weekday School Atrium, entrance #1 or #9.

Parents may pick up their children from the lower-level educational space after 11:00 Worship has ended. Educational space is best accessed through the double doors near the Narthex marked 2PK. PreK – 3rd grades rooms 150-154. 4th & 5th grades – room 180.

KidCheck is a secure children's check-in system that enhances your provider's security system and simplifies the check-in process. KidCheck helps ensure no one can pick up your child without your consent. Signing up for KidCheck is easy and free for parents, guardians, and workers! Visit <https://go.kidcheck.com> or download the KidCheck app on an iOS or Android device. Stations can be found at the nursery outside Hilbert Hall and in the Common Space near door 6. For you and your child/ren's safety, beginning today, all doors except for door 3 and the main Sanctuary doors will be locked at 11:15. Please use one of these entrances if you will be arriving after this time.

MISSION OF THE MONTH: The Missionary Christmas Fund is our December Mission of the Month. Please consider contributing a special gift to our missionaries who are faithfully serving our neighbors throughout the world. Donations can be made to Second Presbyterian Church. Designate Missionary Christmas fund on the donation.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Week of December 12, 2021

2PY CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held at the Duane residence on Sunday, **December 12** at 7 p.m.

CARE FOR THE CAREGIVERS GROUP is meeting via ZOOM on Monday, **December 13** at 4 p.m. If you are interested in joining the group, or need support in caring for a loved one, the meeting invite is in Seconds to Go. You may also contact Deacon Cathy Hollander at cathyhollander@gmail.com.

HOPE & HEALING WHILE GRIEVING is meeting via ZOOM and in-person in room 251 on Wednesday, **December 15** at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend. Please contact Elizabeth Clay, eclay@2ndpreslou.org, if you have questions or are interested in joining.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT will take place on Saturday, **December 18** from 5 :00-8:30 p.m. Please contact Amy Heckmann, Childcare Coordinator at aheckmann@2ndpreslou.org by Monday the 13th to reserve your spot!

AWAITING JOY: A MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF JOY SUNDAY

TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

Star Child

Carlton Young

Star-Child, earth-Child, go-between of God,
love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lightning rod:

Hope-for-peace Child, God's stupendous sign,
down-to-earth Child, Star of stars that shine:

Refrain: This year, this year let the day arrive
when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive.

Refrain.

Sheila Erana Murray

And the Glory of the Lord, from MESSIAH

G.F. Handel

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. *Isaiah 40:5*

Now Burn, New Born to the World, v. 34 from The Wreck of the Deutschland, 1875

Gerard Manley Hopkins

Now burn, new born to the world,
Doubled-naturèd name,
The heaven-flung, heart-fleshed, maiden-furled
Miracle-in-Mary-of-flame,
Mid-numbered He in three of the thunder-throne!
Not a dooms-day dazzle in his coming nor dark as he came;
Kind, but royally reclaiming his own; released shower, let flash to the shire, not a lightning of fire
hard-hurled.

A Babe Is Born

William Mathias

A babe is born all of a may,
To bring salvation unto us.
To him we sing both night and day.
Veni creator Spiritus. (Come, Holy Ghost, Creator)

A fair song that night sung they
In worship of that child:
Gloria tibi Domine. (Glory be to God)

At Bethlehem, that blessed place,
The child of bliss now born he was;
And him to serve God give us grace,
O lux beata Trinitas. (O Trinity of blessed light)

A babe is born all of a may,
To bring salvation unto us.
To him we sing both night and day.

There came three kings out of the East,
To worship the King that is so free,
With gold and myrrh and frankincense,
A solis ortus cardine. (From lands that see the sun's rise.)

Veni creator Spiritus,
O lux beata Trinitas,
A solis ortus cardine,
Gloria tibi Domine. Noel!

Anonymous, 15th century

Mosaic of the Nativity: Serbia, Winter, 1993

Jane Kenyon

On the domed ceiling God
is thinking:
I made them my joy,
and everything else I created
I made to bless them.
But see what they do!
I know their hearts
and arguments:

"We're descended from
Cain. Evil is nothing new,
so what does it matter now
if we shell the infirmary,
and the well where the fearful
and rash alike must
come for water?"

God thinks Mary into being.
Suspended at the apogee
of the golden dome,
she curls in a brown pod,
and inside her mind
of Christ, cloaked in blood,
lodges and begins to grow.

Suscepit Israel, from MAGNIFICAT

J.S. Bach

*Suscepit Israel puerum suum
recordatus misericordiae suae.*

He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy.

Luke 1:54

Sans Day Carol

Now the holly bears a berry as white as the milk,
And Mary bore Jesus, all wrapped up in silk,
And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be,
And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly.
Holly! Holly!

And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly!

Now the holly bears a berry as green as the grass,
And Mary bore Jesus, who died on the cross,
And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be,
And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly.
Holly! Holly!

And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly!

The Creatures of the Field, from *The Animals' Christmas*, 1985

And the creatures of the field
Waited in the silence of Gabriel's departing
And in the meadow kneeled
Still but for the sound of a frightened faun starting

'Til the owl said:

"Who raised up a clamor so harsh and deep?"

The owl said:

"Who caused gentle Mary to fret and weep?"

"Her window glows brightly

I fear that she cannot sleep."

O Magnum Mysterium

*O magnum mysterium
et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum,
jacentem in praesepe.
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt
Portare Dominum Jesum Christum.
Alleluia.*

Remembering that it happened once

Remembering that it happened once,
We cannot turn away the thought,
As we go out, cold, to our barns
Toward the long night's end, that we
Ourselves are living in the world
It happened in when it first happened,
That we ourselves, opening a stall
(A latch thrown open countless times
Before), might find them breathing there,
Foreknown: the Child bedded in straw,
The mother kneeling over Him,
The husband standing in belief
He scarcely can believe, in light

Serenity (O Magnum Mysterium)

See text above

traditional Cornish carol, arr. John Rutter

Now the holly bears a berry as black as the coal,
And Mary bore Jesus, who died for us all,
And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be,
And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly.
Holly! Holly!

And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly!

Now the holly bears a berry as blood is it red,
And Mary bore Jesus who rose from the dead,
And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be,
And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly.
Holly! Holly!

And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly!

Jimmy Webb

Mary paced her room
Wishing that her heartbeat
Would cease its fearful pounding
Peered into the gloom
Silent as a tomb,
Not one distant drum sounding

As the owl said:

"Who caused such a stillness to mystify the earth—

And why?

See how she searches the darkened sky.

Who is there among us to sing her a lullaby?

Tomas Luis de Victoria

O great mystery,
and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the new-born Lord,
lying in a manger.
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy
To bear Jesus Christ the Lord.
Alleluia.

Chant for Christmas Matins

Wendell Berry

That lights them from no source we see,
An April morning's light, the air
Around them joyful as a choir.
We stand with one hand on the door,
Looking into another world
That is this world, the pale daylight
Coming just as before, our chores
To do, the cattle all awake,
Our own white frozen breath hanging
In front of us; and we are here
As we have never been before,
Sighted as not before, our place
Holy, although we knew it not.

Ola Gjeilo

O Come, All Ye Faithful 133

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain

born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

134 Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.