

Advent



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



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



peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us
high, ap - pear; come, Thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se, of Thy
knew no end; by His life He brings us glad - ness, our Re -
yet — a King, born to reign in us for - ev - er, now Thy



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



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



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

Please be seated.

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



1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep ___ si - lence, and with fear and
2. Kings of kings, yet born of ___ Mar - y, as of old on
3. Rank on rank the host of ___ heav - en spreads its van-guard
4. At His feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim, with



trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly ___ mind - ed,
earth He ___ stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man ves - ture,
on the ___ way, as the Light of light de - scend - eth
sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the pres - ence,



for with bless - ing in His hand, Christ our God to earth de -
in the bod - y and the blood, He will give to all the
from the realms of end - less day: that the pow'rs of hell may
as with cease-less voice they cry, “Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



scend - eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.
faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.
van - ish as the dark - ness clears a - way.
lu - - - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

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"
Mary Preston, organ

Flor Peeters

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" Gerald Near
Mrs. Preston, organ

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, bidding 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 never broken.

*An Advent Doxology

TRURO



1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the
2. So, come, my Sov' - reign, en - ter in! Let new and



King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
no - bler life be - gin! Thy Ho - ly Spi - rit,



draw - ing - near, the Sav - ior of the world is here.
guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

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

Worshippers 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:

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.

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

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.)*

***Closing Carol** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" VENI EMMANUEL
Hymn No. 194 in the Trinity Hymnal

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 2. O come, O come, Thou Lord _____ of might, Who 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 of Da - vid, come and o - pen

cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 tribes, on Si - nai's height, in an - cient times didst give _____ the
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell Thy peo - ple
 by Thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 wide our heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads _____ on

Refrain

here, un - til the Son of God _____ ap - pear.
 law in cloud and maj - es - ty _____ and awe.
 save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er _____ the grave. Re - joice!
 night, and death's dark shad - ows put _____ to flight.
 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.

Re - joice! Em - man - 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”
Mrs. Preston, organ

Healey Willan

9:30/11:00

“Savior of the Nations, Come”
Dr. Davy, organ

J. S. Bach

**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?

Highlights

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

4124 Oak Lawn Avenue

Dallas, Texas 75219

pcpc.org

Social: [@parkcitiespca](https://twitter.com/parkcitiespca)

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24/7 Prayer Line: 214-224-2680

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Sermon Archives: pcpc.org/sermons

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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 \$15,925,000

Jul 1, 2023–Nov 26, 2023 Budget \$5,128,617

Jul 1, 2023–Nov 26, 2023 Giving \$4,805,427

Budget Variance (\$323,191)