

Proclaiming Christ | Delighting in His Grace | Sharing in His Mission

WELCOME

PRELUDE

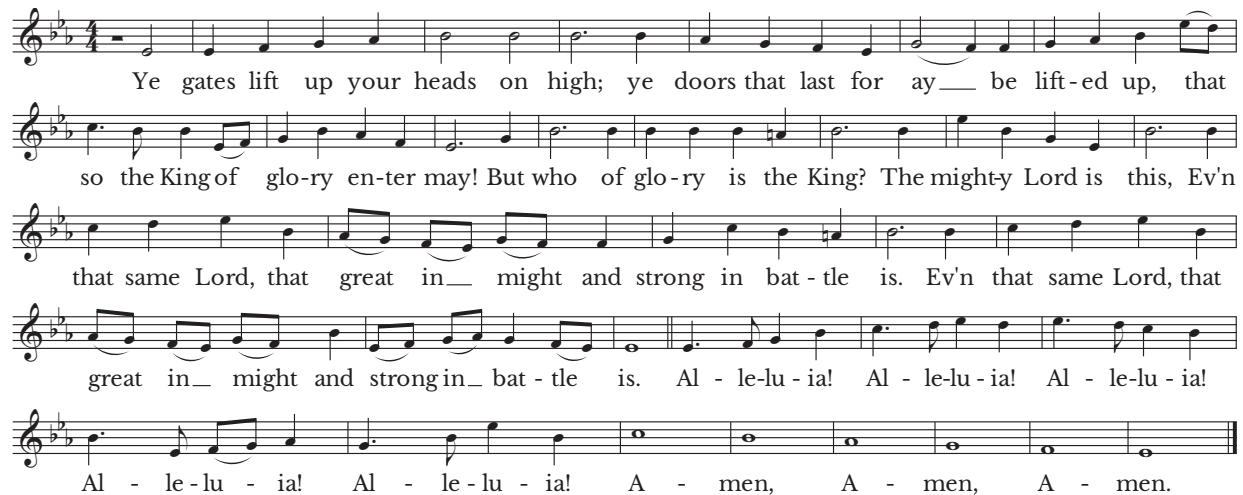
“Wake, Awake, For Night Is Flying”
Fred Markey, organ

J. S. Bach

*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT

“Ye Gates, Lift Up Your Heads”

St. George’s, Edinburgh



Ye gates lift up your heads on high; ye doors that last for ay— be lift-ed up, that
so the King of glo-ry en-ter may! But who of glo-ry is the King? The mighty Lord is this, Ev'n
that same Lord, that great in— might and strong in bat - tle is. Ev'n that same Lord, that
great in— might and strong in— bat - tle is. Al - le-lu - ia! Al - le-lu - ia! Al - le-lu - ia!
Al - le-lu - ia! Al - le-lu - ia! A - men, A - men, A - men.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Triune God calls his church to worship him

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Asking God to attend and bless the worship of his people

*HYMN NO. 131

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

Regent Square

*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Acknowledging our sins before our Holy God and seeking his forgiveness in Christ

*CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God our Creator, all things were made through the eternal Word who became incarnate in our Lord Jesus Christ. Forgive us, for we have regularly worshiped the creation while forsaking our Creator. In him was life and that life was the light of men. Save us from our sins, the wages of which have been death. Light has come into the world, but too often we have loved the darkness rather than the light. In humble repentance we come into the light to receive Christ and believe in his name afresh. May we know that we are children of God, who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. Meet us now, O Word Incarnate, as you come to us full of grace and truth, that from your fullness we may receive grace upon grace. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Lord's declaration of our freedom from the guilt of sin and punishment of God's Law

*HYMN OF THANKS

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

Est ist ein Ros'

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As men of old have sung.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death he saves us
And lightens every load.

ANTHEM

“Carols Sing, Praises Bring”

Terry D. Taylor

Celebration Choir and Strings; Susan Fuller, director; Traci Klemm, piano

Carols sing, praises bring unto Christ our Savior.
Born this night, love's true light in a lowly manger.
Angels tell the story of his wondrous birth:
Jesus came from glory, bringing peace on earth.
Come now, joyful shepherds, see him in the straw.
Though he's in a manger, he is Lord of all.

SHARING OF FAMILY NEWS

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND LORD'S PRAYER

8:00 *Dr. Robert Norris*

9:30 *Mr. David Frerichs*

11:00 *Rev. Corey Gray*

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us
not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Ruth 4:18–22

page 224, pew Bible

8:00 *The Leegwater Family*

9:30 *Steve Bezirgianian*

11:00 *The Klitsch Family*

*HYMN NO. 137

“What Child Is This?”

Greensleeves

GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

8:00 *Tim Perrin*

9:30 *John Sillin*

11:00 *Ted Smith*

OFFERTORY

“Gesù Bambino”

Pietro A. Yon

Valerie Simonsen, soprano; Fred Markey, organ

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows upon a winter night.
Was born the Child, the Christmas rose, the King of love and light.
The angels sang, the shepherds sang, the grateful earth rejoiced.
And at his blessed birth the stars their exaltation voiced.

O come let us adore him. O come let us adore him.

O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night.
That gave the world its Christmas rose, its King of love and light.
Let every voice acclaim his name, the grateful chorus swell,
From paradise to earth he came that we with him might dwell.

11:00 PRAYER FOR CHILDREN & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Children K–3rd grade may come forward. If your child is not wearing a registration name tag, please accompany your child.

NEW TESTAMENT READING	Matthew 1:1–17	page 807, pew Bible
SERMON	“Jesus’ Family Tree” <i>2nd in the series, “The Ancestry of the Messiah”</i>	Dr. Todd M. Smedley
*HYMN NO. 127	“Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne”	Margaret
*BENEDICTION		
	<i>Pronouncing God’s blessing on his people</i>	
POSTLUDE	“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come” <i>Fred Markey, organ</i>	J. S. Bach

**Congregation standing as able*

We give thanks to the following string players for joining with our Celebration Choir for this morning’s anthem:

*Elise Bajwa#, Lydia Bettridge, Jonah Fuller, Avery Mascott, Lauren Perrin,
Ashley Perrin#, Noelle Fuller, Everett Mascott, Anna Lindstrom.*

#Section Leaders

An Elder and Women’s Ministry representative are available for prayer at the front of the Sanctuary after each service.

Deacons provide assistance and prayer support to those in our congregation facing difficult circumstances.

Contact an individual deacon directly or call the deacons phone line at 301-320-3600, x223.

Our 11:00 a.m. Sunday morning radio broadcast on WAVA 105.1 FM will be ending on 12/30/2018;
to receive the service by email contact radio@4thpres.org.

WORSHIPING WITH CHILDREN

The presence of children is a gift to the Church and a reminder of God's covenant faithfulness. Parents, God put the wiggle in your children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome!

- Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastors, ushers, choir, etc.
- Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn to worship by watching and following you.
- If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Tonight and December 16 | 6:00 p.m.

*With choirs and full orchestra, Scripture readings,
and Christmas carols.*

No childcare provided.

Please, no saving seats.

*The Upper Room, with a live feed of Lessons and Carols, will be available
for overflow seating and parents who need to care for their children.*

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

MORNING SERVICE

8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

"Immanuel"

Matthew 1:18-25

Dr. Todd M. Smedley

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

General Giving

Annual Budget \$ 4,864,876

Year-to-Date Received \$ 3,782,734

5500 River Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20816

301-320-3600 | 4thpres.org

Fourth Presbyterian Church is a member congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.