



ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Park Cities Presbyterian Church

November 29, 2009

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 am

First Sunday of Advent

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.

We Prepare Our Hearts

"The LORD is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him."

Habakkuk 2.2

Preparation for Worship

We Praise and Profess Our Faith in God

*"My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
and let all flesh bless His holy name forever and ever."*

Psalm 145.21

Call to Worship

The Rev. Mark Davis

Minister: Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

People: **With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name, make known His deeds among the peoples, proclaim that His name is exalted.**

Minister: Sing praises to the LORD, for He has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.

People: **Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

Isaiah 12:2-6

***Hymn of Adoration No. 198** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!"
Stanzas: 1, 2, 4 and 6

TRURO

***Prayer of Adoration
concluding with**

O God, what shall we render to You for the gift of gifts, Your own dear Son, begotten, not created, our Redeemer, Surety, Substitute, His self-emptying incomprehensible, His infinity of love beyond the heart's grasp? Herein is wonder of wonders: He came below to raise us above, was born like us that we might become like Him. Herein is love; when we cannot rise to Him, He draws near on wings of grace, to raise us to Himself. Place us with the watchful shepherds to look with them upon our Redeemer's face, and in Him account ourselves delivered from sin. Let us with Simeon clasp the newborn Child to our hearts, embrace Him with undying faith, exulting that He is ours and we are His. In Him You have given us so much that heaven can give no more. Amen!

***Confession of Faith**

Dr. Pete Deison 8:00
The Rev. Tim Tinsley 9:30
The Rev. Julian Russell 11:00

We believe 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.

from The Nicene Creed

***Hymn of Praise No. 194 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"**

VENI EMMANUEL

Please be seated.

Public Confession of Sin

Lord Christ, we confess our willingness to be loved but also our reluctance to love. We confess our readiness to accept Your forgiving love but also our refusal to forgive. We confess our eagerness to grasp Your offer of redeeming love but also our resistance to follow You without question. In this Advent time, forgive us our failure to respond as we should. Come to us anew, and by Your grace, assist us to receive You with joy, as the shepherds; with gratitude, as Simeon; with obedience, as Mary; with love, as You have loved us. Even so: come, Lord Jesus.

Silent Confession

**The Commissioning of
Zhibai and Guang Lu
and
Libby and Jon White**

9:30/11:00

The Explanation

Mr. Curt Dobbs,
*Sr. Director of Missions/Church Planting
Ruling Elder*

The Commissioning Questions

Mr. Dobbs

1. Have you been compelled, as far as you know your own heart, to seek missionary service from love to God and a sincere desire to promote His glory in the Gospel of His Son?
2. Do you promise to be zealous and faithful in maintaining the truth of the Gospel and the purity and peace of the church, whatever persecution or opposition may arise unto you on that account?
3. Do you engage to be faithful and diligent in the exercise of all your duties as a Christian and a missionary, whether personal or relative, private or public; and to endeavor by the grace of God to adorn the profession of the Gospel in your manner of life, and to walk with exemplary piety before those whom you serve?
4. Are you willing to accept commissioning as a missionary of Park Cities Presbyterian Church as your home church and, therefore, are you willing to submit to the counsel, direction and authority of PCPC?
5. Do you, relying upon God for strength, promise to discharge the duties God shall set before you through your mission agency and through PCPC?

Question to the Congregation:

Do you, the people of this congregation, promise, as the Lord leads and enables you, to pray for Zhibai and Guang Lu and for Libby and Jon White, and to encourage and support them in their labors, recognizing them as PCPC's ambassadors to the peoples of East Asia and Mexico?

The Commissioning Prayer

We Hear and Respond to God's Word

Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the rules.

*And all the people answered with one voice and said,
"All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do."*

Exodus 24.3

***The Scripture Reading**

Luke 1.67-79

Mr. Davis 8:00
Mr. and Mrs. Lu 9:30
Mr. and Mrs. White 11:00

The Morning Sermon

"Waiting in Wonder"

Mr. Davis

— Worshipers at 9:30 and 11:00, please continue on page 6 —

*The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

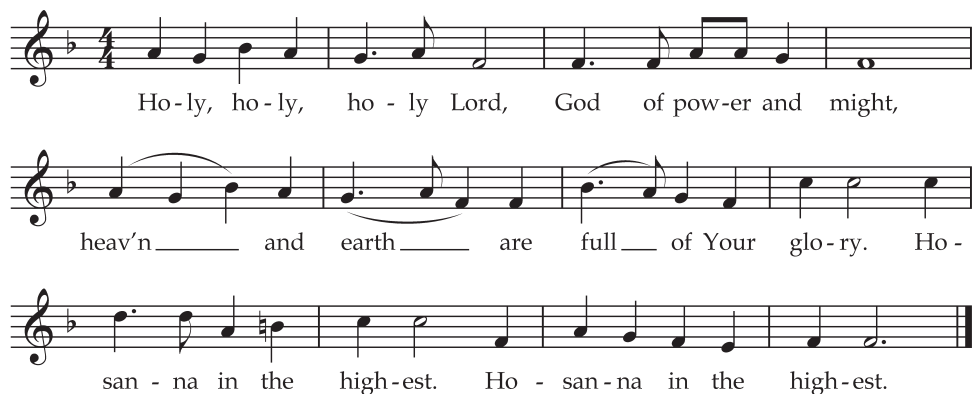
People: We lift them up to the Lord!

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.

We Proclaim Jesus Christ Crucified as the Only Salvation for Sinners

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through Me."

John 14:6

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Blessing

*The Words of Institution

The Communion

Please come forward down the center aisle.

Partake of the elements upon receiving them from the elders.

Return to your seat with your empty cup via the side aisle.

During the Serving of Communion

Please use the following Scripture for private meditation.

Psalm 43

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people, from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me! For You are the God in whom I take refuge; why have You rejected me? Why do I go about mourning because of the oppression of the enemy? Send out Your light and Your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to Your holy hill and to Your dwelling! Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy, and I will praise You with the lyre, O God, my God. Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my salvation and my God.

— Worshipers at 9:30 and 11:00, please continue here —

We go into the World with God's Peace to Live for His Glory

"Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen."

Hebrews 13:20-21

***Closing Hymn No. 203 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"**

MENDELSSOHN

***Benediction**

Minister: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Postlude

"Savior of the Nations, Come"
Mr. Cope, Organ

J. S. Bach

**The congregation stands.*

The flowers in our worship service this morning are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the 60th birthday of J. Michael Lewis "for the example you demonstrate, the wisdom you share, the integrity you uphold and the steadfast strength you display" by Robin, Campbell, Chamlee, Coleman, Claire Ann, Hannah, Hamilton, Eve and Margaret.

Personal Prayer and Counsel

"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor . . . rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality." Romans 12.10, 12, 13

We want so much to come alongside you in brotherly love and hospitality by your allowing us to be in prayer for your salvation or any need you may have. Please join us in the Parlor (north of Fellowship Hall) following the worship service where our Elders and prayer leaders are available and eager to meet with you and pray with you in complete confidence.

**Sunday Evening Worship Service
Tonight, November 29, 2009
6:00 pm • Oak Lawn West**

Mr. Paul Goebel
Philippians 2.12-30

Music by permission: CCLI #364068

Home Worship Guide

This page is to help you get started worshipping in your home. For more ideas and in-depth resources, be sure to check out the PCPC website by going to the Family Worship link on the pcpc.org home page. The Family Worship site is under development, so keep checking back for new updates!

What is home worship?

Home worship is time set aside to love, adore, and enjoy our Heavenly Father in our homes and with our families.

Who is home worship for?

Everyone! If you belong to Christ, He wants you to know the joy of spending time with Him daily. Home worship is for children, parents, couples, singles, grandparents, empty-nesters, anyone who is a child of the King!

When and where should we have home worship?

Do your best to schedule a regular time. Make it part of your routine. That way, everyone who participates will know when it is supposed to happen. Some good times are:

1. First thing in the morning right after breakfast;
2. At the dinner table immediately following the meal;
3. Right before bedtime.

If you are just beginning to try home worship, try this once or twice a week. If you already are doing it once or twice a week, try to increase the frequency. Ultimately, you will enjoy your Heavenly Father the most when you spend the most time with Him! Resources for daily worship will be available at worship.pcpc.org.

How do we do home worship?

1. **How do I know what to do?** There is a simple order in this worship bulletin to help guide you. Home worship is simply an extension and simplification of what happens in corporate worship every Sunday morning. Use your experience on Sunday mornings to guide you in worshipping at home. The elements of worship taken from Sunday mornings into the home are praise, prayer, and reading and learning the scriptures. If a family is able, singing is encouraged. If not, no big deal! Be flexible in adapting this guide to suit the needs of your family situation. Home worship also offers the opportunity to ask questions, give prayer requests, and have discussion in ways which do not happen in corporate worship.
2. **How long should it take?** No more than 10 or 15 minutes. If your family loves to go longer, then go longer!
3. **How do I deal with wiggly children?** Make parts of home worship wiggly! Move while you are singing, act out the scripture reading, ask the discussion questions while taking a family walk. Be creative and your children will love it. Be sure to teach the discipline of listening. See worship.pcpc.org for more ideas for families with young children!
4. **How do I get help?** Contact one of our pastors or elders. Check out the PCPC website.

Daily Prayer Guide

Monday: Pray for one another (What's happening this week? Any sickness? Problems? If able, share with one another some area in your life in which God wants you to grow. Confess sins to one another)

Tuesday: Pray for your relatives and friends

Wednesday: Pray for those in authority: President Obama, government officials, local leaders, teachers at school.

Thursday: Pray for people you know who don't know Jesus.

Friday: Pray for the Church around the world, for missionaries, for the extending of God's Kingdom.

Saturday: Pray for PCPC, for the pastors and elders, the deacons and staff members. Pray for those who are sick and in need of care. Pray for the worship which is going to take place on Sunday morning.

Order of Worship for the Home – The Week of November 29, 2009

Praise

Luke 1.68-69 (*all together saying*)

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David.

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" (*sing or say these words together*)

O Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him born the King of angels;

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Hearing and Learning God's Word

Scripture Reading: Luke 1.67-79

Questions for Discussion (*may be answered in one worship time, or spread over several times*)

1. What do you look forward to most about Christmas?
 2. What does it mean to wonder?
 3. What does it mean to wait in wonder?
 4. Why was Zechariah unable to speak?
- Discuss what it might feel like to be unable to speak for nine months.

For older children:

5. What about God causes you great wonder?
6. What does it mean in Luke 1.78 "The sunrise shall visit us from on high?"
7. How is our world sitting in darkness?
8. How do you see the light of Christ guiding your feet in the way of peace?

Scripture Memory (*memorize these verses of scripture this month*)

Ephesians 6.16-18:

In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints.

Prayer

(Additional prayer ideas may be found on page eight of the bulletin.)

Prayer (*all saying together*)

God of power and mercy, You call us once again to celebrate the coming of Your Son. Remove those things that hinder love of You, that when He comes, He may find us waiting in awe and wonder for Him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (*sing or say these words together*)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided,
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.