

**PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

December 18, 2016

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

DECEMBER 18, 2016  
8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 am

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

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## Prelude

8:00 "Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor" *arr. Dale Wood*  
J. Marty Cope, *organ*

9:30/11:00 "Oh Come, All Ye Faithful" *arr. Dan Forrest*  
Chancel Choir Men

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.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exaltation!  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above.  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;  
O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given!  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;  
O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

## Call to Worship

The Rev. Ron Williams 8:00  
The Rev. Chad Scruggs 9:30/11:00

Minister: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

People: **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.**

Isaiah 9.2, 6

\*Carol No. 214

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

\*Prayer of Adoration

**\*Profession of Faith**

The Rev. Tommy Overton 8:00

The Rev. Bill Lamberth 9:30

The Rev. Mark Davis 11:00

Minister: What does it mean that He “was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary”?

People: **That the eternal Son of God,  
who is and remains  
true and eternal God,  
took to Himself,  
through the working of the Holy Spirit,  
from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary,  
a truly human nature  
so that He might also become David’s true descendant,  
like His brothers and sisters in every way  
except for sin.**

Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 35

**\*Carol No. 216**

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

W ZLOBIE LEZY

**The Sacrament of Baptism**

9:30/11:00

**Parental Vows**

1. Do you acknowledge your children’s need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God’s covenant promises on their behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your children to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before them a godly example, that you will pray with and for them, that you will teach them the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God’s appointment, to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

**Congregational Vow**

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting these parents in the Christian nurture of their children?

9:30

11:00

Simon David Agee  
Elizabeth Ann Murray  
Caroline Clark Pulliam  
Samuel Childers Beasley  
Allison Mills Elsener

Moky Cheung Jr.

**Prayer for the families**

9:30/11:00

**Musical Meditation**

“Mary, Did You Know?”

Green

9:30/11:00 Laurie Hargrave, *soprano* • Taylor Hargrave, *tenor*  
Stephen Nielson, *piano*

## Public Confession of Sin

Our God and Father,  
when we behold Your Son Jesus,  
we see Your great love for us,  
for You sent Your one and only Son into the world  
to die for sinners like us,  
so that whoever believes in Him would have eternal life.  
Yet, our Father, our appetite for things of secondary  
or even of no importance  
fills our lives with longings that You never intended us to have.  
Our love and devotion to our possessions and our pleasures  
reveal again our true need for Jesus.  
Lord, in this Christmas season  
would You please give us Christ:  
fill our hearts with desire to know Him,  
to love Him,  
to serve and follow Him;  
fill our mouths with words to honor Him and proclaim Him;  
give us His presence to guide us in wisdom,  
to give peace to our troubled souls,  
to guard and protect our ways;  
grant us His grace and favor to forgive our sins,  
and to bring us to glory.

## Private Confession

## Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and He shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

Jeremiah 33.15-16

## Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Mr. Overton 8:00  
Mr. Lamberth 9:30  
Mr. Davis 11:00

## Musical Offering

8:00

"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"  
Stephen Nielson, *piano*

*J.S. Bach/Myra Hess*

Have you heard the story that they're telling 'bout Bethlehem,  
 Have you heard the story of the Jesus Child?  
 How He came from heaven and was born in a manger bed?  
 Mary was His virgin mother pure and mild.

Sing alleluia, brothers, sing alleluia, sisters,  
 Worship the Jesus Child and praise the Lord on high.  
 "Glory to God on high!" the angel hosts above are singing:  
 Listen to the story of the Jesus Child.

Have you heard the story of the poor humble shepherd men,  
 Sitting on the hillside with their flocks at night?  
 Suddenly the angel tells them: "Hurry to Bethlehem;  
 Go and find the Jesus Child, the world's new light."

Jesus Child, lying at Bethlehem, sleeping safe at Mary's knee,  
 Save my soul and bring me to paradise,  
 Let me join the angels singing glory to Thee.

Have you heard the story of the kings from the orient,  
 Following the star that's shining over His head?  
 Offering their precious gifts of gold, myrrh and frankincense,  
 Kneeling with the ox and ass before His bed?

Brothers, let us celebrate the birth of the Jesus Child,  
 Sisters, come and welcome Him, the newborn King;  
 Praise the Lord who sent Him down from heaven at Christmas time;  
 Young and old and rich and poor, His praises sing.

### \*The Greeting of Peace

Minister: For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone  
 in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of  
 God in the face of Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 4.6  
 The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

### \*The Scripture Reading

Exodus 13.17-22

*When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near. For God said, "Lest the people change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt."*

<sup>18</sup> *But God led the people around by the way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. And the people of Israel went up out of the land of Egypt equipped for battle.*

<sup>19</sup> *Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for Joseph had made the sons of Israel solemnly swear, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones with you from here."*

<sup>20</sup> *And they moved on from Succoth and encamped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness.*

<sup>21</sup> *And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night.*

<sup>22</sup> *The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.*

Worshippers at 9:30 and 11:00, please  
continue at the closing carol on page six.

**\*The Great Thanksgiving 8:00**

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 8:00**

**\*The Words of Institution 8:00**

**The Communion 8:00**

*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.*

**\*The Benediction**

Minister: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD  
has risen upon you. Isaiah 60.1

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

**Postlude**

8:00 “Angels We Have Heard on High” GLORIA  
Mr. Nielson, *piano* arr. Nielson

9:30/11:00 “Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts” Camille Saint-Saëns  
from *Christmas Oratorio*  
Mr. Cope, *organ*

*\*The congregation stands.*

*The flowers in our worship service this morning are given to the glory of God  
in celebration of the upcoming birthday of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

*We thank the following musicians for their participation in our worship services this morning:*

Rachel Smith, *violin*  
Brittany Peterson, *violin*  
Sterling Tyler, *viola*  
David Fray, *cello*  
Brian Perry, *bass*  
Drew Lang, *percussion*  
Stephen Nielson, *piano*  
Bryan Varenkamp, *conductor*

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

# SERMON NOTES

Exodus 13.17-22

INTO HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT  
“Lead Us, O Lord”

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## 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.**



## Order of Worship for the Home – The Week of December 18, 2016

### Praise

#### **Call to Worship** *(everyone together)*

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.

Isaiah 9.6

#### **“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”** *(read or sing these words together)*

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 the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

*Refrain:*

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

### Hearing and Learning God’s Word

#### **Scripture Reading:** Exodus 13.17-22 *(one person read the Scripture aloud)*

#### **Questions for Discussion** *(may be answered in one worship time or spread over several times)*

1. Why did God lead His people out of Egypt?
2. Where did God lead them next?
3. Has God ever led you to a difficult place? Why do you think He does this?
4. What did the bones of Joseph teach God’s people along the way?
5. How often was God with His people in the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night? Why is this important for us to remember?
6. How is Christmas the ultimate picture of God with us?

#### **Scripture Memory for December:** *(memorize these verses of Scripture this month)*

Isaiah 9.2, 6

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. <sup>6</sup>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.

### Prayer

#### **Prayer** *(saying together)*

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.