

Grace Presbyterian Church (PCA)

The Lord's Day
December 20, 2020
Order of Worship

— GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM —

*Call to Worship

Isaiah 9:1-7

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

— WE RESPOND WITH SINGING AND PRAYER —

*Hymn of Praise

208 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (v. 1)

Verse 1

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant.
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

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*Prayers of Adoration *(followed by 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.

— GOD CALLS US TO REPENT —

Call to Confession

James 4:8-10

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

— WE RESPOND IN CORPORATE AND INDIVIDUAL REPENTANCE —

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and all-holy Father; we confess ourselves unworthy of Your unspeakable Gift. We have not loved You as we ought; nor have we always been loving to one another; kind-hearted, forgiving one another; even as You, for Christ's sake, have forgiven us. We have lived in selfishness and worldly pride; and the good gifts You have bestowed upon us; we have not used to relieve the burdens of others. Pardon and blot out our offenses, we ask You; through the incarnate life and willing sacrifice of Your holy Son, even Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent Prayers of Confession

— GOD GRANTS US FORGIVENESS —

Words of Encouragement

1 Peter 2:24-25

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

— WE RESPOND IN ACTS OF WORSHIP —

***Hymn of Response**

#196 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (vv. 1 and 2)

Verse 1

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Verse 2

Joy to those who long to see thee,
Dayspring from on high, appear;
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse,
Of thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing news,
Glad tidings of a birth:
"Go to him, your praises bringing;
Christ the Lord has come to earth."

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***Confession of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all ages: God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made; being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And we believe in one holy catholic¹ and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the age to come. **AMEN.**

Traditional English wording. ¹‘catholic’ means ‘universal;’ that is, the Christian Church made up of all believers.

Advent Wreath

“The Peace Candle”

Luke 2:14

Prayers of Intercession

Fellowship through Announcements

Tithes & Offerings Encouragement

Offering plates are located by each entrance. You may also give to the church via the Donate page on our website, by setting up automatic withdrawal from your bank, or by mailing a check to the church. We are thankful to God for your generosity.

— GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD —

Sermon

“Theotokos”

Pastor Erik McDaniel
Luke 1:26-38

Meditation & Prayer

— WE RESPOND TO THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

***Closing Hymn**

#203 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (v. 1)

Verse 1

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!”

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***Benediction**

Sermon Notes