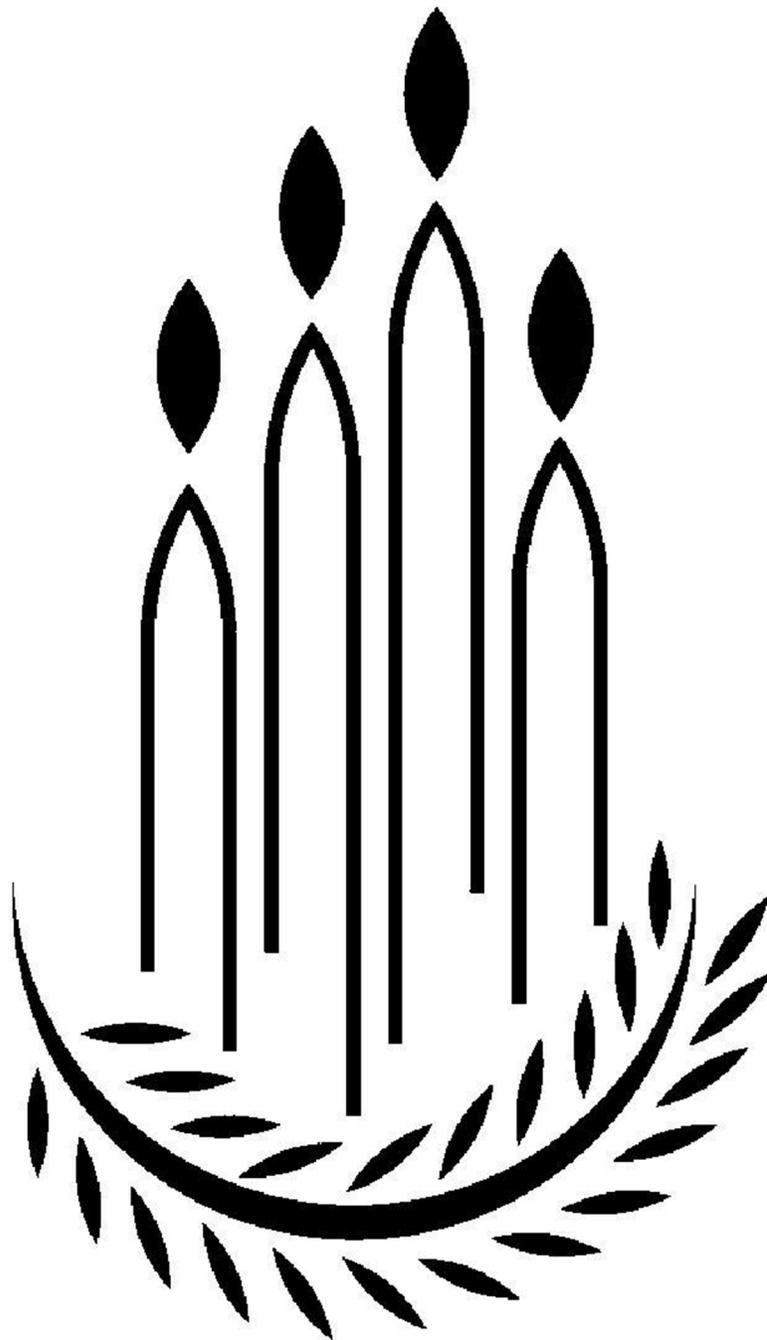


Sixth Presbyterian Church

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Sunday, December 19, 2021

Large Print Bulletin



1688 Murray Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15217
412-421-2752 / office@sixthchurch.org
www.sixthchurch.org

Sixth Presbyterian Church
Sunday, December 19, 2021, 11:00 am
Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Sanctuary is a sacred space. The choral chimes will ring three times to let you know it is time to quiet your hearts, minds, and voices to prepare for worship.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Peace Candle

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Advent Four

Blessed are you Sovereign Lord, merciful and gentle: to you be praise and glory forever!

Your light has shone in our darkened world through the childbearing of blessed Mary; grant that we who have seen your glory may daily be renewed in your image and prepared like her for the coming of your Son, who is the Lord and Savior of all.

Blessed be God forever!

*Call to Worship

Leader: Keep watch! For the One who brings peace is coming.

All: We wait in anticipation for Christ.

Leader: We wait for God's revealing of joy. Remain alert!

All: Love is coming to dwell among us. Hope draws near.

LET US WORSHIP GOD!

*Hymn

"People, Look East"

105

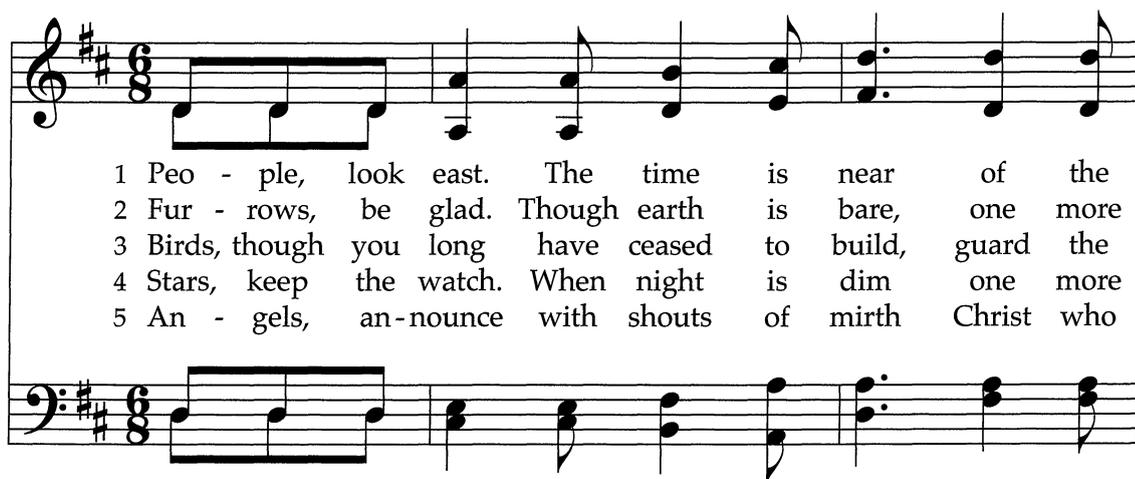
*Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Confession

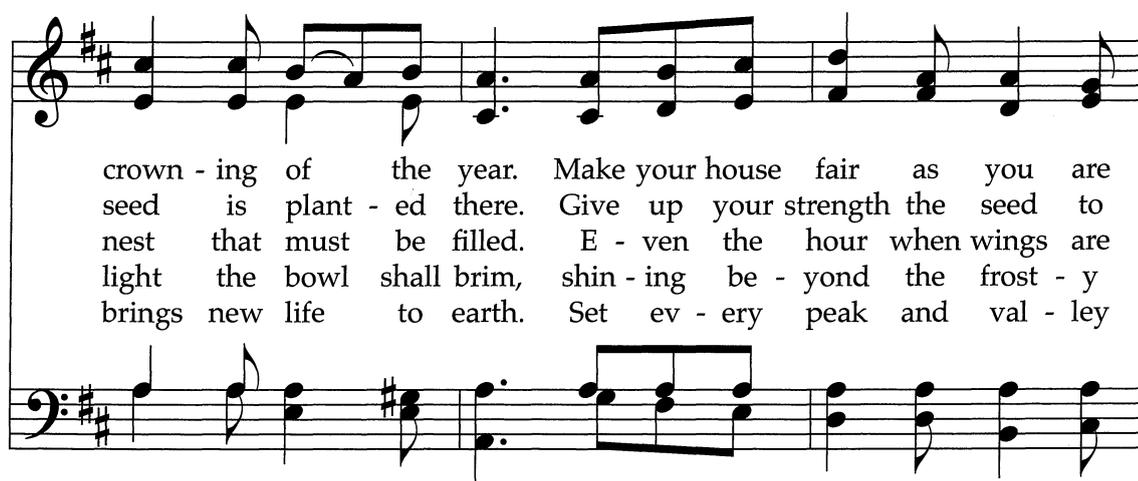
All: God of our Savior, we ask for Your mercy. Though we have heard Mary's song, we still seek security in pride and power and possessions. Though we know Your story, we resist the costs of following You. We pass by those considered lowly in this world. We turn away from hungry people who still wait to be filled. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to work for the justice You intend. Make us messengers of the peace You bring. As we wait for You, turn our apathy into acts of love and service. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

Silent Confession

People, Look East

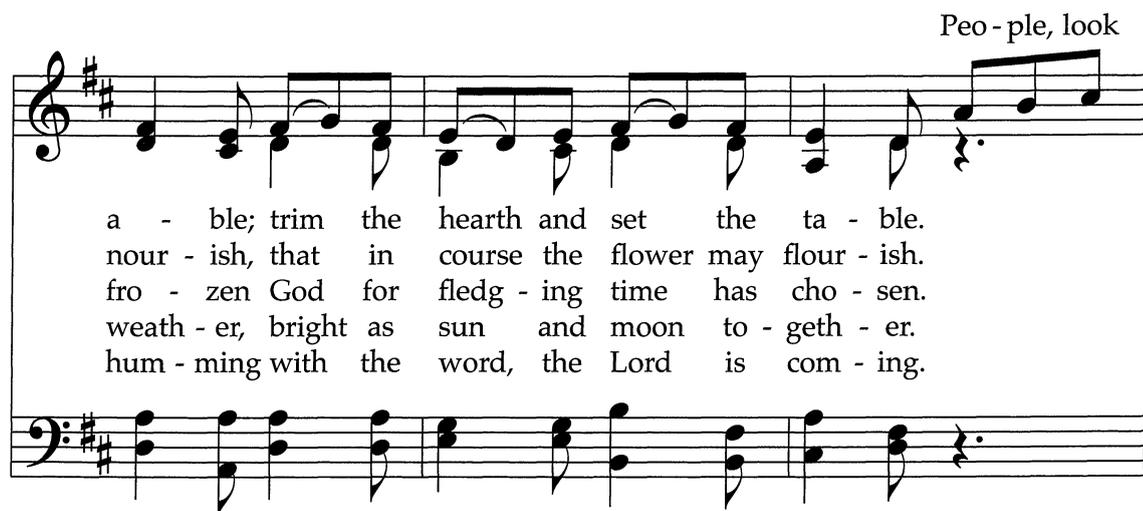


1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more
 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the
 4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more
 5 An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who



crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
 seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to
 nest that must be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley

Peo - ple, look



a - ble; trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.
 fro - zen God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen.
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.
 hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

This text was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.

east and sing to - day:



Peo-ple, look east:

Love, the Guest, is on the way.
Love, the Rose, is on the way.
Love, the Bird, is on the way.
Love, the Star, is on the way.
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Peo-ple, look east:

(Love is on the way.)



1 Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Assurance of Pardon and Commitment to Pass the Peace

*Gloria

583

Sung once in unison and twice in canon: Lectern side leads in round; Pulpit side joins after two measures.

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Prayer for Illumination

All: O Mighty One, who scatters the proud and fills the hungry, by Your Holy Spirit let Your Word leap in us and bring to our yearning the joy that comes with new beginnings and renewed lives. AMEN.

Time for Children

Jenny Newman

Hebrew Reading

Micah 5:2-5a (pg. 1059)

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 10:5-10 (pg. 272)

*Gospel Reading

Luke 1:39-55 (pg. 69)

Sermon

"None of Us Does This Alone"

Rev. Vincent Kolb

*Hymn

"No Wind at the Window"

101

*Affirmation of Faith

All: We are an Advent people, a people of hope. For us, Advent is a time of waiting, and

101 No Wind at the Window

1 No wind at the win-dow, no knock on the door;
 2 "O Mar - y, O Mar - y, don't hide from my face.
 3 "This child must be born that the king-dom might come:
 4 No pay-ment was prom-ised, no prom - is - es made;

no light from the lamp-stand, no foot on the floor;
 Be glad that you're fa - vored and filled with God's grace.
 sal - va - tion for man - y, de - struc - tion for some;
 no wed - ding was dat - ed, no blue - print dis - played.

no dream born of tired - ness, no ghost raised by fear:
 The time for re - deem - ing the world has be - gun,
 both end and be - gin - ning, both mes - sage and sign;
 Yet Mar - y, con - sent - ing to what none could guess,

just an an - gel and a wom-an and a voice in her ear.
 and you are re - quest-ed to moth - er God's Son."
 both vic - tor and vic - tim, both yours and di - vine."
 re - plied with con - vic - tion, "Tell God I say, Yes."

This 20th-century retelling of the Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38) effectively incorporates characteristic features of the folksong style its Irish tune requires, especially in the lists of "no" and "both." The tune is named for a many-talented Irish saint of the 6th century.

so we wait. We wait for the coming of the One who is the fulfillment of God's promise, the fulfillment of hope, the declaration that we have been redeemed. Even so, we are not a naïve people. We know that the world in which we live will continue to be filled with pain and sorrow. We know that hatred and violence will continue to exist. We know that death and separation will continue to be a part of our lives. But because we are an Advent people, we know that none of these things will win in the end. The Holy One is coming, to make holy once again all that was, is, and ever will be. And in our waiting and our hoping, we work and worship, pray and play, in all things hoping that peace, love and joy will reign in our lives and in our world, now and forever.

Pastoral Prayer

...Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

The Lord's Prayer

2019 Vatican Update

**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;
do not let us fall into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.**

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem

"Gabriel's Message"

Basque Carol
Arr. David Willcocks

1. The angel Gabriel from heaven came, His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
"All hail," said he, "O lowly maiden Mary." Most highly favored lady, Gloria!
2. "For know a blessed mother you shall be, All generations praise continually,
Your Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold." Most highly favored lady, Gloria!
3. Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, "To me be as it pleases God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name." Most highly favored lady, Gloria!
4. Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say: Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Sabine Baring-Gould

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures high and low,
Praise God, in Jesus fully known,
Creator, Word and Spirit One. Amen.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: Let us give thanks, for God is good and God’s Love is everlasting!

All: Thanks be to God – whose love creates us!

Thanks be to God – whose mercy redeems us!

Thanks be to God – whose grace leads us into the future!

*Hymn

“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”

*Benediction

Choral Blessing in Recognition of Gail Luley’s 25 Years of Exemplary Service

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”

John Rutter

Postlude

**Those who can may stand*

Upcoming Meetings and Events in (and around) the Church

Sunday, December 19

Sunday School (10 am, Zoom)

Worship (11 am, in-person and streaming)

NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

Monday, December 20

NA – Make a Change (7 pm)

Tuesday, December 21

Earth Care Committee (7 pm, Zoom)

Thursday, December 23

Choir rehearsal (7:30 pm)

Friday, December 24

Office Closed

Christmas Eve Service (7 pm, in-person and streaming)

Saturday, December 25

NA – Squirrel Hill Group (7:30 pm)

Sunday, December 26

Worship (11 am, in-person and streaming)

NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

Monday, December 27

NA – Make a Change (7 pm)

Saturday, January 1

NA – Squirrel Hill Group (7:30 pm)

Sunday, January 2

Adult Sunday School (9:30 am, Zoom)

Worship (11 am, in-person and streaming)

NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

By employing an energetic Irish folk song for its melody, this ballad-like paraphrase of the *Magnificat*, Mary's song at her meeting with her relative Elizabeth (Luke 1:46-55), recaptures both the wonder and the faith of the young woman who first recognized what God was doing.



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

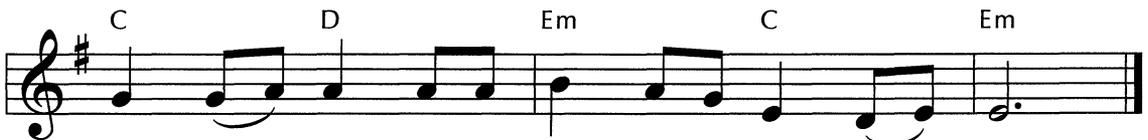
Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Church Information and Announcements

We are an open and affirming community of faith in Jesus Christ. At home in an urban neighborhood of many faiths, we acknowledge that we are not alone on the path to understanding God. In worship, study, and fellowship, we celebrate our Presbyterian roots and find joy in our diversity. We strive for the grace to love one another as we seek a deeper understanding of life in the Spirit, working for justice and serving as stewards of God's wondrous creation.

Sixth is a More Light Church: A network of people seeking and affirming the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people of faith in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Inclusive Language: Words matter. Jesus Christ, the living Word, reached out to all people to bring them into God's fold. The kingdom of God includes all people; therefore our language should reflect the inclusivity and equality among the people of God. To that end, when possible, we seek to eliminate the inherent bias of the English language toward the masculine gender without altering passages that reflect the historical situation of ancient patriarchal culture, out of which the Bible originated.

Masks: EVERYONE, vaccinated or not, is asked to wear a mask while inside the building.

Prayer Cards: If you would like to have a person named and prayed for during the pastoral prayer, please fill out one of the white cards by the bulletins/ushers and give it to Vincent prior to the service.

Recording Notice: This service is being livestreamed and is available online in perpetuity

Seating: While distancing is not required, we do encourage people to leave space as attendance allows and to be mindful of people's continued need for distance

Registration: We are glad for all who have come! Please fill out the friendship pad and leave it in the pew. We will use that information for contact tracing as needed.

COVID Exposure: If you test positive for COVID and you have been in the building within the week prior, please contact the office immediately so that we can conduct contact tracing

Church Nursery: Nursery care for infants and toddlers is available during the worship service. Our childcare staff are required to be vaccinated and masked.

Nursery Care for infants and toddlers will be offered upstairs in the church nursery during the Christmas Eve service.

There will be no nursery care on December 26 and January 2. It will resume on Sunday, January 9.

Sunday School and Extended Session: There will be no Sunday school or Extended Session December 26 or January 2. Those offerings will resume January 9.

Virtual Sunday School: There will be no virtual Sunday school December 23, 26, 30 or January 2. Thursday classes will resume January 6 and Sunday classes on January 9.

Youth Group: There will be no youth group December 23 or 30. Meetings will resume January 6.

Adult Sunday School: Bill Guy's class meets Sundays at 9:30 am over Zoom. Contact Bill to receive the Zoom link and to be added to his email list.

Water of Baptism: Each Sunday we pour water into our baptismal font to reaffirm the covenant that God makes through this community of faith

Candles for Peace, Justice and Personal Prayers: You welcome to come forward to light a candle anytime during worship when words are not being spoken. Please maintain physical distance while waiting your turn.

Children and Candles: We love having children participate in the service, and we ask that – in order to maintain everyone's safety – you accompany your child while lighting candles.

Fellowship: We are not providing coffee or other refreshments after worship at this time

Today's Service: Elly Bertolet, Louie DeLucia, Sadie DeLucia, Calvin Tantalo (liturgist); Greg Winner (livestreaming); Bill Beggs, Carol Beggs, Ray Dittner (ushers)

Bible Study: Pastor Vincent's weekly Bible study of the lectionary texts meets Wednesdays at 10:30 am over Zoom. Contact the office to be added to the email update list.

Christmas Eve: We will have a candlelight service at 7 pm

Bible Study: Pastor Vincent's weekly Bible study of the lectionary texts meets Wednesdays at 10:30 am over Zoom. Contact the office to be added to the email update list.

Next Week's Readings: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

Next Week's Message: "Losing Jesus"

Session Members

Class of 2021/2022

Kit Ayars
Carol Emerson
Linda May
Jan Myers-Newbury
Phyllis Rupert

Class of 2022/2023

Larry Chan
Frank Davoli
Beth Hazlett
Pam Howe
Mary Lang

Class of 2023/2024

Joe Ashenden
Lori King
Tom Juring
Greg Winner

Deacons

Class of 2021/2022

Brenda Flores
Sharon Manley
Kathi Robinson-Dassel
Dana Thompson

Class of 2022/2023

Kyle Esbin
Lynn Kawaratani
Eliot Kennedy
Judy Schryer

Class of 2023/2024

Martha Funderburgh
Patty Halverson
Gwen Harcar

Vincent Kolb, *Pastor*

Jenny Newman, *Director of Children and Youth Ministry*

Gail Luley, *Music Director*

Amy Whipple, *Office Manager*

Harry Kirk, *Building Administrator*

Myra Kazanjian, *Parish Associate*

John S. McCall, *Pastor Emeritus*