

Park Cities Presbyterian Church December 15, 2024 Open wide your door to the One who comes. Open your soul, throw open the depths of your heart to see the riches of simplicity, the treasures of peace, the sweetness of grace. Open your heart and run to meet the Sun of Eternal Light that illuminates all men.

Ambrose

### Order for the Worship of God

December 15, 2024 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

#### Third Sunday of Advent

weicome and Announcements	Welcome	and	Anno	uncements
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The Rev. Robby Higginbottom 8:00 The Rev. Paul Goebel 9:30/11:00

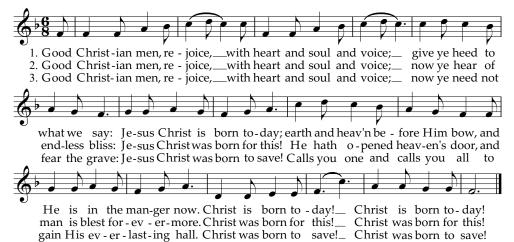
#### The Prelude

8:00	"In dulci jubilo: In Quiet Joy" Mary Preston, <i>piano</i>	Marcel Dupré
9:30/11:00	"Thou Who Wast Rich" Dr. Nathan Davy, organ	arr. Harrison Oxley

#### \*Call to Worship

Minister:	Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ear unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and	
	of the mute sing for joy.	
People:	For waters break forth in the wilderness, and strea	ams in
	the desert;	
Minister:	For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given;	
People:	and the government shall be upon His shoulder, a	nd His name
	shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God	, Everlasting
	Father, Prince of Peace.	Isaiah 35.5-6; 9.6

*Carol	"Good Christian Men, Rejoice"	IN DULCI JUBILO
Hymn No. 207 in the T	Frinity Hymnal	



#### Lighting of the Advent Wreath—The Shepherd's Candle 1 Corinthians 1.27-29 Luke 2.8-11 Cora and Robert Billingsley 8:00 The Cothran Family: Tricia & Alex, Sam, Jill, Nate, Danny 9:30 The Turner Family: Amy & Kyle, Caroline, Jack, William 11:00

Prayer

#### **\*Profession of Faith**

The Rev. Sam Leopold

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,	
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisi	ble.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,	
the only-begotten Son of God,	
begotten of His Father before all worlds,	
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,	
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Fath	ler;
by whom all things were made;	
who for us and for our salvation	
came down from heaven,	
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,	
and was made man;	
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;	
He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again	
according to the Scriptures,	
and ascended into heaven,	
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;	
and He shall come again, with glory,	
to judge both the living and the dead;	
whose Kingdom shall have no end.	
And we believe in the Holy Spirit,	
the Lord and giver of life,	
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;	
who with the Father and the Son together	
is worshiped and glorified;	
who spoke by the prophets;	
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;	
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;	
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,	
and the life of the world to come. Amen.	Nicene Creed

"What Child Is This?

GREENSLEEVES

Hymn No. 213 in the Trinity Hymnal

1. What Child is this, Who, laid to rest, on Ma - ry's lap is 2. Why lies He in such mean es - tate, where ox and ass are 3. So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come peas-ant, king, to
sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, while feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for sin - ners here the own Him; the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let
shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear, shall lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the
Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing: pierce Him through; the cross be borne for me, for you: song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by:
haste, haste, to bring Him laud, the babe, the Son of Mar - y. hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the Son of Mar - y. joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the Son of Mar - y.

**Public Confession of Sin** 

Mr. Leopold

O God, in the beginning You spoke, and creation was born, the object of Your loving care. In the fullness of time You spoke, and the Word became flesh, Jesus, gift of Your love. We wonder at the miracle of creation; we stand in awe before the mystery of the incarnation. Forgive us earthbound creatures, feeble in faith, empty of hope, lacking in love. We wait upon You with ready hearts, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

#### **Private Confession**

#### Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. John 1.4-5

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



lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still 1. O we see thee lie: 2. For Christ is born of Mar - y; and gath - ered all a - bove, 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is giv'n! Ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to 4. O us, we pray;



a - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by: while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love. parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of sin and en - ter in; be born in us God im - parts to So His heav'n. out our cast to - day.

dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing yet in thy Light; to - geth - er pro - claim the His com - ing, but in this Ο ho - ly morn - ing stars, birth! His No in this world of hear ear may sin. the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell; We hear



the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night. prais - es sing to God the King, and peace And to men on earth. re-ceive Him, still the dear Christ en-ters in. where meek souls will come a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el. 0 to us,

#### Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Mr. Leopold

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	"An Advent Noël" Mrs. Preston, o <i>rgan</i>	Alexis Chauvet
9:30/11:00	"In the Bleak Midwinter"	arr. Getty

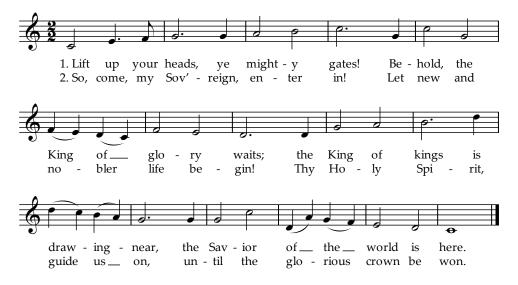
In the Bleak Midwinter Amanda Reeves, soloist • Nathan Davy, piano

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone: snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold Him nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign: in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed for the Lord, God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

- Gloria, gloria! Now my eyes have seen; soli Deo gloria! He salvation brings. As the Lord has promised, I may go in peace.
- What can I give Him poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb, if I were a wise man I would do my part, yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

\*An Advent Doxology



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: Isaiah 9.2-6, 60.1-3

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.

- <sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation; You have increased its joy; they rejoice before You as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
- For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, You have broken as on the day of Midian.
- <sup>5</sup> For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.
- <sup>6</sup> For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- <sup>60.1</sup>Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- <sup>2</sup> For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and His glory will be seen upon you.
- <sup>3</sup> And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Sermon

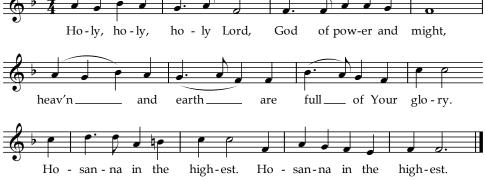
"The People Who Walked in Darkness" Mr. Higginbottom 8:00 Mr. Goebel 9:30/11:00

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:

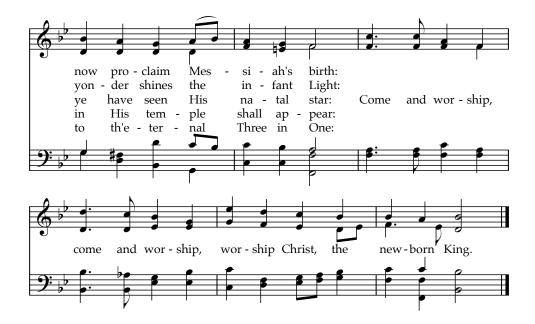


\*The Words of Institution 8:00

#### 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.)





#### **\*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	"Vom himmel hoch: From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" Mrs. Preston, <i>organ</i>	Johann Pachelbel
9:30/11:00	"Toccata on "Il est né, le divin Enfant" Dr. Davy, organ	Denis Bédard

\*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**

Isaiah 9.2-6, 60.1-3 "The People Who Walked in Darkness"

#### **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. In the Bible what does the image of darkness represent?
- 2. What did the death of Jesus have to do with darkness? (See Matthew 27.45-50)
- 3. In the Bible what does the image of light represent?
- 4. Read John 8.12. Why does Jesus say that He is the light of the world?
- 5. Read Matthew 5.14-16. Why does Jesus say that we are the light of the world?
- 6. What does it look like to walk in the light of Jesus Christ?

# Highlights DECEMBER 15, 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 nlease

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 and mission. The next class will begin on Sunday, January 12. Register today! *pcpc.org/membership* 

## Communicants Class Parent Intro Meeting

This spring, PCPC will offer communicant classes for children and youth who are interested in full communing membership and ready to be admitted to the Lord's Table. There is a required parent intro meeting on either January 12 or 19. Registration is open. *pcpc.org/worship/communicants* 

## Scripture Memory

We want to encourage every PCPC member to have a system for regularly memorizing Scripture. As our gift to you, please take a *Topical Memory System*, which is on the desk near the Library. For other Scripture memory resources, please go to *pcpc.org/scripture-memory*.

## **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* 

## **City Missions Expo**

Sunday, January 5

10:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL Join us for this come-and-go event to learn what God has done, is doing, and will do through our City Missions Partners.

## Year End Giving

In order to comply with IRS regulations, Tuesday, Dec. 31, is the deadline for donations to be receipted 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
- Men, Women, & Couple's Bible Studies
- Middle & High School Small Groups

pcpc.org/calendar pcpc.org/guide

## PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4124 Oak Lawn Avenue 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 Jul 1, 2024–Dec 8, 2024 Budget Jul 1, 2024–Dec 8, 2024 Giving Budget Variance \$17,200,000 \$7,314,929 \$5,714,584 (\$1,600,345)