

Order for the Public Worship of God

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

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Christians, Awake! Salute the Happy Morn" . . . John Wainwright
"Lovely Child, Holy Child" D. Johnson
"All My Heart This Night Rejoices" Paul Gerhardt

BRASS PRELUDE: "What Child Is This?" arr. Anne McGinty

*What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!*

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

Valerie and Gregg Smith, Witt and Emily

CHORAL INTROIT: "Come, Dear Christ, Your World Awaits" Bonnie Duckworth

Come, dear Christ, your world awaits. Speak aloud incarnate Word.
Longing earth anticipates: Let your cry for peace be heard.

Morning Star with diamond fire, shine in radiance through our night.
Urgent now with hope's desire yearning peoples seek your light.

Open heav'ns and rain down dew. Shower justice on the earth.
Parched and troubled lands, renew by a righteous Savior's birth.

Silent in the Virgin's womb, God in full divinity,
Come to fill each lonely room, by your blest nativity.

Come, dear Christ, with tender care, here with eager hearts to dwell.
Answer now our Advent prayer: Come to us, Emmanuel.

Youth Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP Andrew E. Keasling
Director of Youth Ministries

The First Lesson

God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

GENESIS 3:8-15 (page 3 in pew Bible)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

♠HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 203 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" MENDELSSOHN

♠PRAYER OF ADORATION

The Second Lesson

God promises to faithful Abraham that his seed shall the nations of the earth call blessed.

GENESIS 22:15-18 (page 16 in pew Bible) Sandra H. Hazelwood
Director of Children's Ministries

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HANDBELL MEDITATION: "Still, Still, Still" German Carol
arr. Anna Laura Page

Handbell Choir

The Third Lesson

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

ISAIAH 9:2-7 (page 573 in pew Bible) Robert C. O'Kelley
Director of Recreation

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM: "Arise, Your Light Has Come" Trad. German Chorale
arr. David Danner

Awake, my spirit. Awake, lute and harp;
I will awake at the dawn of day.
I will confess You, O Lord among the nations.
I will raise a psalm to You, for Your love,
Your love is wide as the heavens,
And Your truth reaches to the skies!

Wake, awake, for night is flying,
The watchmen on the heights are crying;
Awake, Jerusalem, at last.
Midnight hears the welcome voices,
And at the thrilling cry rejoices:
"Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.
The bridegroom comes, awake;
Your lamps with gladness take!"
Alleluia! Prepare yourselves to meet the Lord,
Whose light has stirred the waiting guard.

Zion hears the watchmen singing
And in her heart new joy is springing.
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.
For her Lord comes down all glorious,
The strong in grace, in truth victorious.
Her star is ris'n, her light is come.
O come, You Blessed One,
Lord Jesus, God's own Son.
Sing hosanna! We go until the halls we view
Where You have bid us dine with You.

Now let all the heav'ns adore You,
And saints and angels sing before You.
The harps and cymbals all unite.
Of one pearl each shining portal,
Where dwelling with the choir immortal
We gather round Your dazzling light.
No eye has seen, nor ear has
Yet been trained to hear.
What joy is ours!
Crescendos rise; Your halls resound;
Hosannas blend in cosmic sound.

Arise, O Jerusalem! Arise clothed in light!
Your light has come,
And the glory of God upon your hearts will shine. Alleluia!

The Youth, Handbell, and Chancel Choirs

The Fourth Lesson

The peace that Christ will bring us is foreshown.

ISAIAH 11:1-9 (page 575 in pew Bible) Gail G. Turner
Caring Ministry Director

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM:

“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.

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.**

The Fifth Lesson

The angel Gabriel salutes the blessed Virgin Mary.

LUKE 1:26-38 (page 855 in pew Bible) Linda J. Oliver
Youth Intern

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM: “To a Virgin Meek and Mild” arr. David Johnson

To a virgin meek and mild came an angel holy,
Greeting her, the undefiled, in her chamber lowly;
Hail to thee, thou blessed one, chosen mother of God's Son.
Through a wondrous birth He shall come to earth,
And shall reign as a King forever, Jesus, blessed Savior.

By the sages long foretold, now the day is nearing,
Promises of God unfold in the Son appearing.
He, the Child of Bethlehem, branch divine of Jesse's stem,
Shall have great increase as the Prince of Peace,
And the earth shall be filled with the Lord's salvation,
Hope of ev'ry nation.

Come into this heart of mine, Jesus, guest from Heaven.
Cradled there, oh Babe divine, earth shall be a heaven.
Angels, sing your lullaby; keep your vigil in the sky,
Till the dawn shall break, and all earth awake to proclaim Him the King
Who shall reign forever, Jesus blessed Savior.

Youth Choir

The Sixth Lesson

Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus.

MATTHEW 1:18-25 (page 807 in pew Bible) Yvonne K. Hardin
Director of Women in Ministry

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)**

♠HYMN OF NATIVITY: No. 216 “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” W ZLOBIE LEZY

ADVENT HOMILY *To Fulfill What the Lord Had Spoken* Sanders L. Willson

The Seventh Lesson

The shepherds go to the manger.

LUKE 2:8-20 (page 857 in pew Bible) Ronald G. Sadlow
Associate Minister/World Missions

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS TO GOD

INSTRUMENTAL OFFERTORY: "The Wexford Carol"arr. Anne McGinty

*Good people all, this Christmas time, consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done, in sending His beloved Son.
With Jesus holy we should pray to God with love this Christmas Day;
In Bethlehem upon the morn there was a blest Messiah born.*

*With thankful heart and joyful mind, the shepherds went the babe to find,
And as God's angel has foretold, they did our Savior Christ behold.
Within a manger He was laid, and by His side the virgin maid
Attending to the Lord of Life, Who came on earth to end all strife.*

Brass Ensemble

✦HYMN OF DEVOTION REGENT SQUARE

**Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;
Evermore your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

✦PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

✦GREETINGS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION 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.**

The Eighth Lesson

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

MATTHEW 2:1-11 (page 807 in pew Bible) Robert S. Roaten
Director of Communications

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM: "Star in the East"arr. Vicky Courtney

**Hail the blest morn. See the great Mediator
Down from the region of glory descend.
Shepherds, go worship the Babe in the manger.
Lo, for His guard the bright angels attend.**

Cold on His cradle, the dewdrops are shining.
Low lied His bed with the beasts of the stall.
Angels adore Him, in slumber reclining.
Wisemen and shepherds before Him do fall.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us Thine aid.
Star in the East, the horizon adoring,
Guide where our Infant Redeemer was laid.

Say, shall we yield Him, in costly devotion,
Fragrance of Eden and off'ring Divine,
Gems from the mountains and pearls from the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?

*Youth Choir
Rebecca Yu, violin*

The Ninth Lesson

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

JOHN 1:1-14 (page 886 in pew Bible) Charles G. McElroy
Campus Outreach

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

✦HYMN OF INCARNATION:

No. 162 "Of the Father's Love Begotten" DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

✦BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Fantasia on Regent Square" Edwin C. Johnson

✦Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778

Instrumentalists: Scott Moore, Susan Enger, Michael McKenzie, trumpet; Samuel Compton, Robert Patterson, horn; Greg Luscombe, James Albrecht, Mark Vail, trombone; Joe Sellmansberger, tuba; Frank Shaffer, percussion; Michael Karcz, timpani

Handbell Choir: Fred Flinn, Mary Lawrence Flinn, Mimi Vestal, B.J. Webster, Philip Sandager, Nicole Swaim, Carolyn Wells, Anne Thompson, Debbie Thomas, Jim Cantrell, Estelle Curtis, Lauren Theil

*Ginger Statom, Director of the Youth Choir
Terri Theil, Director of the Handbell Choir
Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music*

We consider it a privilege to have our children in worship with us. If your small children become restless and vocal, we invite you to the children's room especially designed for them at the rear of the Sanctuary. They are also welcome in the nursery. Older children should also be encouraged to come to church prepared to stay in their pew throughout the service.

One of our pastors will be available after the service to pray for you or to offer helpful direction regarding your spiritual life. He will be in the Gathering Room, which is the first room on your left as you exit the southwest door of the Sanctuary (closest to the pulpit). You may also send your confidential email to pastor@2pc.org with questions about your spiritual life.

CELTIC CAROLS

Tonight at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Local Celtic artists, Planet Reel, led by Memphis Symphony Concertmaster Susanna Perry Gilmore, will lead us in ancient carols that complement the liturgy and ambiance of this wonderful Advent Evensong service.

Nursery is provided for ages 4 and under.