

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 10, 2023  
8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

## Second Sunday of Advent

### Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Ron Williams 8:00  
The Rev. Mark Davis 9:30/11:00

### \*Call to Worship

Minister: O Zion, messenger of good news, shout from the mountaintops!

**People: Shout it louder, O Jerusalem. Shout, and do not be afraid.**

**Tell the towns of Judah, "Your God is coming!"** Isaiah 40.9

Minister: 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.

Isaiah 40.11

**People: Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel, which means, God with us.**

Isaiah 7.14; Matthew 1.23(b)

### \*Carol of Adoration

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELES

Hymn No. 208 in the Trinity Hymnal

Harmony 1. O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant, O  
Harmony 2. God of \_\_\_\_\_ God, \_\_\_\_\_ Light \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ Light,  
Melody 3. Sing, choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion,  
Melody 4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap-py morn-ing,

come ye, O come ye to Beth-le-hem;  
Lo! He ab-hors not the Vir-gin's womb;  
Sing, all ye ci-ti-zens of heav'n a-bove;  
Je-sus, to Thee be all glo-ry giv'n;

Come and be-hold Him born the King of an-gels:  
Ve-ry \_\_\_\_\_ God, be-got-ten, not cre-a-ted:  
Glo-ry to God \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ high-est:  
Word of the Fa-ther, late in flesh ap-pear-ing:

*Refrain*

O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him, O  
 come, let us a - dore Him, — Christ — the Lord!

*Please be seated.*

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath—The Bethlehem Candle** Matthew 2.6  
Micah 5.4-5a  
Bonnie & Mike Easton 8:00  
 The Hammer Family: Meredith & Stephen, Margaret, John,  
 Penelope, Eleanor, Caroline, and Cole 9:30  
 The Hunt Family: Molly & Robert, Catherine, Lucy, and Bobby 11:00

**Prayer** Mr. Williams 8:00  
Mr. Davis 9:30/11:00

**Profession of Faith** The Rev. Bill Lamberth

**When the fullness of time came  
 God sent His Son,  
 His eternal wisdom,  
 the substance of His own glory, into this world,  
 who took the nature of humanity  
 from the substance of a woman, a virgin,  
 by means of the Holy Ghost.  
 And so was born the “just seed of David,”  
 the “Angel of the great counsel of God,”  
 the very Messiah promised,  
 whom we confess and acknowledge to be Emmanuel,  
 true God and true man,  
 two perfect natures united and joined in one person.**

*from the Scots Confession (1560), Chapter 6*

**Musical Acclamation** “Joy to the World” *ANTIOCH/arr. S. Nielson*  
 8:00 Stephen Nielson, *piano*

**Musical Acclamation** “Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day” *music: John Gardner*  
*text: Traditional Cornish Carol, 16th c.*

9:30/11:00

Chancel Choir • Nathan Davy, organ  
Joe Ferraro, percussion • J. Marty Cope, conducting

*Tomorrow shall be My dancing day: I would My true love did so chance to see the legend of My play, to call My true love to My dance.  
Sing, oh! My love, oh! My love, My love, My love; this have I done for My true love.  
Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance; thus was I knit to man's nature, to call My true love to My dance.  
In a manger laid, and wrapped I was, so very poor, this was My chance, betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass, to call My true love to My dance.  
Then afterwards baptized I was; the Holy Ghost on Me did glance, My Father's voice heard I from above, to call My true love to My dance.*

**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

Charlotte Jennings Haden  
Jackson Jennings Haden  
Chloe Marie Pond  
Connor LaForce Walsh

Rhodes Michael Gallagher  
George Edward Kottlowski  
Elizabeth Margaret Kottlowski  
Peter Lewis Kottlowski  
Madeleine Grace Kottlowski

**Prayer for the Families**

9:30/11:00

**\*Carol**

9:30/11:00

“Away in a Manger”

MUELLER

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray;  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

O Lord, great God,  
 whom we behold in awe and wonder,  
 who has kept covenant and steadfast love  
 with Your people from age to age:  
 we have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled,  
 turning aside from Your commandments and ordinances.

We have known in our hearts what is right,  
 and yet we did wrong anyway.

We have been fascinated by evil,  
 delighted with pleasing ourselves,  
 satisfying our desires,  
 pampering ourselves with pleasures.

O Lord, great God,  
 have mercy on us according to Your steadfast love.  
 We know You are a God who delights in goodness.  
 Grant that we too might delight in goodness.  
 These prayers we present to You, O Father,  
 in the name of Jesus,  
 the Lamb who was slain and yet lives forever more.

### Private Confession

### Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel!  
 Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!  
 The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;  
 He has cleared away your enemies.  
 The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil.  
 Zephaniah 3:14-15

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

### \*Carol

### "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

W ZLOBIE LEZY

Hymn No.216 in the Trinity Hymnal



1. In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, for His bed a cat - tle stall;  
 2. Flocks were sleep-ing; shep-herds keep-ing vig - il till the morn-ing new



ox - en low-ing, lit - tle know-ing, Christ the babe, the Lord of all.  
 saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift are wing-ing an - gels sing-ing, no - els ring-ing, tid - ings bring-ing;  
 Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais-es voic-ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
 Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

*In addition to giving via passed offering plates, you are also welcome to give online at [pcpc.org/give](http://pcpc.org/give) or text "give" to 214-833-7724.*

## Musical Offering

8:00

"Sleepers, Wake!"  
Mr. Nielson, piano

J. S. Bach/F. Busoni

9:30/11:00

"Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor" Houghton/Mears  
Chancel Choir • Dr. Davy, organ • String Ensemble •  
Mr. Ferraro, percussion • Mr. Cope, conducting

*Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor; thrones for a manger didst surrender, sapphire paved courts for stable floor. Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor. Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man; stooping so low, but sinners raising, heav'nward by Thine eternal plan. Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man. Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship Thee. Emmanuel, within us dwelling, make us what Thou wouldst have us be. Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship Thee.*

## \*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: Genesis 12.1-7, Genesis 15.1-18, Galatians 3.25-29

Genesis 12.1-7

*Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.*

*<sup>2</sup> And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.*

*<sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."*

*<sup>4</sup> So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.*

- <sup>5</sup> And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan,
- <sup>6</sup> Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.
- <sup>7</sup> Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

#### Genesis 15.1-18

- After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."
- <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"
- <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, "Behold, You have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir."
- <sup>4</sup> And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir."
- <sup>5</sup> And He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then He said to him, "So shall your offspring be."
- <sup>6</sup> And he believed the LORD, and He counted it to him as righteousness.
- <sup>7</sup> And He said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess."
- <sup>8</sup> But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?"
- <sup>9</sup> He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon."
- <sup>10</sup> And he brought Him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half.
- <sup>11</sup> And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.
- <sup>12</sup> As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him.
- <sup>13</sup> Then the LORD said to Abram, "Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years.
- <sup>14</sup> But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions.
- <sup>15</sup> As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age.
- <sup>16</sup> And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."
- <sup>17</sup> When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.
- <sup>18</sup> On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your offspring I give this land."

#### Galatians 3.25-29

- But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian,
- <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.
- <sup>27</sup> For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
- <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
- <sup>29</sup> And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

**The Sermon**      "The Seed—Christmas According to Abraham"      Mr. Williams 8:00  
Mr. Davis 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!

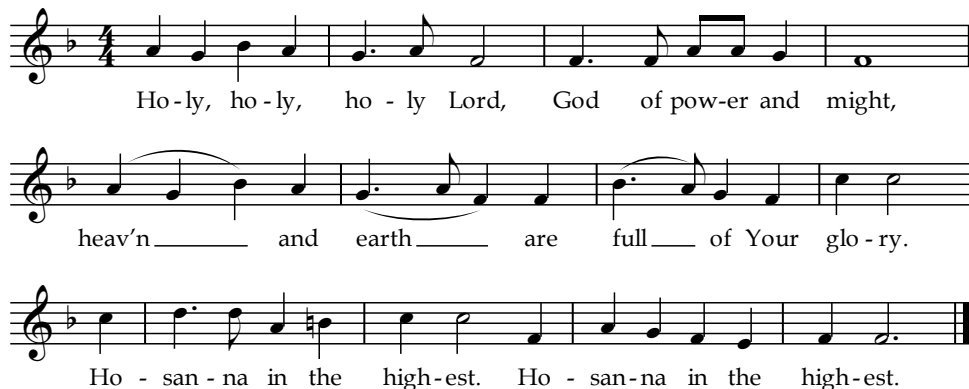
**People: We lift them up to the Lord!**

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**

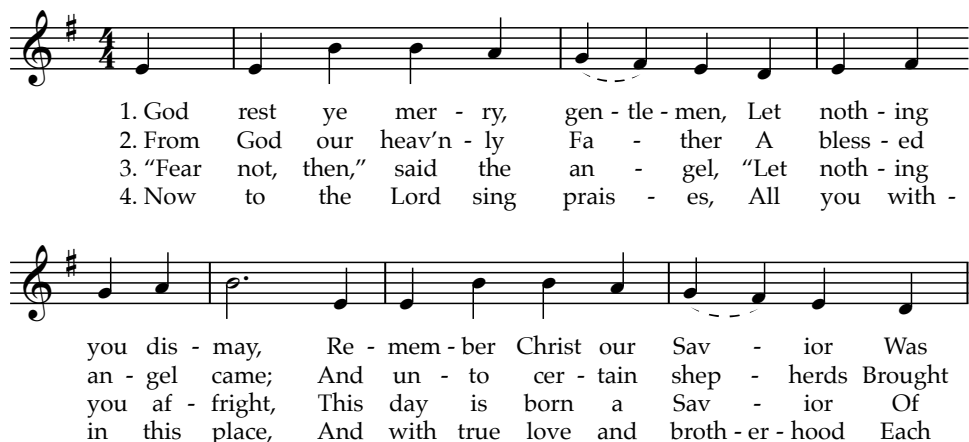
**Communion 8:00**

*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**

**"God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen"**

*GOD REST YE MERRY*



1. God rest ye mer - ry, gen - tle - men, Let noth - ing  
2. From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther A bless - ed  
3. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing  
4. Now to the Lord sing prais - es, All you with -  
you dis - may, Re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior Was  
an - gel came; And un - to cer - tain shep - herds Brought  
you af - fright, This day is born a Sav - ior Of  
in this place, And with true love and broth - er - hood Each



born on Christ - mas day; To save us all from  
 ti - dings of the same; How that in Beth - le -  
 a pure Vir - gin bright, To free all those who  
 oth - er now em - brace; This ho - ly tide of



Sa - tan's pow'r When we were gone a - stray.  
 hem was born The Son of God by name.  
 trust in Him From Sa - tan's pow'r and might."  
 Christ - mas All oth - ers doth de - face.

*Refrain*



O — ti - dings of com - fort and joy, Com - fort and



joy; O — ti - dings of com - fort and joy!

**\*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 "Once in Royal David's City" *IRBY/arr. S. Nielson*  
 Mr. Nielson, *piano*

9:30/11:00 "Toccata on "Veni, Emmanuel"  
 Dr. Davy, *organ* *Andrew Carter*

*\*Please stand if you are able.*



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



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

Lucas Aleman, *violin*  
Sasha Adkins, *violin*  
Rachel McDonald, *viola*  
Chris Adkins, *cello*  
Joe Ferraro, *percussion*

*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.*

---

### **SERMON NOTES**

Genesis 12.1-7, Genesis 15.1-18, Galatians 3.25-29  
“The Seed—Christmas According to Abraham”

## 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. Summarize the significance of the seed in the story of Advent and Christmas.
2. How does the seed reveal God's plan to rescue and redeem His people?
3. How does Genesis 15 demonstrate God's faithfulness and our dependence?
4. Why is it so important for Christians to understand the history of the seed?
5. Why is Galatians 3 so important for the people of God?
6. How do the promises of God, fulfilled in the seed, affect us now as we await the second Advent?

# Highlights

DECEMBER 10, 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.

## New Members Class

Is the Lord calling you to be a member of PCPC? Our New Members Class gives you the opportunity to explore that question as we discuss our church's beliefs, vision, and mission. The next class will begin on Sunday, January 14. Register today!  
[pcpc.org/events](https://pcpc.org/events)

## Communicants Class Parent Intro Meeting

*December 13 or January 7*  
This spring, an Elementary Communicants Class for 2nd–5th graders and a Youth Communicants Class for 6th–12th graders will meet on Sundays beginning January 14 for 6 weeks. One parent must attend a required Parent Intro Meeting in order for a child to participate in the class. Register now!  
[pcpc.org/events](https://pcpc.org/events)

## Noël Candelight Concert

*December 17*  
4:30 & 7:30 P.M. | SOLD OUT  
If you are hoping for tickets, periodically check [pcpcconcerts.org](https://pcpcconcerts.org) to see if tickets have been returned.

## Christmas Eve Services

*December 24*  
4:00 P.M. (FAMILY) & 8:00 P.M. | SANCTUARY  
Join us on Christmas Eve for our Family Service at 4:00 p.m. with a special children's message and music or our Evening Service at 8:00 p.m. with an adult choir and message. Pick up a card in the Grand Hall and invite a neighbor. We will also hold regular morning worship services on Dec. 24 at 8:00 (Chapel), 9:30, & 11:00 a.m. (Sunday Morning Communities, Youth, & Elementary classes will not meet).  
[pcpc.org/advent](https://pcpc.org/advent)

## Year End Giving

As you prayerfully give, please keep in mind that Sunday, Dec. 31, is the IRS deadline for donations to be received for 2023. Other than offerings given in worship or online, you may mail checks postmarked by Dec. 30. The church 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 through the work and worship at PCPC.  
[pcpc.org/give](https://pcpc.org/give)



## Ministry Impact Report

We hope this report shows our gratitude for what the Lord has done in and through His people and the ministry of PCPC. Please scan the QR code to download a PDF version or pick up a copy in the Grand Hall to see highlights from the year.  
[pcpc.org/impact-report](https://pcpc.org/impact-report)



## PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4124 Oak Lawn Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75219  
[pcpc.org](https://pcpc.org)  
Social: [@parkcitiespca](https://twitter.com/parkcitiespca)  
App: [pcpc.org/app](https://pcpc.org/app)  
Church Office: 214-224-2500  
Pastoral Concerns: 214-224-2742  
or [pastorsprayer@pcpc.org](mailto:pastorsprayer@pcpc.org)  
24/7 Prayer Line: 214-224-2680  
or [24-7prayer@pcpc.org](mailto:24-7prayer@pcpc.org)  
Sermon Archives: [pcpc.org/sermons](https://pcpc.org/sermons)  
Deep Light Podcast: [pcpc.org/deeplight](https://pcpc.org/deeplight)  
Every Thought Captive: [etcdev.org](https://etcdev.org)

## GIVE ONLINE

You may scan the QR code to give online at [pcpc.org/give/](https://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–Dec 3, 2023 Budget	\$5,927,189
Jul 1, 2023–Dec 3, 2023 Giving	\$5,130,315
Budget Variance	(\$796,875)