

Park Cities Presbyterian Church

December 3, 2023

Advent is a paradoxical season: a season of waiting and anticipation in which the waiting itself is strangely rich and fulfilling, a season that looks back at the people who waited in darkness for the coming light of Christ and yet forward to a fuller light still to come and illuminate our darkness. Advent falls in winter, at the end of the year, in the dark and cold, but its focus is on the coming of light and life, when the Ancient of Days becomes a young child and says, 'Behold, I make all things new.' The Latin root of the familiar word 'Advent' is *veni*. It speaks of 'coming', the coming of Christ in every way.

—Malcolm Guite

That the Great Angel-blinding light should shrink
His blaze, to shine in a poor Shepherd's eye;
That the unmeasur'd God so low should sinke,
As Pris'ner in a few poor rags to lye,
That from His Mother's Breast He milke should drinke,
Who feeds with Nectar heaven's faire family,
That a vile Manger His low Bed should prove,
Who in a Throne of stars Thunders above;

That He whom the Sun serves, should faintly peepe
Through clouds of Infant Flesh! That He the old
Eternall Word should be a Child, and weepe;
That He who made the fire, should feare the cold,
That Heaven's high Majesty His Court should keepe
In a clay cottage, by each blast control'd;
That Glories self should serve our Griefs and feares,
And free Eternity submit to years,

Let our overwhelming wonder be.

Richard Crashaw *c.* 1613–1649

ORDER FOR THE Worship of God

December 3, 2023 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

*Call to Worship

The Rev. Ron Williams 8:00 The Rev. Paul Goebel 9:30/11:00

Minister: 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.

People: A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Minister: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be

made low;

People: The uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain." Isaiah 40.1-4

*Carol of Adoration and Anticipation

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

Hymn No. 196 in the Trinity Hymnal



- long ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born see Thee, 2. Joy to those who long to Day-spring from on
- 3. Come He whose glo - ries to earth to taste our sad - ness,
- 4. Born Thy de - liv - er, Child and peo - ple to born a



peo ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us: 118 prom-ised Rod Ies - se, high, ap - pear; come, Thou of of Thv brings us by His life He Reknew no end; glad-ness, our yet_ King, born reign in us for - ev - er, now a



Thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la find our rest in birth we to hear! O'er the long hills the an - gels sing - ing Shepherd, Friend; deem-er, Leav-ing rich es with-out num-ber, King-dom bring. gra - cious By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it



of all the earth Thou art. dear De of hope sire glad news, ti dings of a birth: "Go to Him, your born with - in tle stall; this the ver a cat e rule in all our hearts lone: by Thine all suf а



'ry of 'ry na tion, joy ev long - ing heart. Christ earth." the Lord has to prais es bring ing; come Christ the last ing won der, was born Lord of all. Thy cient mer it. raise us to glo - rious throne.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath—The Prophecy Candle: Isaiah 7.14

Marilyn and Bill Platt 8:00

The Peel Family: Page & James, Katherine, Elizabeth, and Margaret 9:30 The Cuffel Family: Maile & Jason, James, Sophie, and Kristin 11:00

Prayer

Mr. Williams 8:00 Mr. Goebel 9:30/11:00

*Profession of Faith

The Rev. Pete Hatton 8:00 The Rev. Mark Davis 9:30/11:00

For thus says the LORD of hosts:
Yet once more, in a little while,
I will shake the heavens and the earth
and the sea and the dry land.
And I will shake all nations,
so that the treasures of all nations shall come in,
and I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of hosts.

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.

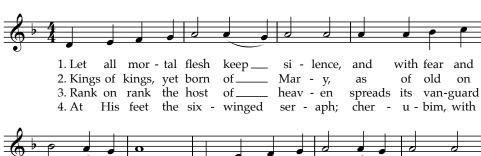
Haggai 2.6-7, Malachi 3.1

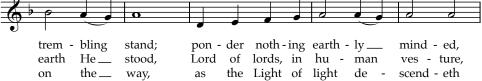
*Carol

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

PICARDY

Hymn No. 193 in the Trinity Hymnal 8:00 - sing all stanzas 9:30/11:00 - sing stanzas: 1-2







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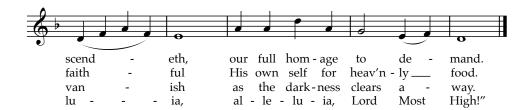
for with bless-ing in His hand, in the bod - y and the blood, from the realms of end - less day: as with cease-less voice they cry,

eye,

sleep - less

Christ our God to earth de -He will give to all the that the pow'rs of hell may "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

pres - ence,



Recognition of New Members

9:30/11:00

Sacrament of Baptism

9:30

John Frank Harper II Reagan Ashley Mason Analina Margarit Naugle Heather Marie Richardson

*Carol

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

PICARDY

9:30/11:00 - sing stanzas: 3-4

Public Confession of Sin

Mr. Hatton 8:00 Mr. Davis 9:30/11:00

Lord Christ,

we confess our willingness to be loved but also our reluctance to love.

We confess our readiness to accept Your forgiving love but also our refusal to forgive.

We confess our eagerness to grasp Your offer of redeeming love but also our resistance to follow You without question.

In this Advent time, forgive us our failure to respond as we should.

Come to us anew, and by Your grace, assist us to receive You

with joy, as the shepherds;

with gratitude, as Simeon;

with obedience, as Mary;

with love, as You have loved us.

Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Private Confession

Musical Response

8:00 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Flor Peeters

Mary Preston, organ

9:30/11:00 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" arr. Nelson/McDonald Christopher Adkins, cello • Stephen Nielson, piano

Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

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.

Isaiah 9.2

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Mr. Hatton 8:00 Mr. Davis 9:30/11:00

In addition to giving via passed offering plates, you are also welcome to give online at pcpc.org/give or text "give" to 214-833-7724.

Musical Offering

8:00 "Come, Redeemer of Mankind"

Mrs. Preston, organ

Gerald Near

9:30/11:00

"Comfort, Comfort Ye, My People" text: Johann Olearius music: Genevan Psalter, 1551

Chancel Choir • Mr. Adkins, *cello* • Mr. Nielson, *piano* Nathan Davy, *percussion* • J. Marty Cope, *conducting*

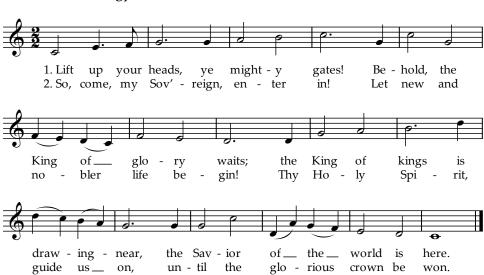
Comfort ye, My people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God; comfort those who sit in darkness mourning 'neath their sorrow' load. Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them; tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

Hark, the voice of one that crieth in the desert far and near, biding all men to repentance since the Kingdom now is here. Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way; let the valleys rise to meet Him and hills bow down to greet Him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain; let your hearts be true and humble, as befits His holy reign. For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad; and all flesh shall see the token that His Word is nover broken.

*An Advent Doxology

TRURO



During the 9:30 service, 1st and 2nd graders may exit at this time using the doors at the front-right of the Sanctuary to meet their teachers for Worship Explorers. **Children must be checked-in and have a nametag.** A check-in kiosk is available in the hallway outside the Sanctuary doors.

*The Scripture Reading: John 1.1-14; Revelation 22.12-13, 20

John 1.1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

- ² He was in the beginning with God.
- ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made.
- ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
- ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
- ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
- ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him.
- ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.
- ⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.
- ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him.
- ¹¹ He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him.
- ¹² But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His Name, He gave the right to become children of God,
- ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.
- ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Revelation 22.12-13, 20

- "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done.
- ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."
- ²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The Sermon

"Come, Lord Jesus"

Mr. Williams 8:00 Mr. Goebel 9:30/11:00

Worshipers at 9:30 and 11:00, please continue at the closing hymn.

*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

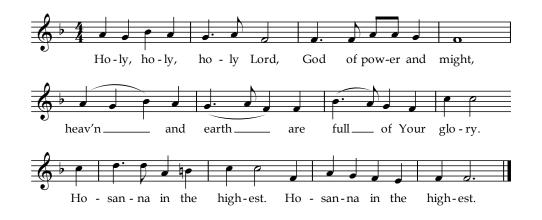
to give thanks unto You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty,

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:



*The Words of Institution 8:00

Re-joice! Em-man

Communion 8:00

Please remain seated.
You will be served by your elders, and we will all partake together when so instructed by the pastor.

(The bread being served is gluten free.)

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" *Closing Carol VENI EMMANUEL Hymn No. 194 in the Trinity Hymnal 1. O come, O Em man u - el, ran come, and som 2. O come, O come, Thou might, Who Lord_ of to Thy 3. O come, Thou Rod of Jes se, free Thine own from 4. O come, Thou Day-spring from. on high, and cheer us 5. O come, Thou Key Da come of vid, and cap - tive Is ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ile ex nai's height, tribes, on Si in an - cient times didst give_ the Sa - tan's an - ny; from depths of hell Thy peo tyr ple Thy draw ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of wide our heav'n home; make safe the way that leads__ ly on Refrain here, un - til the Son of God ____ ap - pear. ty _____ and awe. maj - es law in cloud and and give vic - ťry save, them o'er____ the grave. Re - joice! and death's dark flight. night, shad-ows to put_ path to and close mis er - y. high, the

- u - el shall come to thee, O Is

ra - el.

*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.

The Postlude

8:00 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Healey Willan Mrs. Preston, organ

9:30/11:00 "Savior of the Nations, Come" J. S. Bach
Dr. Davy, organ

*Please stand if you are able.

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.



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

John 1.1-14; Revelation 22.12-13, 20 "Come, Lord Jesus"

Discussion Questions

The following questions help us engage with the sermon, music, and liturgy in this morning's worship service, and may be useful during personal devotions, group studies, and family worship.

1.	What does the word "advent" mean? How does the meaning of this word change the way you think about the season of Advent?
2.	How does looking back on the fulfillment of God's promises help us to trust Him with the future?
3.	Why does John refer to Jesus as the "Word"? What does the incarnation teach us about the Word of God?
4.	Why do people reject the light of Jesus? What does it look like to truly walk in the light of Jesus?
5.	Why is it necessary for Jesus to be both fully God and fully human? Why is there no Gospel without the incarnation?
6.	What are the ways that Jesus comes to us now while we wait for Him to come again?

<u>Highlights</u>

DECEMBER 3, 2023

What's Next?

We have friendly faces waiting to help you connect to Christ and one another at PCPC just as you exit the front of the Sanctuary. Look for the Connect banner on your way to the Grand Hall. We would also love to help you abide in and extend Christ. You can find out more at the Information Center in the Grand Hall. Download the free PCPC mobile app to explore more.

Connection Card

Thanks for joining us today! If you are new or looking to connect at our

church, please scan the QR code and fill out our Connection Card, so we can know you were here and help you connect.



Family Advent Celebration

Today

4:30 P.M. | SANCTUARY & THE LOFT

PCPC will host an evening of family worship, fun, and fellowship for Advent. Dinner registrations have closed, but families are welcome to attend the service. Middle schoolers, come to The Loft to celebrate and play games!

pcpc.org/advent

Advent Memorial Service

December 6

5:30 P.M. | CHAPEL

Join us for a time of worship and reflection to remember loved ones we have lost during the year.

pcpc.org/advent

Dallas Marathon Traffic

December 10

Leave for church a little earlier next Sunday. The Marathon route will be blocked off, so vehicular traffic will be re-routed. Lakeside, Turtle Creek, Armstrong, Fitzhugh, and Wycliff will be closed. Please use Mockingbird, Preston, and Oak Lawn. Scan QR code to download map PDF.

Year End Giving

Sunday, Dec. 31, is the IRS deadline for donations to be receipted for 2023. Other than offerings given in worship or online, you may mail checks postmarked by Dec. 30. The offices will be closed from Dec. 25 through Jan. 1, but donations can be hand-delivered anytime to the secure drop box at the south entrance. Thank you for your generosity in supporting all that God is doing at PCPC. *pcpc.org/give*

Ministry Impact Report

We are grateful for what the Lord has done in and through the worship and work at

PCPC. Please pick up our 2023 Ministry Impact Report in the Grand Hall and see highlights from the year.



pcpc.org/impact-report

Special Events

High School Girls Fellowship DEC. 8 | 5:30 & 11:00 P.M.

Noël Candlelight Concert

DEC. 17 | 4:30 & 7:30 P.M. | SOLD OUT RETURN TICKETS TO PERFORMINGARTS@PCPC.ORG

Christmas Eve Services

DEC. 24 | 4:00 P.M. (FAMILY) & 8:00 P.M.

Communicants Class Parent

Intro Meeting

DEC. 13 OR JAN. 7 | REGISTER
New Members Class

JAN. 14 - MAR. 3 | 9:30 A.M.



PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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pcpc.org

Social: @parkcitiespca App: pcpc.org/app

Church Office: 214-224-2500
Pastoral Concerns: 214-224-2742
or pastorsprayer@pcpc.org
24/7 Prayer Line: 214-224-2680
or 24-7prayer@pcpc.org

Sermon Archives: pcpc.org/sermons
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Every Thought Captive: etcdevo.org

GIVE ONLINE

You may scan the QR code to give online at pcpc.org/give/.



Download the PCPC

App with iOS or Android device where you can give online (including setting up recurring gifts).

GENERAL FUND

2023/2024 Operating Budget Jul 1, 2023-Nov 26, 2023 Budget Jul 1, 2023-Nov 26, 2023 Giving Budget Variance

\$15,925,000 \$5,128,617 \$4,805,427 (\$323,191)