

Second Sunday of Advent



Order for the
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

December 4, 2016, 11:00 a.m.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please prepare your heart for worship
and silence your mobile devices.*

At the heart of the Christian faith is the declaration that our Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man for our salvation. This affirmation is expressed succinctly in the term “incarnation.” This word is of Latin origin and simply means “invested with flesh.”

Charles Wesley writes that Jesus’ incarnation leads to wonder and worship:

“Gaze on that helpless object of endless adoration! Those infant hands shall burst our bands and work out our salvation. Strangle the crooked serpent, destroy his works forever, and open the heavenly gate to every true believer.”

Donald Macleod, Scottish theologian and professor, adds to Wesley’s declaration by reminding us that Jesus’ incarnation should also lead us to a lifestyle of humble service:

“How often is the incarnation brought before God’s people as their chief incentive and motivation to service? Paul urges us to think the way Jesus thought. He humbled himself. He made himself nothing (Philippians 2). Jesus said, ‘I don’t matter..’ There is scarcely a month that a church is not wrecked by somebody. That is the whole problem: There is always a somebody. If we were willing to humble ourselves and be nobodies, the church would not be wrecked. That is what the church needs. Nobodies who have crucified their egos and left them on the far side of that great word of Jesus: ‘Let a man deny himself’ (Mark 8:34).”

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE:

Selections from “Trio Sonata in D Minor” Johann Quantz
Emily and Stephanie Hancock, clarinets

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE. Elizabeth and Ramsay Wall

CALL TO WORSHIP Michael C. Davis

◆PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 194 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” . . . VENI EMMANUEL

◆PROPHETIC LESSON: Select verses from Isaiah. Will Stevens

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.

**Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel.**

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.**

Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,

**on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it**

with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

So they shall fear the name of the Lord from the west,
and his glory from the rising of the sun;

for he will come like a rushing stream,
which the wind of the Lord drives.

**“And a Redeemer will come to Zion,
to those in Jacob who turn from transgression,” declares the Lord.**

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE VENI EMMANUEL

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to Thee, O Israel. Amen.**

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

✦ GREETINGS David A. Bowen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

“The Shepherds’ Farewell” from *L’Enfance du Christ Op. 25* Hector Berlioz

Thou must leave Thy lowly dwelling, the humble crib, the stable bare.
Babe, all mortal babes excelling, content our earthly lot to share.
Loving father, loving mother, shelter Thee with tender care!

Blessed Jesus, we implore Thee with humble love and holy fear.
In the land that lies before Thee, forget not us who linger here!
May the shepherd’s lowly calling, ever to Thy heart be dear!

Blest are ye beyond all measure, thou happy father, mother mild!
Guard ye well your heav’nly treasure, the Prince of Peace, the Holy Child!
God go with you, God protect you, guide you safely through the wild!

*The Chancel Choir
Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music*

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE W ZLOBIE LEZY

**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.**

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

EPISTLE LESSON Philippians 2:1-11
(page 980 in the pew Bible)

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field;

**The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the Word of our God will stand forever. Amen.** *(Isaiah 40:6b, 8)*

HOMILY *Kenosis: The Humility of Christ* Sanders L. Willson

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

✦ INVITATION TO THE TABLE

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. An elder will serve gluten free communion bread to those who raise their hands.

✦ PROFESSION OF OUR FAITH The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried;
He descended into hell;
The third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead;**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

✦ GLORIA PATRI GREATOREX

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen!**

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy and gracious Father,
You have a most scandalous way of rescuing proud people:
The One who possesses real authority to assert His rights
lays them aside to humbly serve and die for us.
We beseech Your forgiveness for our pride
which has destroyed our ability to truly love and care for others.
We confess that selfish ambition
has caused squabbling and discord among us.
Pardon us for our status-seeking ways
and consume us with the only status that matters:
Proximity to You, our humble Lord.
For we pray in the Name of the One to whom every knee will bow
and every tongue confess — Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

LITANY OF PRAISE

Lift up your hearts.

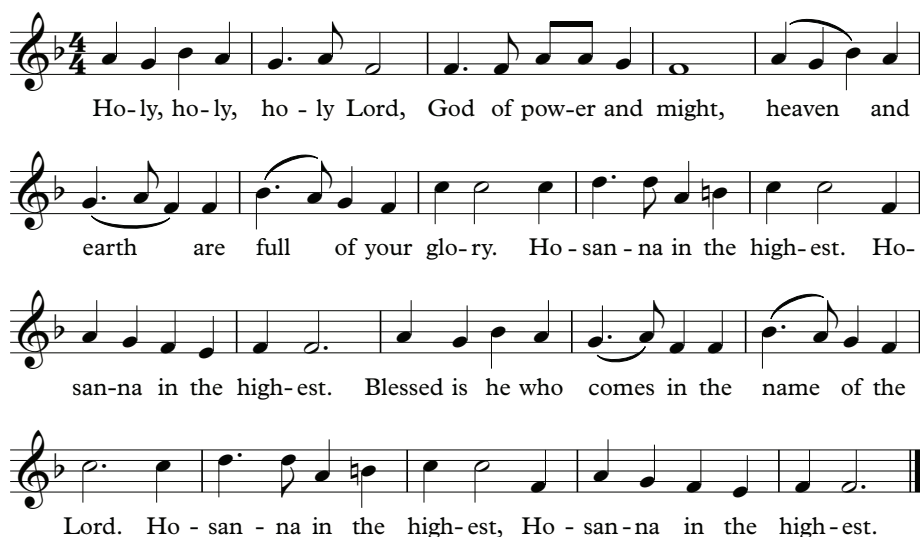
We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our joyful duty, that we should at all times and in all places, give thanks unto You, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Everlasting God. And we praise You for Jesus Christ our Lord, Who has come to bring us light and life;

**Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
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, heaven 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

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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

CHORAL MEDITATION:

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.
Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright she bore to men a Savior, when half-spent was the night.
The shepherds heard the story, proclaimed by angels bright,
How Christ, the Lord of glory, was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped and in the manger found Him, as angel heralds said.

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God; from sin and death He saves us and lightens ev'ry load.

O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory, who dost our weakness know,
Bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of heaven and to the endless day.

SHARING OF THE CUP

MUSICAL MEDITATION: "Sheep May Safely Graze" J.S. Bach

Sheep may safely graze and pasture where a shepherd guards them well. So the nation ruled in wisdom knows and shares the many blessings which both peace and plenty bring.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✦HYMN OF ADVENT: No. 195 "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"ANTIOCH
stanzas 1-3

✦BENEDICTION

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSEANTIOCH

**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.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE: Festive Flourish on "Joy to the World" Michael Dell
Samuel Metzger, organist

✦Indicates congregation standing

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