

# *Advent*



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*

### Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Robby Higginbottom 8:00

The Rev. Paul Goebel 9:30/11:00

### The Prelude

8:00

“In dulci júbilo: In Quiet Joy”  
Mary Preston, *piano*

*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 ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

**People: For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams 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, and 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 Trinity Hymnal*



1. Good Christ-ian men, re - joi - ce, \_\_\_ with heart and soul and voice; \_\_\_ give ye heed to
2. Good Christ-ian men, re - joi - ce, \_\_\_ with heart and soul and voice; \_\_\_ now ye hear of
3. Good Christ-ian men, re - joi - ce, \_\_\_ with heart and soul and voice; \_\_\_ now ye need not



what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day; earth and heav'n be - fore Him bow, and end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this! He hath o - pened heav - en's door, and fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to



He is in the man - ger now. Christ is born to - day! \_\_\_ Christ is born to - day!  
man is blest for - ev - er - more. Christ was born for this! \_\_\_ Christ was born for this!  
gain His ev - er - last - ing hall. Christ was born to save! \_\_\_ Christ was born to save!



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!



1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still 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!
4. O Ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to 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.  
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of His heav'n  
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.



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



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

### 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](http://pcpc.org/give) or text "give" to 214-833-7724.*

### Musical Offering

8:00

"An Advent Noël"  
 Mrs. Preston, organ

Alexis Chauvet

9:30/11:00

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

arr. Getty

*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

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: 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.*

*<sup>4</sup> 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

*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**

**“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”**

*REGENT SQUARE*

*Melody* 1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er  
*Harmony* 2. Shep - herds in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your  
*Melody* 3. Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions  
*Harmony* 4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in  
*Melody* 5. All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,  
all the earth; ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
flocks by night, God with man is now re - sid - ing,  
beam a - far; seek the great De - sire of na - tions;  
hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,  
Spir - it, Son; ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
yon - der shines the in - fant Light:  
ye have seen His na - tal star: Come and wor - ship,  
in His tem - ple shall ap - pear:  
to th'e - ter - nal Three in One:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

**\*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, organ                      *Johann Pachelbel*

9:30/11:00              “Tocatta 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, 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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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](https://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 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](https://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](https://pcpc.org/calendar)

[pcpc.org/guide](https://pcpc.org/guide)

## 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: [etcdevo.org](https://etcdevo.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

2024/2025 Operating Budget	\$17,200,000
Jul 1, 2024-Dec 8, 2024 Budget	\$7,314,929
Jul 1, 2024-Dec 8, 2024 Giving	\$5,714,584
Budget Variance	(\$1,600,345)