

Park Cities Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 24, 2017
9:30 and 11:00 am

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Prelude

“Angels We Have Heard on High/O Come, All Ye Faithful” *arr. Dan Goeller*
Stephen Nielson, *piano* • Dr. Nathan Davy, *organ* • String Ensemble

Call to Worship

The Rev. Chad Scruggs

Minister: This is the day that the LORD has made;

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Minister: Save us, we pray, O LORD!

People: O LORD, we pray, give us success!

Minister: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!

People: We bless you from the house of the LORD.

All: The LORD is God,

and He has made His light to shine upon us.

Psalm 118.24-27a

*Carol No. 214

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

GLORIA

*Prayer of Adoration

*Profession of Faith

The Rev. Paul Goebel 9:30

The Rev. Robby Higginbottom 11:00

Have this mind among yourselves,
which is yours in Christ Jesus,
who, though He was in the form of God,
did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,
but emptied Himself,
by taking the form of a servant,
being born in the likeness of men.

And being found in human form,
He humbled Himself by becoming obedient
to the point of death,
even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted Him
and bestowed on Him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2.5-11

Public Confession of Sin

O Lord, I marvel that You purposed to become flesh
so that You might be crucified, dead, and buried for me.
Grant me to die with You that I may rise to new life.
Purge me from selfishness, pride, and the fear of man.
Lord, high and holy, meek and lowly,
let me learn by paradox
that the way down is the way up,
that to be low is to be high,
that the contrite spirit is the rejoicing spirit,
that to have nothing is to possess all,
that to give is to receive,
that the valley is the place of vision,

Private Confession

Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right
to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the
flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. John 1:12-13

Musical Meditation

“Mary, Did You Know?”

Green

Laurie Hargrave, *soprano* • Taylor Hargrave, *tenor*

Mr. Nielson, *piano*

Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Mr. Goebel 9:30

Mr. Higginbottom 11:00

Musical Offering

“Candlelight Carol”

John Rutter

Chancel Choir • J. Marty Cope, director
Mr. Nielson, piano • Dr. Davy, organ

*How do you capture the wind on the water?
How do you count all the stars in the sky?
How can you measure the love of a mother,
Or how can you write down a baby’s first cry?*

*Candle light, angel light, firelight and star-glow
Shine on His cradle till breaking of dawn.
Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Angels are singing, the Christ Child is born.*

*Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore Him,
Seraphim round Him their vigil will keep;
Nations proclaim Him their Lord and their Savior,
But Mary will hold Him and sing Him to sleep.*

*Find Him at Bethlehem laid in a manger
Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay.
Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation
A Child with His mother that first Christmas day.*

***The Greeting of Peace**

Minister: For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light do we see light.
The Peace of the Lord be with you always. Psalm 36.9

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**

Luke 1.46-56

*And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord,
⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸ for He has looked on the humble estate of His servant. For behold, from now
on all generations will call me blessed;
⁴⁹ for He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name.
⁵⁰ And His mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation.*

- ⁵¹ *He has shown strength with His arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;*
- ⁵² *He has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;*
- ⁵³ *He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty.*
- ⁵⁴ *He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy,*
- ⁵⁵ *as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to His offspring forever.”*
- ⁵⁶ *And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.*

The Sermon

Signs and Wonders
“The Voice of the Vulnerable”

Mr. Scruggs

***Closing Carol No. 203**

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

***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

“Finale” from *Variations on a Noel*
Dr. Nathan Davy, organ

Marcel Dupre

**Please stand if you are able.*

The flowers in our worship service this morning are given by the Figari family to the glory of God and in celebration of J. Marty Cope, Nathan Davy, and all the voices in the choirs, with gratitude for the glorious praise of God they bring to our worship through music.

My heart, O God, is steadfast; I will sing and make music with all my soul.

Psalm 108:1

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

Lucas Aleman, *violin*
Sasha Adkins, *violin*
Ann Marie Hudson Brink, *violin*
Chris Adkins, *cello*
Stephen Nielson, *piano*
Dr. Nathan Davy, *organ*

**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.



elcome to Park Cities Presbyterian Church. We are glad you joined us today.

We want to come alongside you in hospitality and prayer. At the conclusion of our services, there are men and women at the front and back of the sanctuary to meet and pray with you—in complete confidence.

If you are experiencing an unexpected pregnancy, you are loved. For support, please speak with us or call Thrive Women's Clinic at 214-343-9263 or Kari Stainback at 214-224-2738.

“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

Senior Pastor

The Rev. Mark Davis

Session/Associate Pastors

Joe Abbate, <i>Clerk</i>	Mark Fulmer	Gregory Morris
John Bateman	The Rev. Paul Goebel	David Newman
The Rev. Mark Davis, <i>Moderator</i>	John Hawkins	Boots Nowlin
Dr. Pete Deison	Eric Horan	Rob Sayles
Jack Denman	Houston Hunt	The Rev. Chad Scruggs
Don Dillahunty	Ed Jarrett	Gil Sheehan
Pete Flowers	Tim Jeffress	

Assistant Pastors

The Rev. Ron Williams	The Rev. Brent Baker
The Rev. Bill Lamberth	The Rev. Robby Higginbottom
The Rev. Tommy Overton	The Rev. Matt Fray

Executive Director

Jeff Barber

Shepherding Elders

*(Elders not currently on the Session but
active in ministry at Park Cities Presbyterian Church)*

Tommy Bain	David Gowdey	Bobby Payne
Alan Balsler	Pat Hamner	Kirk Pogoloff
Brad Bradley	Harry Hargrave	Irv Queal
Frank Bullock	John Harper	Bob Rasberry
David Burgher	Bob Heinonen	Mike Skinner
Rick Bush	David Horn	Nelson Somerville
Kit Case	Kent Johnson	Dick Steele
George Chapman	Russell Johnson	Dan Stewart
Jim Chenoweth	Bryan Keyes	Tracy Taylor
Doug Chesnut	Don King	Bill Thomas
Grady Crosland	Louie Little	Jay Turner
Marvin Culbertson	Bill Mabus	Steve Vanderhill
Charles Debter	Jim Madden	Ron Wideman
John Denman	Bob McCamey	Steve Williamson
Curt Dobbs	Mike McMahan	Jeff Wilson
Bert Ehrmann	Robert Mighell	Tim Wilson
Bill Farrell	Henry Morgan	Arthur Wood
Paul Flowers	Pat Moore	Randy Wood
Will Francis	Stephen Nielson	
David Franklin	Rick Owens	

SERMON NOTES

Luke 1.46-56

Signs and Wonders
“The Voice of the Vulnerable”

Order of Worship for the Home – The Week of December 24, 2017

Praise

Call to Worship *(everyone together)*

This is the day that the LORD has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!

“Candlelight Carol” *(read or sing these words together)*

Please see the choir anthem text on page four.

Hearing and Learning God’s Word

Scripture Reading: Luke 1.46-56 *(one person read the Scripture aloud)*

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

1. What does it mean to praise God?
2. What are some of the things for which Mary praises God? How does Mary describe God?
3. Mary says that she is blessed. What makes her blessed?
4. Does Mary have confidence in herself or does she place it in God? How can you tell?
5. How does Mary set an example for us?
6. In his earthly life, how does Jesus show himself to be (1) mighty, (2) holy, and (3) merciful?
7. In what ways can you trust Jesus more?

Scripture Memory for December: *(memorize this passage of Scripture this month)*

Luke 2.15-20

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby lying in a manger.¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this Child.¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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.