

PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD
December 21, 2003
9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

The Christian Year: First Sunday before the Incarnation

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Please turn off all communication devices. Thank you.

Preparation for Worship "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

Mr. Stephen Nielson, *Piano*

WALTHAM

arr. Nielson

Call to Worship

The Rev. Joseph Ryan

Minister: The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at My right hand, until I make Your enemies Your footstool." Psalm 110.1

People: **Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.** Isaiah 7.14

***Carol of Adoration No. 218** "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

REGENTSQUARE

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Old Testament Witness to the Incarnation**

"Behold, the days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and He shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. **In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.** And this is the name by which He will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'" Jeremiah 23.5-6

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.** Isaiah 9.6-7

Behold, I send My messenger and He will prepare the way before Me. **And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold He is coming says the LORD of hosts.** Malachi 3.1

*The Church's Witness to the Incarnation

Council of Chalcedon (451)

We all with one voice confess our Lord Jesus Christ one and the same Son, at once complete in Godhead and complete in manhood, truly God and truly man, acknowledged in two natures, without confusion, without change, without division, or without separation the distinction of natures being in no way abolished because of the union, but rather the characteristic property of each nature being preserved, and coming together to form one person.

*A Doxology

ADESTE FIDELES

God of God, Light of Light;
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb:
Very God, begotten, not created;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Public Confession of Sin

Our Father, although You are a holy God who cannot look upon sin, look upon Christ our Savior and forgive us for His sake. You have promised us that if we confess our sins, You are faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. We ask also that You would give us an increase of the grace of Your Holy Spirit, so that we may learn the wisdom of Your ways and walk in Your holy paths, for Your glory and the good of our neighbor.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgression to the Lord"; and You did forgive the guilt of my sin

Psalm 32.5

The Sacrament of Baptism

9:30

Sophia Strickler Geiger
Sullivan Ross Hickman
Henry Thomas Hoy

11:00

Laura Olivia Lucart
Abigail Josephine Ramirez
Hudson Alexander Ramirez

Musical Offering "Angels from the Realms of Glory" *Lani Smith*

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: come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King. Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with you is now residing, yonder shines the infant light: come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King. Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear, suddenly the Lord, descending in His temple shall appear: come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King.

***The Greeting of Peace**

Minister: We are the body of Christ; in one Spirit we were all baptized in one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

The Service of Friendship

If you are seated on the left end of the pew, please take the Service of Friendship pad, fill out the information and pass it down. When it arrives at the other end of the pew, pass it back, taking note of those who are seated in your row.

***Scripture Reading**

Luke 2.1-16

Pam and Brian Jones

The Morning Sermon

"A Sign"

Dr. Ryan

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." Luke 2.11-12

***Closing Carol No. 230** "Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor" *QUELLEESTCETTE*

***Benediction**

Minister: From Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the Ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve His God and Father—to Him be glory and power for ever and ever!
Revelation 1.5-6

People: **THANKS BE TO GOD! AMEN!**

Postlude

"Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella"
Mr. Colin Howland, Organ

arr. Keith Chapman

Personal Prayer and Counsel

Be anxious for nothing but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:7

In these difficult times everyone struggles with sometimes overwhelming concerns. Give us the privilege of praying with you in complete confidence after any Sunday morning service. Meet with Elders and other prayer leaders in the Parlor (Room 205, next to the information desk) and let us pray for your needs. Our prayer leadership earnestly desires to come alongside you in prayer.

Do you have a question about PCPC or want to find a Sunday School Community? Following each service, please come to the Information Center located in the south hallway of the building adjacent to the sanctuary. Volunteers are also available at every entrance to assist you.

The flowers in our worship services this morning are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Virginia Davis Hall by her children and grandchildren.

**The Congregation stands.*

(CCLI: #364068)

Park Cities Presbyterian Church exists to extend the transforming presence of the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ in Dallas and to the world.

MINISTERS

The members of this church family who, in serving their Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ, extend His Kingdom in Dallas and to the world.

PASTORS

The Rev. Dr. Joseph Ryan
The Rev. Robert Allen
The Rev. Dr. Pete Deison
The Rev. Tim Tinsley

The Rev. Elliott Greene
The Rev. David Rea
The Rev. Mark Davis
The Rev. Ron Williams

Christmas Eve Services



5:00 pm *Family Service*
9:00 pm *Service*