

Prelude—Toccata on REGENT SQUARE..... L. Smith
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear arr. M. Hayes

***Preparation for Worship—All Is Well** arr. L. Larson

Sarah Combs, guest soloist

We invite you to use this time to quietly prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

All is well, all is well. Angels and men rejoice
For tonight darkness fell into the dawn of love’s light.
Sing Alleluia!

All is well, all is well. Let there be peace on earth.
Christ is come, go and tell that he is in the manger.
Sing Alleluia!

All is well, all is well. Lift up your voice and sing!
Born is now Emmanuel. Born is our Lord and Savior.
Sing Alleluia! Sing Alleluia! All is well!

†Call to Worship Isaiah 9:2, 6–7

Leader: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

The one true God graciously invites us into his presence to worship him in spirit and in truth, and we eagerly respond in faith. This begins a dialogue which will continue to the end of the service as God initiates with us, and we respond to him.

All: **For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulder, and he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.**

Leader: He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.

All: **The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Leader: Let us worship God!

***†Hymn of Praise—Angels, from the Realms of Glory** REGENT SQUARE, HYMN #218
Sung by all

† Indicates the congregation standing. *Ushers may seat worshipers at this time.

†Invocation

Advent Candle Lighting and Scripture Reading (Peace)

8:30 a.m. The MacDonell Family
Judy and Alex

11 a.m. The Brooks Family
Paige and Will; Miles

†Response—It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Sung by all

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|---|--|
| It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old, From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold: “Peace on the earth, good will to men, From heav’n’s all-gracious King”; The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing. | For lo, the days are hast’ning on, By prophet bards foretold, When with the ever-circling years Comes round the age of gold; When peace shall over all the earth Its ancient splendors fling, And the whole world give back the song Which now the angels sing. |
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Corporate Confession of Sin *(please kneel if able to do so)*

**Behold, the Lord’s hand is not so short that it cannot save,
or his ear dull that it cannot hear;
but our iniquities have separated us from God and our sins have hidden his face
from us so that he does not hear.**

**Our mouths are filled with anger, our lips are quick to speak lies,
our eyes are filled with illicit and unnecessary desires.
Our feet are swift to run to evil, and our thoughts are the thoughts of iniquity.
We have lost our way and are far from the way of peace.
The roads we travel are crooked and desperate.
We hope for light, but behold darkness.**

**Lord, only you can intercede and bring health to us.
Only your strong arm can bring us salvation.
May the Redeemer of Zion save us. Amen**

Taken from Isaiah 59

Personal Confession of Sin

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

Having confessed our sins, the minister declares a gospel promise assuring that God forgives us because Christ has fully atoned for all the sins of those who truly repent. Divine mercy frees us from our guilt and shame.

†Response—The First Noel

Sung by all

**The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
In fields as they lay;
In fields where they
Lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter’s night
That was so deep.
Noel, noel! Noel, noel!
Born is the King of Israel!**

**Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to
Our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven
And earth of naught
And with his blood
Our souls he hath bought!
Noel, noel! Noel, noel!
Born is the King of Israel!**

†Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

All: 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.

Passing of The Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Having been reminded that we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, in response to God’s grace, we gladly extend the peace of the gospel to one another.



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- Let us know you are a guest
 - Find out more about First Pres
 - Request prayer

Giving As an Act of Worship

Additional Ways to Give

- Online via the app or QR code above
- Text “Give \$” followed by the gift amount to 706.550.6813
- Mail checks to 615 Telfair Street, Augusta, Georgia, 30901

With grateful hearts for God’s extravagant mercy and blessing, we joyfully present our offerings to the Lord for the ministry of our church and community.

Dismissal of Children:

- 8:30 & 11 a.m. Children in Pre-K through 4th grade exit for catechism.

†Hymn of Preparation—Light of the World (Sing Halleluia)
Sung by all



1. Light of the world, treas-ure of heav-en, bril-liant like the
2. Light of the world, from the be-gin-ning the trag-e-dies of
3. Light of the world, crown in a man-ger, born for the
4. Light of the world soon will be com-ing. With fire in His



stars in the win-ter-y sky. Joy of the Fa-ther,
time were no match for Your love. From great heights of glo-ry,
cross, to suf-fer, to save. High King of heav-en,
eyes, He will ran-som His own. Through clouds He will lead us



reach through the dark-ness, shine a-cross the
You saw my sto-ry. God, You en-tered
death is the poor-er. We are the
straight in-to glo-ry. And there He shall



earth, send the shad-ows to flight. (to verse 2)
in and be-came one of us. (to Chorus)
rich-er by the price that He paid.
reign for-ev-er-more.

CHORUS



Sing hal-le-lu-jah, sing hal-le-lu-jah. Sing hal-le-lu-jah for the



things He has done! Come and a-dore Him, bow down be-



fore Him. Sing hal-le-lu-jah to the Light of the world.

Andrew Bergthold | Ed Cash | Franni Cash | Martin Cash | Scott Cash

New Testament Lesson Matthew 4:12-17; Isaiah 9:1-6
pages 962 and 680 in the pew Bible

Response

Leader: This is the Word of God.

All: Thanks be to you, O God.

Sermon—Christ Is the Light of the World Dr. Ken McHeard

1. Shining light on darkness (vv. 12–13)

2. Rising light on the shadow of death (vv. 15–16)

3. The Kingdom of Heaven (v. 17)

†Hymn of Response—O Little Town of Bethlehem.....ST. LOUIS, HYMN #201
Sung by all

†Benediction

Postlude—Toccata on Hark! The Herald Angels Sing G. Macchia

*We invite you to join us for Evensong Lessons and Carols
this evening at 4:30 or 6:30 p.m.*

First Presbyterian Church

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT *PEACE*

The Light Dwelt Among Us

December 10, 2023

8:30 & 11 a.m.

706.262.8900 • firstpresaugusta.org

COMMENDING THE GREATNESS OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST
TO ALL PEOPLES AND ALL GENERATIONS