

Park Cities Presbyterian Church

December 3, 2017

*First Sunday of Advent*

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 3, 2017  
8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 am

*First Sunday of Advent*

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## Call to Worship

The Rev. Ron Williams 8:00  
The Rev. Mark Davis 9:30/11:00

Minister: Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

**People: A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**

Minister: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;

**People: The uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain."** Isaiah 40.1-4

## \*Carol of Adoration and Anticipation

No. 194

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*VENI EMMANUEL*

## \*Prayer of Adoration

## \*Profession of Faith

The Rev. Bill Lamberth 8:00  
The Rev. Brent Baker 9:30  
The Rev. Tommy Overton 11:00

For thus says the LORD of hosts:  
Yet once more, in a little while,  
I will shake the heavens and the earth  
and the sea and the dry land.  
And I will shake all nations,  
so that the treasures of all nations shall come in,  
and I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of hosts.

Behold, I send My messenger,  
and he will prepare the way before Me.  
And the Lord whom you seek  
will suddenly come to His temple;  
and the messenger of the covenant  
in whom you delight,  
behold, He is coming, says the LORD of hosts.

Haggai 2.6-7, Malachi 3.1

**\*Carol of Expectation**  
No. 193

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

PICARDY

**Reception of New Members**

9:30/11:00

**The Sacrament of Baptism**

9:30

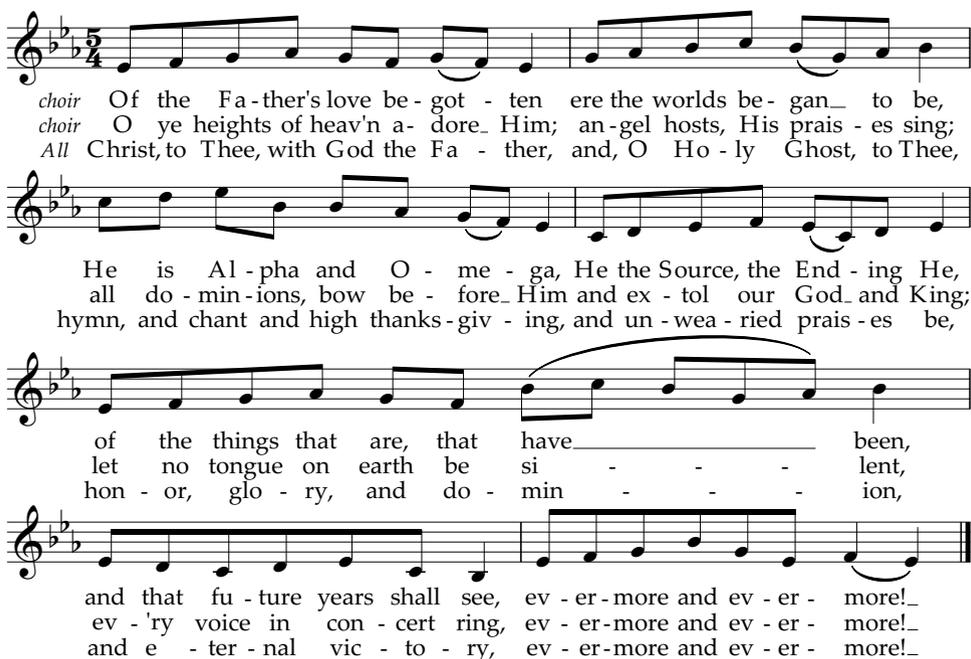
Lacelliese Dau King  
James Alan Thompson  
Kathryn Goings Thompson

**Musical Meditation** “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” 13th Century Plainsong  
arr. John Erickson

9:30/11:00

High School Ensemble, Covenant Choir, Chapel Choir  
Lynda Fray, director

*Please join in singing when so directed.*



choir Of the Fa-ther's love be-got-ten ere the worlds be-gan\_ to be,  
choir O ye heights of heav'n a-dore\_ Him; an-gel hosts, His prais-es sing;  
All Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa-ther, and, O Ho-ly Ghost, to Thee,  
He is Al-pha and O-me-ga, He the Source, the End-ing He,  
all do-min-ions, bow be-fore\_ Him and ex-tol our God\_ and King;  
hymn, and chant and high thanks-giv-ing, and un-wea-ried prais-es be,  
of the things that are, that have\_ been,  
let no tongue on earth be si- - - - - lent,  
hon-or, glo-ry, and do-min- - - - - ion,  
and that fu-ture years shall see, ev-er-more and ev-er- more!\_  
ev-'ry voice in con-cert ring, ev-er-more and ev-er- more!\_  
and e-ter-nal vic-to-ry, ev-er-more and ev-er- more!\_

## 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. Amen.

## Private Confession

### Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

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. Isaiah 9.2

### Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Mr. Lamberth 8:00  
Mr. Baker 9:30  
Mr. Overton 11:00

### Musical Offering

8:00 "Of the Father's Love Begotten" *arr. Wilbur Held*  
Dr. Nathan Davy, *organ*

9:30/11:00 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" *Praetorius/Sandström*  
Chancel Choir • J. Marty Cope, *director*

*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 floweret bright, amid the cold of winter when half-spent was the night.*

### \*The Greeting of Peace

Minister: And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. Isaiah 40.5  
The Peace of the Lord be with you always.  
People: **And also with you.**

## The Service of Friendship

*If you are seated on the left end of the pew, please take the Service of Friendship pad, fill out the information and pass it down. When it arrives at the other end of the pew, pass it back, taking note of those who are seated in your row.*

**\*The Scripture Reading: Luke 1.5-25**      Jennifer Long and Dominique Clarke 9:30  
Jessica and Clint Hail 11:00

*In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth.*

<sup>6</sup> *And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord.*

<sup>7</sup> *But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.*

<sup>8</sup> *Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty,*  
<sup>9</sup> *according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense.*

<sup>10</sup> *And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense.*

<sup>11</sup> *And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense.*

<sup>12</sup> *And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him.*

<sup>13</sup> *But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.*

<sup>14</sup> *And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth,*

<sup>15</sup> *for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb.*

<sup>16</sup> *And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God,*

<sup>17</sup> *and he will go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."*

<sup>18</sup> *And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years."*

<sup>19</sup> *And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news.*

<sup>20</sup> *And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time."*

<sup>21</sup> *And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple.*

<sup>22</sup> *And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute.*

<sup>23</sup> *And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.*

<sup>24</sup> *After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying,*

<sup>25</sup> *"Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."*

**The Sermon**      "Signs and Wonders: Waiting and Wondering"      Mr. Williams 8:00  
Mr. Davis 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!

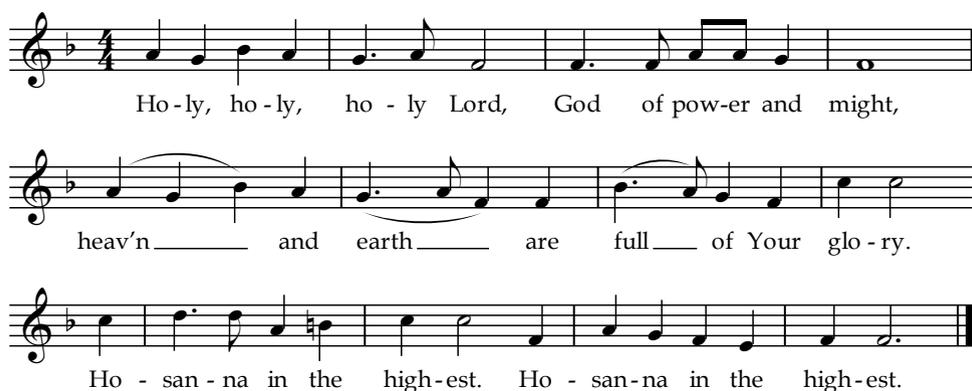
**People: We lift them up to the Lord!**

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 Prayer of Thanksgiving and Blessing 8:00**

**\*The Words of Institution 8:00**

**The Communion 8:00**

*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.*

**\*Closing Carol No. 196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**

*HYFRYDOL*

## \*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.**

## Postlude

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”  
Dr. Davy, organ

arr. Andrew Carter

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

*The flowers in our worship service this morning are given to the glory and praise of God and in celebration of Mildred Kemper on her 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday with love and gratitude from Nancy and Randy Best.*

**Park Cities Presbyterian Church exists to extend the transforming presence of the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ in Dallas and to the world.**



Welcome to Park Cities Presbyterian Church. We are glad you joined us today.

We want to come alongside you in hospitality and prayer. At the conclusion of our services, there are men and women at the front and back of the sanctuary to meet and pray with you—in complete confidence.

If you are experiencing an unexpected pregnancy, you are loved. For support, please speak with us or call Thrive Women’s Clinic at 214-343-9263 or Kari Stainback at 214-224-2738.

*“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*

# **SERMON NOTES**

Luke 1.5-25

“Signs and Wonders: Waiting and Wondering”

## Order of Worship for the Home – The Week of December 3, 2017

### Praise

#### **Call to Worship** *(everyone together)*

Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."  
Isaiah 40.1-3

#### **"Of the Father's Love Begotten"** *(read or sing these words together)*

Please refer to the hymn on page three.

### Hearing and Learning God's Word

#### **Scripture Reading:** Luke 1.5-25 *(one person read the Scripture aloud)*

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

1. What is the purpose of signs?
2. What signs do you see that point to Christmas coming? Which is your favorite sign?
3. When the Bible speaks of a sign, what does it mean?
4. What do the signs in the Bible point to?
5. Who do the signs in the Bible point to?
6. How do signs lead to wonder?
7. Where do you see signs and wonder in the story of Zechariah?

#### **Scripture Memory for December:** *(memorize this passage of Scripture this month)*

Luke 2.15-20

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."<sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby lying in a manger.<sup>17</sup> And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this Child.<sup>18</sup> And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.<sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.<sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

### Prayer

#### **Prayer** *(saying together)*

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.