

<https://youtu.be/1FiQk9reWt0>

Order of Worship, First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 27, 2020

1st Sunday of Christmas

Announcements

Dr. Mark Ward

Minute for Mission

Prelude

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

arr. Livingston

For Prayer and Reflection:

*Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel.*

Charles Wesley

Call to Worship

When Jesus is born to Mary and Joseph,

God is there.

When Mary and Joseph present Jesus at the temple,

God is there.

When Simeon holds Jesus in his arms,

God is there.

When Anna recognizes Jesus as the answer to prayer,

God is there.

In the future we cannot see, God is there.

This very morning, God is here. Let us worship God!

Opening Prayer

****Hymn of Praise #189***

“Angels from the Realms of Glory” vv. 1,2,4

Regent Square

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light: (Refrain)

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear: (Refrain)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we know that you have been present throughout all of history and throughout our own histories. We know you will be with us in our future. Yet we often live as if we don't know that. We, like Simeon, should rejoice in Jesus our savior. Yet we often live as if we don't need to be saved. We, like Anna, should tell others of our redemption through Jesus Christ. Yet we often fail to share the good news. Forgive us for our sins. Work in us so that we may live in commitment to your gift of love. Amen.

Silent Confession (Here let each worshiper offer silent, personal prayers of confession)

Declaration of Forgiveness

***Gloria Patri** (#734)

“Glory Be to the Father”

Greatorex

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 148

Special Music

“One Small Child”

Meece

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 2:22-40

Sermon

“Preparing for Presence”

***Hymn of Response #185**

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. (Refrain)

Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. (Refrain)

***Affirmation of Faith**

“The Scots Confession”

When the fullness of time came God sent his Son, his eternal wisdom, the substance of his own glory, into this world, who took the nature of humanity from the substance of a woman, a virgin, by means of the Holy Ghost. And so was born the “just seed of David,” the “Angel of the great counsel of God,” the very Messiah promised, whom we confess and acknowledge to be Emmanuel, true God and true man, two perfect natures united and joined in one person.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and 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.

****Sending Hymn #179***

“Joy to the World!”

Antioch

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns; let all 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.

****Benediction***

****Postlude***

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

arr. Willis

**Those who are able, please stand*

Leaders in worship:

Liturgist: Annalee Ward

Preacher: Dr. Mark Ward

Music Director & pianist: Kristen Eby

Special Music Director: Jill Klinebriel

Musicians: Alex Eby, Hannah Eby, John Eby

Technical Directors: Bryan and Sara Blair

Lectionary Reading for January 3

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalm 147:12-20

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1: (1-9) 10-18

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”
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“One Small Child”
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arr. Mason
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“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”
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