

Advent



Park Cities
Presbyterian Church

December 22, 2024

*Thanks be to God,
He is a Savior who seeks the lost,
who with eyes supernaturally farsighted
discerns us a long way off,
and draws our interest to Himself
by the sweet constraint of His grace,
till we are face to face with Him
and our soul is saved.*

*As once, in the incarnation,
He came down from heaven to seek mankind,
so He still comes down silently from heaven
in the case of each sinner,
and pursues His search for that individual soul
following it through all the mazes of its waywardness
and the devious paths of its folly,
sometimes unto the very brink of destruction,
till at last His grace overtakes it
and says, "I must lodge at your house."*

*For, besides the divine omniscience here manifested,
we are made witnesses of the Lord's sovereign and almighty power.*

Geerhardus Vos

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 22, 2024
8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Paul Goebel

*Call to Worship

Minister: The LORD has made known His salvation;

People: He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Minister: He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

People: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Minister: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

People: break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Minister: With trumpets and the sound of the horn

People: make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD! Psalm 98.2-4, 6

*Processional Carol "Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

Hymn No. 214 in the Trinity Hymnal



1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2. Shep - herds why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
Say what may the tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Glo - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,



glo - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Please be seated.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath—The Angel’s Candle

Luke 1.26-33

Betsy and Houston Hunt 8:00

The Davy Family: Nathan & Laura, John, Irene, Margaret, William, Sophie 9:30

The Ganier Family: Sarah & Matt, Anna, James, Davis 11:00

Prayer

***Profession of Faith**

The Rev. Dr. Pete Deison 8:00

The Rev. Mark Davis 9:30/11:00

He is the image of the invisible God,
 the Firstborn of all creation.
 For by Him all things were created,
 in heaven and on earth,
 visible and invisible,
 whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—
 all things were created through Him and for Him.
 And He is before all things,
 and in Him all things hold together.
 And He is the head of the body, the church.
 He is the beginning,
 the Firstborn from the dead,
 that in everything He might be preeminent.
 For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
 and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things,
 whether on earth or in heaven,
 making peace by the blood of His cross.

Colossians 1.15-20

***Carol**

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

GO TELL IT

Hymn No. 224 in the Trinity Hymnal



Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev-'ry - where;



go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born.



- 1. While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er
- 2. The shep - herds feared and trem - bled when,
- 3. Down in a low - ly man - ger our

si - lent flocks by night, be - hold, through - out the
 lo! a - bove the earth rang out the an - gel
 hum - ble Christ was born, and God sent us sal -
 heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light. _____
 cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth. _____
 va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn. _____
 (to Refrain)

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

Liv Eloise Allen
 Poppy Ellis Allen
 Wynne Elizabeth Allen
 Lucy Katherine Allen
 Noah Graves Brugner

Frances Anne Bridges
 Eleanor Ashley Scorcio
 Blaylock Rogan Tindol

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.

Public Confession of Sin

Dr. Deison 8:00
Mr. Davis 9:30/11:00

Minister: Arise, shine: for your light has come.

People: O God, we live as if the light had never defeated the darkness in the world or in us.

Minister: And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

People: We confess that we ignore Christ, the One You sent to be among us, to be in us.

Minister: 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.

People: We've kept the birth of Your Son confined to the Christmas season and do not yearn for His birth each moment in our waiting hearts.

Minister: And nations shall come to Your light, and kings to the brightness of Your rising.

People: Lord, You came to us in the fullness of time. Forgive us for not opening our eyes to Your coming. May we prepare for Your coming. Let the earth ring with song. Let the light break forth. Let us all rejoice in the miracle of the Incarnation. Let Christ come into the fullness of our time. Amen. based on Isaiah 60.1-3

Private Confession

Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and He shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'THE LORD IS OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.' Jeremiah 33.15-16

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

Musical Meditation

9:30/11:00

"Appalachian Carol"
Instrumental Ensemble

arr. Dan Goeller

Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Dr. Deison 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

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"
Stephen Nielson, piano

PICARDY/arr. Nielson

9:30/11:00

"Still, Still, Still"
Chancel Choir • Instrumental Ensemble
Stephen Nielson, piano • Nathan Davy, organ • J. Marty Cope, conducting

AUSTRIAN CAROL

Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow. For all is hushed, the world is sleeping, Holy Star its vigil keeping. Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow.

Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of our Savior's birth. The night is peaceful all around you, close your eyes, let sleep surround you. Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of our Savior's birth.

Joy, joy, joy, glad tidings of great joy. For through God's holy incarnation Christ is born for our salvation. Joy, joy, joy, glad tidings of great joy.

***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: Malachi 4.1-3; Luke 1.67-79**

Malachi 4.1-3

"For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.

² But for you who fear My name, the Sun of Righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

³ And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

Luke 1.67-79

And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying,
⁶⁸ "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people
⁶⁹ and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David,
⁷⁰ as He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from of old,
⁷¹ that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us;
⁷² to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember His holy covenant,
⁷³ the oath that He swore to our father Abraham, to grant us
⁷⁴ that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve Him without fear,
⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before Him all our days.

⁷⁶ And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare His ways,
⁷⁷ to give knowledge of salvation to His people in the forgiveness of their sins,
⁷⁸ because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the Sunrise shall visit us from on high
⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Sermon

“The Dawn of the King”

Mr. Goebel

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!

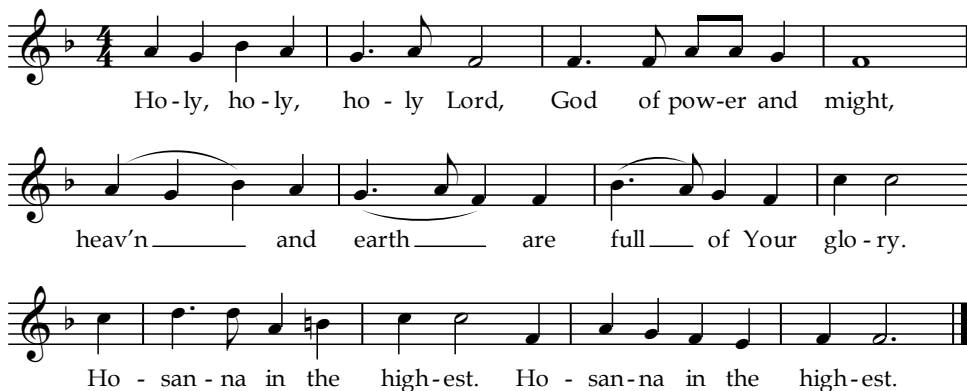
People: We lift them up to the Lord!

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

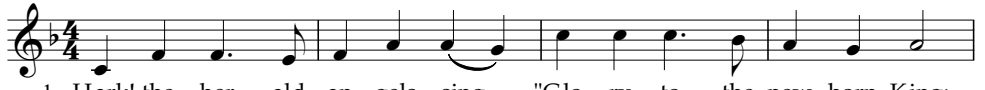
*Please remain seated.
 You will be served by your elders, and we will all partake together when so instructed by the pastor.
 (The bread being served is gluten free.)*

***Closing Carol**

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

MENDELSSOHN

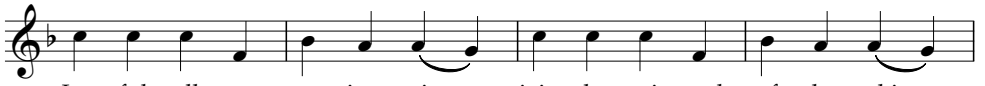
Hymn No. 203 in the Trinity Hymnal



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, — "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, — God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
Late in time be - hold Him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, — join the tri - umph of the skies; —
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; — hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty, —
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, — born that man no more may die, —



with th'an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is — born in Beth - le - hem!"
pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, — our Em - man - u - el.
born to raise the sons of earth, born to — give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry — to 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

"See Amid the Winter's Snow" *SEE AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW*
Mr. Nielson, *piano*

9:30/11:00

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"
Dr. Davy, *organ*

David Willcocks

**Please stand if you are able.*

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

Lucas Aleman, *violin*
Aleksandr Snytkin, *violin*
Rachel McDonald, *viola*
Chris Adkins, *cello*
Alex Kienle, *French horn*
Bill Klymus, *percussion*



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

Malachi 4.1-3; Luke 1.67-79

“The Dawn of the King”

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. Read Malachi 4.2. Who does the "Sun of Righteousness" refer to? What does the word "sun" (and not "son") tell us?
2. Why is the period of time between the Old and New Testaments often called the "400 Years of Silence"? What happened during these 400 years?
3. Read Psalm 22.1-2 and Matthew 27.45-46. Have you ever felt forsaken by God?
4. What does the imagery of dawn symbolize in the Bible? Why is it significant that the account of Jesus' resurrection begins at dawn?
5. What does it mean that we are now living after the dawn of Jesus Christ? What hope does this give us for today?

Highlights

DECEMBER 22, 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



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. Additional parking at 4222 Avondale Ave Equinox Garage.
pcpc.org/advent

Dec. 29 & Jan. 5 Worship

We will hold regular Sunday morning worship services on Dec. 29 and Jan. 5 at 8:00 (Chapel), 9:30, & 11:00 a.m. We will have Nursery and Preschool at the 9:30 a.m. services only. We encourage Elementary and Youth to attend worship with their parents while their classes take a brief holiday break.

Communicants Class Parent Intro Meeting

Sundays, January 12 or 19

11:00 A.M. | CHAPEL

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.

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:

- Grief Support Group
- Men, Women, & Couple's Bible Studies
- Middle & High School Small Groups
- UNION Pre-Marriage Class (February)

pcpc.org/calendar
pcpc.org/guide

PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4124 Oak Lawn Avenue

Dallas, Texas 75219

pcpc.org

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

App: pcpc.org/app

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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 15, 2024 Budget | \$8,216,177 |
| Jul 1, 2024-Dec 15, 2024 Giving | \$6,517,942 |
| Budget Variance | (\$1,698,236) |