

Advent



Park Cities
Presbyterian Church

December 8, 2024

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 8, 2024
8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

Second Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Sam Leopold 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)

*Processional Carol

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELIS

1. O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant, O
2. God of _____ God, _____ Light _____ of _____ Light,
3. Sing, choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion,
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!

Lighting of the Advent Wreath—The Bethlehem Candle

Matthew 2.6

Micah 5.4-5a

Bonnie and Mike Easton 8:00

The Bell Family: Rebecca & Landon, Helen, Warren, Mary Evelyn, Catherine 9:30

The Kottlowski Family: Laura & John, George, Elizabeth, Peter, Madeleine 11:00

Prayer

***Profession of Faith**

The Rev. Pete Hatton 8:00/9:30

The Rev. Bill Lamberth 11:00

**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 Meditation

9:30/11:00

“Cradle Hymn”

Watts/Arnesen

Chancel Choir Women • Covenant Choir

*Hush, my dear, lie still and slumber; Holy angels guard Thy bed;
Heavenly blessings without number, gently falling on Thy head.*

*See the kindly shepherds round Him, telling wonders from the sky!
When they sought Him, there they found Him with his virgin Mother by.*

*See the lovely Babe a-dressing; lovely infant, how He smiled!
When He wept, the mother's blessing soothed and hushed the Holy Child.*

*Mayst thou live to know and fear Him, trust and love Him all thy days;
Then go dwell forever near Him, see His face, and sing His praise!*

Public Confession of Sin

Mr. Hatton 8:00/9:30

Mr. Lamberth 11:00

**Our God, we praise You
that we have been brought out of the kingdom of darkness
into Your marvelous light.**

**May Your Spirit's perfect light
penetrate into every crevice of our beings,
making us more and more into the likeness
of our Savior Jesus,
in whom there is no darkness.**

**Lord, we lament how the shadows of darkness
linger in us causing us to sin,
keeping us from loving You
and one another as we ought.**

**We have often been fooled into thinking
that we have overcome a specific sin,
only to find that the roots remain deep and strong.**

**Our relationships are filled with stress:
grievances are not easily forgotten,
love for others does not always come
from a joyful and willing heart.**

**We long for purity of heart and mind,
of affection and will.**

**We long for Your Spirit to bear in us
the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.**

**Please grant this to us for Your glory
and for the good of Your Church and the world.**

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!



1. From the squalor of a borrowed stable, by the Spirit
 2. King of heaven now the Friend of sinners, humble servant
 3. Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal, He was lifted
 4. Now He's standing in the place of honor, crowned with glory



and a virgin's faith; to the anguish and the shame of scandal
 in the Father's hands, filled with power and the Holy Spirit,
 on a cruel cross; He was punished for a world's transgressions,
 on the highest throne, interceding for His own beloved



came the Savior of the human race! But the skies were filled
 filled with mercy for the broken man. Yes, He walked my road
 He was suffering to save the lost. He fights for breath,
 till His Father calls to bring them home! Then the skies will part



with the praise of heav'n, shepherds listen as the angels tell of the
 and He felt my pain, joys and sorrows that I know so well; yet His
 He fights for me, loosing sinners from the pains of hell; and
 as the trumpet sounds hope of heaven or the fear of hell; but the



Gift of God come down to man at the dawning of Emmanuel.
 righteous steps give me hope again: I will follow my Emmanuel.
 with a shout our souls are free: I will follow my Emmanuel.
 Bride will run to her Lover's arms, giving glory to Emmanuel.

Recognition of New Members

9:30/11:00

Sacrament of Baptism

9:30

11:00

Lauren Elizabeth Bernard
 Angelica Rose Curran
 Andrew James Farrier
 Daniel Paul Walker

Lynlee Fontaine Pollis
 Andrew Alan Stretch
 Heidi Catherine Taylor

Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

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

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

Musical Offering

8:00

“On Christmas Night All Christians Sing”
Mr. Nielson, piano

SUSSEX CAROL
arr. S. Nielson

9:30/11:00

“Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day” arr. Howard Helvey
Traditional English Carol, 1833

Chancel Choir Men

Mary Anna Salo and Nathan Davy, piano • 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.*

*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: 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.”*

¹⁸ *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.*

¹⁹ *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.”*

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

²¹ *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.*

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

Sermon

“The Way of the Wilderness”

Mr. Leopold 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!

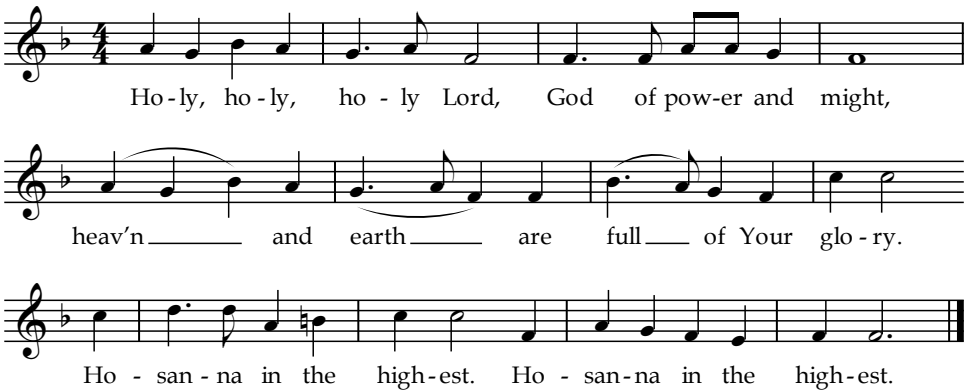
People: We lift them up to the Lord!

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** "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"
Hymn No. 195 in the Trinity Hymnal

ANTIOCH



1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re - ceive her
2. Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; Let men their songs em -
3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in - fest the
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart__ pre - pare Him room,
poy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
ground; He comes to__ make__ His bless - ings flow__
prove The glo - ries of__ His right - eous - ness, __



And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing,
Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy,
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,
And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His love,



And heav'n, __ and heav'n __ and na - ture sing.
Re - peat, __ re - peat __ the sound - ing joy.
Far as, __ far as __ the curse is found.
And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

***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

"He Is Born, the Divine Christ Child"
Mr. Nielson, *piano*

IL EST NÉ

9:30/11:00

Tocatta on 'Veni, Emmanuel'
Dr. Davy, *organ*

Andrew Carter

**Please stand if you are able.*

We thank the following musicians for leading in our services this morning:

Russell Campbell, *trumpet*
Andrew House, *trumpet*
Alex Kienle, *French horn*
Jacob Muzquiz, *trombone*
Jarrod Robertson, *tuba*
Greg White, *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.*



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

“The Way of the Wilderness”

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. According to this passage, how would you summarize God leading His people?
2. What is significant about the path God chose to lead them on? Trace this story and look for what this narrative reveals about God's attributes.
3. How has God taken you on a path that wasn't easy to understand? How did that impact your faith?
4. What is a theophany?
5. How does God choose to lead His people by day and by night?
6. What is powerful about these realities for the people of God?
7. For those who are in Christ, what do we have that is even more powerful than the pillars of cloud and fire?
8. How is this reality making a difference in your daily walk?
9. How does the path that Jesus walked connect to Exodus 13.22?
10. As you trace your own story, how do you see the light of Christ leading you?

Highlights

DECEMBER 8, 2024

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.



pcpc.org/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 12. Register today!

pcpc.org/membership

Advent at PCPC

Family Advent Service

TODAY | 4:30 P.M. | SANCTUARY

Advent Song & Story

DEC. 13 | 10:00 A.M. | KIDS CHAPEL

Gloria Candlelight Concerts

DEC. 15 | 4:30 & 7:30 P.M. | TICKETS REQUIRED

pcpc.org/advent

Dallas Marathon Traffic

Sunday, December 15

Leave for church a little earlier next Sunday. The marathon route will be blocked off, so vehicular traffic will be re-routed for Lakeside, Turtle Creek, Armstrong, Fitzhugh, and Wycliff. Please use Mockingbird, Preston, and Oak Lawn.

Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday, December 24

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

Pick up a card in the Grand Hall and invite a neighbor to join us on Christmas Eve.

pcpc.org/advent

Christmas Service Opportunities

If you have time over the holidays, consider joining us and one of our Ministry Partners this season where we might share the Good News in our city.

pcpc.org/christmas-service-opportunities

Year End Giving

In order to comply with IRS regulations, Tuesday, Dec. 31, is the deadline for donations to be received for 2024. Mailed checks must be postmarked by Dec. 31. Church offices will be closed Dec. 23 through Jan. 1. Donations can be hand-delivered to the secure drop box at the south entrance. For stock donation instructions, contact Cheli Conejo. Please note that mutual fund donations can take up to one month to process. Thank you for your generous stewardship of all God has given.

pcpc.org/give

2025 Spring Kickoff

Launching January 12-17

Register for classes as we abide in Christ and connect with one another:

- All-Church Prayer
- Care & Counseling Groups
- Communicant Classes
- Men, Women, & Couple's Bible Studies
- Middle & High School Small Groups

pcpc.org/calendar

PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Dallas, Texas 75219

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

Deep Light Podcast: pcpc.org/deeplight

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

2024/2025 Operating Budget	\$17,200,000
Jul 1, 2024-Dec 1, 2024 Budget	\$6,413,681
Jul 1, 2024-Dec 1, 2024 Giving	\$5,160,304
Budget Variance	(\$1,253,376)