



ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Park Cities Presbyterian Church

December 9, 2007

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 am

The Christian Year: Second Sunday of Advent

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

*As the prelude music begins, please use this time to quiet
and prepare your heart for worship.*

“Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.”

Choral Introit

9:30/11:00

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Chancel Choir • J. Marty Cope, *Director*

C. Howland

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into ev’ry troubled breast; let us all in Thee inherit, let us find the promised rest: Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its Beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Call to Worship

The Rev. Ron Williams 8:00

The Rev. Bill Lamberth 9:30

The Rev. Rob Allen 11:00

Minister: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.

People: The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Minister: He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

People: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Psalms 98.1-4

*Hymn of Adoration No. 195

“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come”

ANTIOCH

*Prayer of Adoration

*Profession of Our Church's Faith

Larger Catechism, Q. 56

Minister: How is Christ to be exalted in His coming again to judge the world?

People: Christ is to be exalted in His coming again to judge the world, in that He, who was unjustly judged and condemned by wicked men, shall come again at the last day in great power, and in the full manifestation of His own glory, and of His Father's, with all His holy angels, with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God, to judge the world in righteousness.

*Hymn of Praise “From the Squalor of a Borrowed Stable”

Townend

1. From the squalor of a borrowed stable,
2. King of heaven now the Friend of sinners,
3. Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal,
4. Now He's standing in the place of honor,
by the Spirit and a virgin's faith;
humble servant in the Father's hands,
He was lifted on a cruel cross;
crowned with glory on the highest throne,

to the an-guish and the shame of scan-dal
 filled with po- wer and the Ho- ly Spi- rit,
 He was pun-ished for a world's trans- gress- ions,
 in- ter- ced- ing for His own be- lov- ed

came the Sa- vior of the hu- man race! But the
 filled with mer- cy for the bro- ken man. Yes, He
 He was suf- fer- ing to save the lost. He—
 till His Fa- ther calls to bring them home! Then the

skies were filled with the praise of heav'n, shepherds lis- ten as the
 walked my road and He felt my pain, joys and sor- rows that I
 fights for breath, He— fights for me, loos- ing sin- ners from the
 skies will part as the trum- pet sounds hope of heav- en or the

an- gels tell of the Gift of God come down to man
 know so well; yet His righ- teous steps give me hope a- gain:
 claims of hell; and— with a shout our— souls set free:
 fear of hell; but the Bride will run to her Lov- er's arms,

at the dawn- ing of Im- man- u- el.
 I will fol- low my Im- man- u- el!
 death de- feat- ed by Im- man- u- el!
 giv- ing glo- ry to Im- man- u- el!

Public Confession of Sin

Lord, we have not kept watch for You. We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns. We have not waited to find Your will for us. We have not always noticed the needs of the people around us. We have not acknowledged the love that has been shown to us. Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness. Help us to wait to know Your will. Help us to look out for the needs of others. Help us to work and watch for Your coming.

Private Confession

Words of Assurance and Comfort of the Gospel

But now says the LORD, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine...I am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake, and I will not remember your sins." Isaiah 43.1, 25

Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Mr. Williams 8:00
Mr. David Newman 9:30/11:00
Ruling Elder

Musical Offering

8:00 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" arr. Chapman
Mr. Colin Howland, Organ

9:30/11:00 "Gloria" Movement I John Rutter
Chancel Choir • Mr. Cope, Director

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Glory to God in the Highest. And on earth peace to all those of good will.
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.
We praise Thee. We bless Thee. We worship Thee. We glorify Thee.
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.
We give thanks to Thee according to Thy great glory.

*The Greeting of Peace

Minister: He came and preached peace to those of us who were afar off and to those of us who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. The peace of the Lord be with you always. Ephesians 2.17-18

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.

*The Scripture Reading

Revelation 11.19-12.17

Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of His covenant was seen within His temple. There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail.

^{12:1} And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. ² She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. ³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. ⁴ His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. ⁵ She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, ⁶ and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days.

⁷ Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, ⁸ but he was defeated and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. ⁹ And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world— he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. ¹⁰ And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and

the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. ¹¹ And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. ¹² Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!"

¹³ And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. ¹⁴ But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle so that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness, to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time. ¹⁵ The serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood. ¹⁶ But the earth came to the help of the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the river that the dragon had poured from his mouth. ¹⁷ Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. And he stood on the sand of the sea.

The Morning Sermon

DRAMA OF HOPE:

The Rev. Scotty Smith

"The Nativity Story in Revelation"

Founding Pastor

Christ Community Church

Pastor of Worship, Preaching and Teaching

Franklin, Tennessee

☞ Worshipers at 9:30 and 11:00, please continue on page 6 ☞

Please stand.

***The Great Thanksgiving**

Mr. Williams

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Minister: It is right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks unto You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

People: Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name; evermore praising You, and singing:

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving and Blessing**

***The Words of Institution**

The Communion

*Please come forward down the center aisle.
Partake of the elements upon receiving them from the elders.
Return to your seat with your empty cup via the side aisle.*

During the Serving of Communion

Please use the following Scripture for private meditation.

Isaiah 40.9-12

*Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Behold your God!"
Behold, the Lord God comes with might,
and His arm rules for Him;
behold, His reward is with Him,
and His recompense before Him.
He will tend His flock like a shepherd;
He will gather the lambs in His arms;
He will carry them in His bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.
Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand
and marked off the heavens with a span,
enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure
and weighed the mountains in scales
and the hills in a balance?*

☞ Worshippers at 9:30 and 11:00, continue here ☞

***Closing Hymn No. 211** "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen" GOD REST YOU MERRY

*Benediction

Minister: Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever.

Jude 24-25

People: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Postlude

**The congregation stands.*

The flowers in our worship service this morning are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Anne Elizabeth Wilkerson and Cody Cunningham Burns.

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

Personal Prayer and Counsel

“Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor . . . rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.” Romans 12.10, 12, 13

We want so much to come alongside you in brotherly love and hospitality by your allowing us to be in prayer for your salvation or any need you may have. Please join us in the Parlor (north of Fellowship Hall) following the worship service where our Elders and prayer leaders are available and eager to meet with you and pray with you in complete confidence.