



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

December 24, 2012
11:00 p.m.



The Liturgy of the Word

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please assume a quiet and respectful attitude of worship.
Please silence your mobile devices.*

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE:

“Still, Still, Still” Austrian Carol, arr. Kristin Coleman Campbell
“Nativity Carol” John Rutter

CHORAL INTROIT: “All My Heart This Night Rejoices” Johann Ebeling

All my heart this night rejoices
As I hear far and near sweetest angel voices
“Christ is born,” their choirs are singing
Till the air everywhere with their joy is ringing.

Hark! a voice from yonder manger,
Soft and sweet, doth entreat; “Flee from woe and danger
Brethren, come! From all doth grieve you
You are freed; all you need I will surely give you.”

Come, then, let us hasten yonder;
Here let all, great and small, kneel in awe and wonder!
Love Him Who with love is yearning;
Hail the star that from far bright with hope is burning.

Thee, dear Lord, with heed I’ll cherish;
Live to Thee and with Thee, dying, shall not perish;
But shall dwell with Thee for ever,
Far on high, in the joy that can alter never.

*The Westminster Singers
Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music*

CALL TO WORSHIP D. Todd Erickson

PROCESSIONAL HYMN:

No. 162 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
*stanza 1: Laura Young, soloist
stanza 2: The Westminster Singers
stanzas 3-4: Congregation*

✦LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

✦FIRST GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:1-7 M. Paxton Ivy
(page 857 in pew Bible)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

**Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory, evermore and evermore!**

✦PRAYER OF ADORATION

SECOND GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:8-20 J. Wilson Good
(page 857 in pew Bible)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

✦HYMN OF THE INCARNATION: No. 214 "Angels We Have Heard on High" . . . GLORIA

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD T. Barton Kimbro

THIRD GOSPEL READING: John 1:1-14 R. Jules Jordan
(page 886 in pew Bible)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

CHORAL MEDITATION: "Lux Aurumque" Eric Whitacre

Light,
warm and heavy as pure gold
and the angels sing softly
to the new-born baby.

*Lux,
calida gravisque pura velut aurum
et canunt angeli molliter
modo natum.*

CHRISTMAS EVE HOMILY *The Word Became Flesh* Sanders L. Willson

The Liturgy of the Table

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

✦PROFESSION OF OUR FAITH The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**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 Father,
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.**

✦HYMN OF INVITATION: No. 208 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ADESTE FIDELES

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy Father, Who sent Your One and Only Son
to bear the sin of the world
and to bring life and light to sinners far and wide,
we confess our need of Your gracious and forgiving love,
for we have violated Your commandments
by our thoughts, words, and deeds,
and we are without excuse.
On this holy night, we cast our sins upon Jesus
and pray that You would heal us of our guilt and shame
and of our wandering hearts,
that we may serve You with glad obedience,
to the everlasting glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

LITANY OF PRAISE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is meet and right and our joyful duty that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto You, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, and we praise You, King of Heaven, for Your lowly humility and Your infinite love whereby You have rescued us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of Light;

**Therefore with angels and archangels and all the heavenly host,
we laud and magnify Your glorious Name,
evermore praising You and saying:**



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.
Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high-est, Ho - san-na in the high-est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

All those who have publicly professed their faith and joined a Christian church as a communing member are warmly welcomed to receive communion today. Non-communing worshipers are encouraged to contemplate the love of Jesus Christ during this time. At Second Presbyterian, we encourage our children not to take communion until they have joined the church as communicant members.

We do, however, encourage non-communing children to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. Those wishing to be served communion together as a group or family, please stand together in front of the two serving elders before taking the elements.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

For those unable to come forward for communion, please raise your hand and an elder will serve you in your seat. Throughout this time of communion, we invite you to join in singing the hymns printed in bold below.

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” W ZLOBIE LEZY

**Infant holy, Infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ, the Babe, is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the Babe is Lord of all. Christ the Babe is Lord of all.**

**Flocks were sleeping: shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the Babe was born for you. Christ the Babe was born for you.**

SOLO MEDITATION: “The Sleeping Baby Jesus” Hugo Wolf

Son of the Virgin, Child of Heaven
Asleep on the ground upon the wood of torture,
Which the good Master with effortless significance
Laid under your peaceful dreams;
You the flower even in the bud
Showing us the glory of your father!
O, who could see?
What visions are hidden behind your brow,
Your dark lashes, what softly changing pictures are painted!
Son of the Virgin, Child of Heaven!

Eva Gibson, soloist

“Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor” QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE

**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’ward 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.**

SOLO MEDITATION: "The Virgin's Slumber Song"Max Reger

Amid the roses Mary sits and rocks her Jesus child,
While amid the treetops sighs the breeze so warm and mild.
And soft and sweetly sings a bird upon the bough;
Ah, baby dear one, slumber now!
Happy is Thy laughter, holy is Thy silent rest,
Lay Thy head in slumber, fondly on Thy mother's breast!
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!

Terri Theil, soloist

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LIGHTING OF THE CHURCH

HYMN OF CHRIST'S BIRTH: "Silent Night! Holy Night!" STILLE NACHT

**Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.**

**Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing alleluia to our King;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!**

♠HYMN OF JOY: "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"ANTIOCH

**Joy the the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns:
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.**

♠BENEDICTION

♠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE GLORIA

**Gloria in excelsis deo.
Gloria in excelsis deo.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Sing We Now of Christmas" Polish Carol, arr. Richard Hudson

♠Indicates congregation standing

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