

Delighting in God's Glory | Demonstrating His Grace | Declaring His Gospel

PRELUDE "Sheep May Safely Graze" J.S. Bach
Wyeth Duncan, organ

*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT "Angels We Have Heard on High" Gloria
Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

*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. 151 "Good Christian Men, Rejoice" In Dulci Jublio



1. Good Chris-tian men, re-joice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to
2. Good Chris-tian men, re-joice with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of
3. Good Chris-tian men, re-joice with heart and soul and voice; now ye need not



what we say: News! News! Je - sus Christ is born to - day! Ox and ass be -
end - less bliss: Joy! Joy! Je - sus Christ was born for this! He has o - pened
fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Je - sus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and



fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now: Christ is born to-day! Christ is born to-day!
heav-en's door, and man is bless-ed ev - er-more: Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall: Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

²¹ But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:
²² The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;
²³ they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
²⁴ “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God our Creator, all things were made through the eternal Word who became incarnate in our Lord Jesus Christ. In him was life and that life was the light of men. 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, 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

“Joy to the World”

Antioch

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.

SHARING OF FAMILY NEWS

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND LORD'S PRAYER

8:00 *Rev. Thomas Myrick*

9:30 *Rev. Corey Gray*

11:00 *Dr. Robert Norris*

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.

ANTHEM

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

arr. H. Walford Davies

Lowell Fry, bass; Wyeth Duncan, organ

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
 Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
 The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
 For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
 While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
 O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth!
 And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
 So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
 No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
 Where meek souls will receive him still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem! descend on us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 2:1–10

¹ And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

SERMON

“A New Year of Mercy”

Rev. Ron Meyer

*HYMN NO. 567

“Another Year Is Dawning”

Aurelia



1. An - oth - er year is dawn - ing: dear Fa - ther, let it be, in work - ing or in
2. An - oth - er year of mer - cies, of faith - ful - ness and grace; an - oth - er year of
3. An - oth - er year of ser - vice, of wit - ness for thy love; an - oth - er year of



wait - ing, an - oth - er year with thee; an - oth - er year of pro - gress, an -
glad - ness in the shin - ing of thy face; an - oth - er year of lean - ing up -
train - ing for ho - lier work a - bove. An - oth - er year is dawn - ing: dear



oth - er year of praise, an - oth - er year of prov - ing thy pres - ence all the days.
on thy lov - ing breast; an - oth - er year of trust - ing, of qui - et, hap - py rest.
Fa - ther, let it be, on earth or else in heav - en, an - oth - er year for thee.

*BENEDICTION

Pronouncing God's blessing on his people

POSTLUDE

“Postlude on ‘In Dulci Jubilo’”
Wyeth Duncan, organ

Gilbert M. Martin

**Congregation standing as able*

Face Coverings

Face coverings are required at all services.

Exiting the 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 6:00 p.m. services

- All congregants must exit the building after the service by either the front ramp entrance or the rear narthex entrance (whichever is closer).
- Following the benediction, the congregation is asked to exit using only the center aisle of the Sanctuary.
- Exit pew-by-pew, beginning with the pews closest to your exit.
- Move toward the center aisle, allowing those seated in the rows nearest your exit to depart first.
- If you would like to hear the entire postlude, please move toward the center of the pew and remain seated until the postlude concludes.
- Please maintain at least six feet of physical distancing at all times.

Exiting the 9:30 a.m. services

- All congregants must exit the building after the service.
- Following the benediction, the congregation is asked to exit using the closest available exit.
- There are four exits: two main stairwells on either side of the room, a marked stairwell out the back, and the elevator.
- If you require use of the elevator, please only one household at a time.
- Please maintain at least six feet of physical distancing at all times.

Sunday Audio

You may now listen to the 11:00 a.m. service via phone livestream.
To join by phone, please call 855-217-0187 at the beginning of the service.

EVENING SERVICE

6:00 p.m.

“The Lord Is in Your Midst”

Zephaniah 3:14–20

Rev. Thomas Myrick

*Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
will be celebrated.*

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

MORNING SERVICE

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

“Going With God Into the Future”

Revelation 3:20–22

Dr. Robert Norris

*Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
will be celebrated*

EVENING SERVICE

6:00 p.m.

“Taste Test”

John 2:1–10

Rev. Thomas Myrick

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

General Giving

2020 Annual Budget \$ 5,164,765

2020 Year-to-Date Received \$ 4,334,581

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