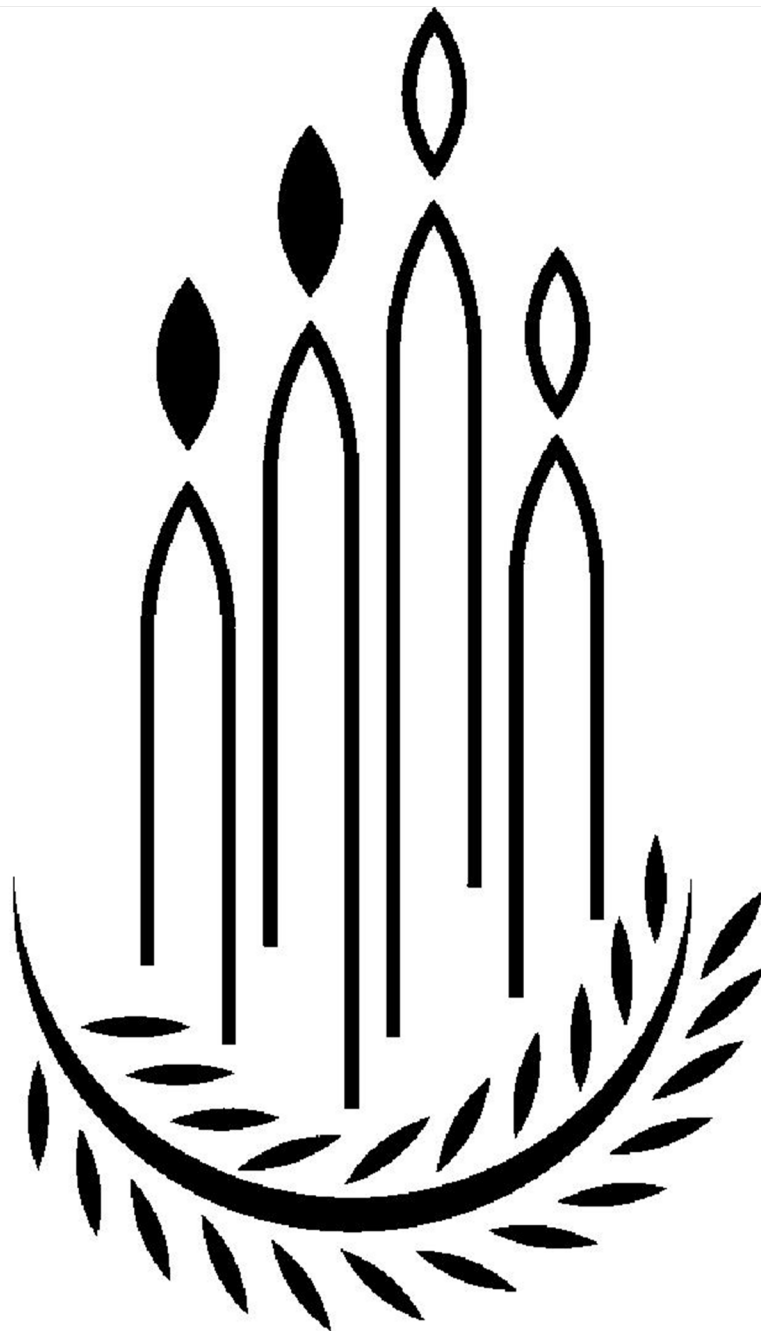


Sixth Presbyterian Church

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Sunday, December 5, 2021

Large Print Bulletin



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Sixth Presbyterian Church
Sunday, December 5, 2021, 11:00 am
Second 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 Two

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true: to you be praise and glory forever!

Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets but in our days you speak through your Son whom you have appointed the heir of all things.

Grant us, your people, to walk in his light, that we may be found ready and watching when he comes again in glory and judgement.

For you are our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

*Call to Worship

Leader: John the Baptist came out of the wilderness to preach repentance;

All: He preaches to us still.

Leader: Make straight the paths we now walk

All: And prepare the way for God's reign of justice and love.

LET US WORSHIP GOD!

*Hymn

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

82

*Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Confession

All: Cleansing God, we hear the call to repentance, but we struggle to respond. A voice tells us to turn around, but we prefer our own ways. You seek to purify us in love, but we constantly elude Your searching hand. Our sin leads us in other directions, away from You, away from life. Look with mercy upon us. Clear a place within us so that something new might be born, something that might return us to the way You have shown us in Jesus Christ.

Silent Confession

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82

1 Come, thou long - ex - spect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.

Is-rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf-fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

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

Lord, have mer - cy.

Assurance of Pardon and Commitment to Pass the Peace

*Gloria

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, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Prayer for Illumination

All: Holy One, through Your Spirit instruct us by the light of Your prophets. Illuminate our hearts, that we may hear Your call to become Your path into the world. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. AMEN.

Time for Children

Jenny Newman

Hebrew Reading

Malachi 3:1-4 (pg. 1088)

Epistle Reading

Philippians 1:3-11 (pg. 239)

*Gospel Reading

Luke 3:1-18 (pg. 72)

Sermon

"Metanoia"

Rev. Vincent Kolb

*Affirmation of Faith

Confession of 1967, 9.19

All: Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history

its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

*Hymn

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

347

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with all the faithful in every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:




Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,



ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,



heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence 347

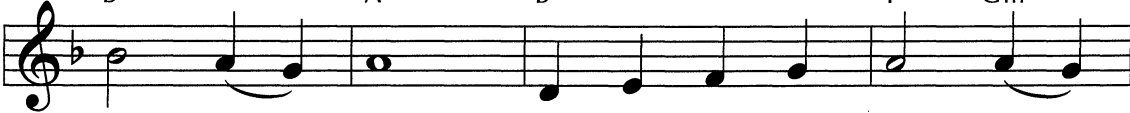
Capo 3: (Bm)

Dm (G) (D) (Bm) (C)
B \flat F Dm E \flat



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on
3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim, with

(G) (F \sharp) (G) (D) (Em)
B \flat A B \flat F Gm



trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly
earth he stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man
on the way, as the Light of light de -
sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the

(Bm) (C) (G) (D)
Dm E \flat B \flat F



mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,
pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,

(B) (Em) (Bm) (A)
D Gm Dm C



Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,
he will give to all the faith - ful
that the powers of hell may van - ish
"Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

(Bm) (Em) (F \sharp m) (Bm)
Dm Gm Am Dm



our full hom - age to de - mand.
his own self for heaven - ly food.
as the shad - ows clear a - way.
al - le - lu - ia, Lord most high!"

The flowering of English hymnody in the 19th century included the rediscovery, translation, and versification of ancient Christian hymns, such as this text from one of the earliest existing Christian liturgies. It is set here to an adaptation of a 17th-century French melody.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Leader: . . . Great is the mystery of faith:



Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come a - gain.

The Lord's Prayer

**All: 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.**

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

The Communion of the People

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem "What Is the Crying at Jordan" Irish Melody
What is the crying at Jordan? Who hears, O God, the prophecy?
Dark is the season, dark our hearts and shut to mystery.

Who then shall stir in this darkness, prepare for joy in the winter night?
Mortal in darkness we lie down, blind-hearted seeing no light.

Lord, give us grace to awake us, to see the branch that begins to bloom;
in great humility is hid all heaven in a little room.

Now comes the day of salvation, in joy and terror the Word is born!

God gives himself into our lives; O let salvation dawn!

Carol Christopher Drake

*Doxology

607

**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

"Prepare the Way, O Zion"

106

*Benediction

*Amen

564

A - men, a - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

Postlude

**Those who can may stand*

Prepare the Way, O Zion 106



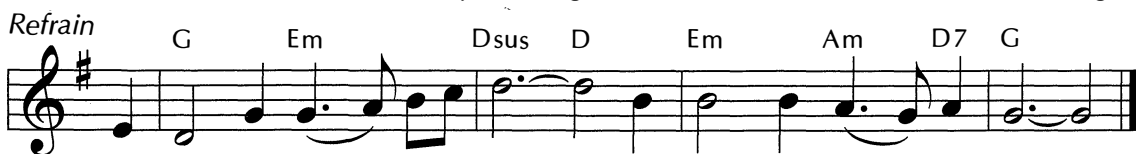
1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
 2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sav - ior's rule em - brace,



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
 His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
 and ti - dings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
 Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
 All lands will bow re - joic - ing, their ad - o - ra - tion voic - ing.



O blest is Christ who came in God's most ho - ly name.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This engaging Advent text based on Isaiah 40:3-5 and Psalm 24:7-10 has been in use in the Church of Sweden for almost two hundred years. It is set to a version of an even older Swedish tune, which in turn seems to be derived from a German folktune that spread to Scandinavia.

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 two weeks 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.

Sunday School and Extended Session: Sunday school for children in preschool through third grade is held during Extended Session each week during worship. Masks are required for all participants and our teachers and staff are vaccinated.

Virtual Sunday School: There are two options for virtual Sunday School. Students of all ages are invited to join Jenny Newman on Zoom to explore our weekly Sunday school lessons on

Sundays at 10 am and Thursdays at 6 pm. Lessons will last about 30 minutes and links to the Zoom sessions will be sent weekly via email.

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.

Communion: The Lord's Supper will be served today with individual servings at your seat. In the Presbyterian Church, baptism is a one-time event *and* an ongoing process. We say that all who are baptized and "instructed" are welcome to come to the Communion Table.

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, but we ask that—in order to maintain everyone's safety—children not go forward to light candles at this time.

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

Today's Service: Heather Vallone (liturgist); Greg Winner (livestreaming); Sara Berg, Mary Lang, Amy Whipple (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.

Next Week's Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

Next Week's Message: "Disappointment Comes For Everyone"

Carols on the Steps: Everyone is invited to gather on the front steps of the church to share hot chocolate and Christmas Carols at 4 pm, Sunday, December 12. (Alternate date for inclement weather will be Sunday, December 19.)

Stewardship Campaign Update: We are currently at 86% of our Campaign Goal of \$347,609. If you have not already submitted your pledge, please either mail in your pledge card, fill out the form on the church's website, or e-mail Amy (office@sixthchurch.org) with your 2022 Stewardship Pledge amount. Please remember that if you make your contributions by e-Give, we still need to know your pledge amount, since e-Give does not notify us. Thank you for being On This Road Together.

Upcoming Meetings and Events in (and around) the Church

Sunday, December 5

Adult Sunday School (9:30 am, Zoom)
Sunday School (10 am, Zoom)
Worship (11 am, in-person and streaming)
Director of Music Search Committee (12 pm)
NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

Monday, December 6

NA – Make a Change (7 pm)

Wednesday, December 8

Bible Study (10:30, Zoom)

Thursday, December 9

Presbytery (1 pm, Parkwood United
Presbyterian Church)
Sunday School (6 pm, Zoom)
Youth Group (6:30, Zoom)
Choir rehearsal (7:30 pm)

Friday, December 10

Hanging of the Greens (6:30 pm, Sanctuary)

Saturday, December 11

NA – Squirrel Hill Group (7:30 pm)

Sunday, December 12

Adult Sunday School (9:30 am, Zoom)
Sunday School (10 am, Zoom)
Worship (11 am, in-person and streaming)
Carols on the Steps (4 pm, Forbes entrance)
NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

Monday, December 13

NA – Make a Change (7 pm)

Wednesday, December 15

Bible Study (10:30 am, Zoom)
Session (7 pm, Zoom)

Thursday, December 16

Sunday School (6 pm, Zoom)
Youth Group (6:30 pm, Zoom)
Choir rehearsal (7:30 pm)

Saturday, December 18

NA – Squirrel Hill Group (7:30 pm)

Sunday, December 19

Adult Sunday School (9:30 pm, Zoom)
Sunday School (10 am, Zoom)
Worship (11 am, in-person and streaming)
NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

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*