



First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

The Service for the Lord's Day – December 5, 2021 Second Sunday of Advent

A special welcome to those visiting with us today!

We are grateful for your presence with us and hope you find this time of worship to be meaningful. For those of you worshipping with us in the Sanctuary this morning, masking is no longer required for those fully vaccinated against COVID-19. All other individuals are strongly encouraged to wear a mask while inside the building. Thank you for helping us all stay safe!

We Gather to Worship

PRELUDE

Angels We Have Heard on High

arr. Rob Roy McGregor

Blackwelder Brass

Isaac Hodapp and Connor Tipton, trumpets; Jose Diaz, horn;

Trey Cole, trombone; Nick Brown, tuba

WORDS OF WELCOME, CHURCH LIFE

PURPLE BAGS

CHIME

INTROIT

Prepare the Way of the Lord

Jacques Berthier

Sanctuary Singers, Blackwelder Brass

arr. Warren Puffer Jones

*CALL TO WORSHIP - LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE *Isaiah 2:4, 11:6*

Bobbie Heimbach

Leader: We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming.

We are preparing ourselves for the days

People: when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Leader: The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid,

People: the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

All: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)

David Ligon

God of grace, ever faithful to your promises, the earth rejoices in hope of our Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes, for he is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Eternal God, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son, and by your Spirit you still bring light to illumine our paths. Renew us in faith and hope that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world. (silent confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

To this peace we are called as members of a single body.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

(During the Passing of the Peace, if you would prefer to maintain social distancing, please hold your hand to your chest and greet others with a nod or a smile.

Hand sanitizing wipes are available at the doors.)

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Gloria Patri

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

To God the Father, God the Son, And Holy Spirit Three in one.

May every tongue and nation raise An endless song of thankful praise. Amen.

We Proclaim God's Word

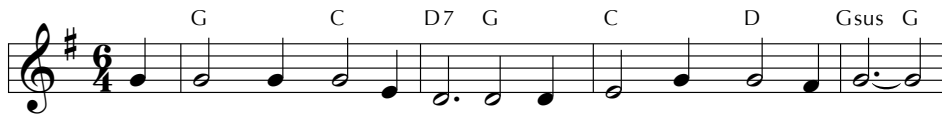
DISCOVERY TIME

Cyndi Stumpf

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.

Prepare the Way, O Zion 106



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sav - ior's rule em - brace,

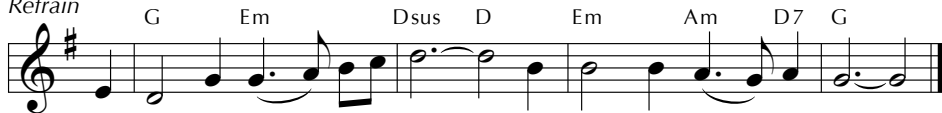


Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
and ti - dings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow re - joic - ing, their ad - o - ra - tion voic - ing.

Refrain



O blest is Christ who came in God's most ho - ly name.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This engaging Advent text based on Isaiah 40:3–5 and Psalm 24:7–10 has been in use in the Church of Sweden for almost two hundred years. It is set to a version of an even older Swedish tune, which in turn seems to be derived from a German folktune that spread to Scandinavia.

ANTHEM

The Glory of Advent

Philip Kern

Sanctuary Singers, Blackwelder Brass

based on Isaiah 35:1; 65:1, 19

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord shines upon you. The dry land shall rejoice, the wilderness be glad.

The desert will blossom with joy. The Lord will be your everlasting light and glory.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-14 (pg. 59)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

When Love Was Born

Bernie Herms, Stephanie Lewis

Jennifer Coffman, mezzo-soprano

and Mark Schultz

Starlight shines, the night is still, shepherds watching from a hill. I close my eyes to see the night when love was born. A perfect child gently waits, a mother bends to kiss God's face. I close my eyes to see the night when love was born. Angels fill the midnight sky, and they sing, "Hallelujah! He is Christ our King!" Emmanuel, Prince of Peace. Love come down for you and me. Heaven's gift, the holy spark to light the way inside our hearts. Bethlehem, through your small door came the hope we've waited for. The world was changed forevermore when love was born. I close my eyes to see the night when love was born.

SERMON

Seeing With the Eyes of Faith

Rev. John McKinnon

We Respond to God's Word

*CAROL 136

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

PRESENTATION

Charles Coley, Rev. Ray Dykes, Donna Dykes, Rogers Fokumlah,

Laurie Fuller, and Bobbie Heimbach

RENUNCIATIONS

PROFESSION OF FAITH

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

LAYING ON OF HANDS

PRAYER

WELCOME

Let us welcome Charles, Ray, Donna, Rogers, Laurie, and Bobbie as they join with us in the worship and mission of the church.

**With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you
to share with us in the ministry of Christ,
for we are all one in him.**

136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain $\text{♪} = \text{♪}^{\circ}$

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

Fine

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
 3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

be - hold, through-out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light.
 rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

to Refrain

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.

OFFERING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
Blackwelder Brass

J. S. Bach

*PRESENTATION HYMN

Doxology

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We Go in God's Name

*CAROL 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen
Blackwelder Brass

Rob Roy McGregor

Today

Sunday School | 9:30 a.m.

- Builders Class | Room B-8
- Pastor's Class | Room B-10
- Evergreen Class | Room B-14
- New Beginnings Class | Fireside Room (in-person & Zoom)
 - Meeting ID: 817 3543 3278 | Passcode: 531483
- Children's Sunday School | Room 213

Sanctuary Worship | 11:00 a.m.

Presbyterian Women

Christmas Tea | After 11:00 a.m. Service

PW is having tea for their holiday get-together! Join us in the Parlor after Sunday worship for tea, cookies and quiche. In order to protect our most vulnerable, and because food and drink will be served, we ask that everyone in attendance be vaccinated.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me thy in - ner

draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

Beginning as a paraphrase of Psalm 24:7–10, this text then applies the door imagery to the singer's heart, and concludes with the individual's welcome of the approaching Savior. It is set to a very effective anonymous 18th-century English tune that has served many texts.

Upcoming Events

KirkNight To-go — Wednesday, December 8 | 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Menu: Lasagna with Garlic Bread, Salad and Chocolate Amaretto Cake

Family Meal for 4-6: \$20 | Dessert \$5.00 | **Meal for 2:** \$10 | Dessert \$2.50

This week's KirkNight To-go meal is the last of the year! **Order by 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday at the latest.** To order, call, text or email Jenn Snow at 405-408-3608 or jenn@junebugcatering.com. Meals will be available for pick-up from 4:30-5:30 p.m. by the ramp behind the kitchen.

Free Yoga Class — Wednesday, December 8 | 6:30 p.m.

Do you need some stress relief this holiday season? Join us for some relaxing, stress-melting yoga! Yoga will meet for the first three weeks in December.

Presbyterian Women

PW Cookie Fundraiser

Looking for a fun holiday gift? Look no further than this year's PW Cookie Fundraiser. PW will be selling cookie mixes on Sundays for \$10 per jar. They even come with a gift tag attached!

Stop by and grab a gift while supporting Presbyterian Women and all the work that they do.

Priscilla Circle — Tuesday, December 14 | 10:00 a.m.

In the Reception Room.

Phoebe Circle — Tuesday, December 14 | 1:30 p.m.

At Mary Ann Doolen House.

Service of Healing and Wholeness — Saturday, December 18 | 4:00 p.m.

The holidays are certainly a joyful time. It can also be a difficult time for many because of past life events, memories, or even present circumstances. We invite you to a Service of Healing and Wholeness. This service is designed to provide worshippers with a space to pray and reflect on the needs in their lives, whether they are seeking healing and wholeness for themselves, a loved one or the world.

Kemp Concert Series

Tactus: Christmas Mysteries — Sunday, December 19 | 7:00 p.m.

(Doors open at 6:15 p.m. Pre-concert talk starts at 6:30 p.m.)

Join us as Oklahoma City's professional chamber orchestra and vocal ensemble present a concert of Advent and Christmas music favorites, old and new! Free Admission—donations encouraged.

For more information, visit www.kempconcerts.org.

Christmas Eve Services

In order to livestream, both Christmas Eve services will be held in the Sanctuary.

Young and Young at Heart Service — Friday, December 24 | 4:00 p.m.

Worship will include the Treble Choir, handbells and some of your favorite carols!

Service of Lessons and Carols — Friday, December 24 | 10:30 p.m.

(The prelude begins at 10:00 p.m.) This service will feature classical guitar as well as the Sanctuary Singers performing favorite anthems and carols.

Music for the Nativity — Friday, December 31 | 12:00 p.m.

Join us for a depiction of the events of the nativity through music! The program will be approximately 50 minutes and available in person and by livestream. This program is a sequel to the CD “Caroling, Caroling & other Christmas Favorites, LIVE” that John recorded in 2004.

The concert is free. A boxed lunch will be available afterward in Watchorn Hall. **Please RSVP to the church office by December 29, if you’d like a boxed lunch.** There is no charge for boxed lunches, but donations are accepted.