

1st Sunday after Christmas

December 27th, 2020

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

This Is the Day That Is So Joyous

J.S. Bach

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP*

INTROIT

HYMN OF PRAISE

Angels from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth
You, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar
Seek the great desire of nations; you have seen his natal star
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

God of yesterday, today and tomorrow, we know that your fingerprints are all over this world. And we know that those who dream cannot keep silent. Yet there have been so many opportunities for us to speak about you, to name you at work in the world, that we have let pass by. There have been so many times we have chosen to keep silent. We ask for your forgiveness. And today we pray: give us eyes to see you, courage to trust you, and lips to speak of you in our midst. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

adapted from Luke 2:29-31

One: God prepared his salvation from before the beginning of the world.

All: **A light for revelation to the Gentiles and a glory for his people!**

One: Let your servants go in peace, according to your word.

All: **In Christ, our eyes have seen God's salvation!**

RESPONSE

Angels from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

During this time, we invite you to pass the peace by texting a fellow church member, family member, friend, relative, or loved one, "May the peace of Christ be with you."

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

HEBREW BIBLE READING

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Who Would Think That What Was Needed WHITE ROSETTES

Who would think that what was needed to transform and save the earth
Might not be a plan or army, proud in purpose, proved in worth?
Who would think, despite derision, that a child should lead the way?
God surprises earth with heaven, coming here on Christmas Day

Shepherds watch and wise men wonder; monarchs scorn and angels sing
Such a place as none would reckon hosts a holy helpless thing
Stable beasts and by-passed strangers watch a baby laid in hay
God surprises earth with heaven, coming here on Christmas Day

Centuries of skill and science span the past from which we move
Yet experience questions whether, with such progress, we improve
While the human lot we ponder, lest our hopes and humor fray
God surprises earth with heaven, coming here on Christmas Day

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:22-40

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice! IN DULCE JUBILATO

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Tim Reynolds

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in

accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

TIME FOR REFLECTION *In the Bleak Midwinter/Away in a Manger* arr. Perkins

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & 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.

HYMN OF SENDING *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* MENDELSSOHN

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations rise; join the triumph of the skies
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb

Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate deity

Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die

Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE *Toccata on Joy to the World* arr. Stultz

*Adapted from a liturgy/prayer by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Tim Reynolds – Pastor

Sarah Morgan – Pastor

Bruce Foster – Liturgist

Matthew Mimbs – Director of Music & Arts

David Stultz – Asst. Director of Music/Organist

2nd Presbyterian Chancel Choir

Technicians: Dale Henley (video), Paul Sexauer (audio)

PRAYER CONCERNS

The Landis family, the Goslee family, Mary and Frances Johnson, Beth and Daniel Robertson, Kay Weaver, the Stultz family, the Bartlett family, Harriet Campbell, Frieda Sims, Imogene Posey, Katie Sergent Keene, Betty McCollum, Emily Rose, Dr. Ed Carver, Aggie Bell, Dotty Barbour, Donna Downen, Douglas Hamilton, and Jennifer Levy-Tatum.

*Please notify the office if you are sick, in the hospital, or have a prayer request.
Names remain on the prayer list 4 weeks unless requested to keep them on longer.

WORSHIP & CELEBRATION

UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS AND TOPICS: We are currently following the Revised Common Lectionary. Our Advent theme is *Those Who Dream...* Upcoming sermon texts/topics are:

Dec 27	Luke 2:22-40	<i>Those Who Dream...</i> will not keep silent
Jan 3	Matthew 2:1-12	<i>Those Who Dream...</i> persevere
Jan 10	Acts 1:1-14	Waiting & Praying
Jan 17	Acts 1:15-26	Restoring the Twelve

THE PRESCHOOL CHILDREN RECORDED THEIR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM this year so their family and friends could watch from the safety of their own home. If you would like to see the program, it is available on our YouTube channel. Just visit this link to watch – <https://youtu.be/t7fwlDsdJ4>.

FELLOWSHIP & CONGREGATIONAL CARE

A PASTORAL CARE PAGE is on our website under the 'About Us' tab. For the password to access, please contact the church office.

MEALS FOR THE HOMEBOUND: If you are interested in joining a cooking team to prepare meals for some of our homebound members, please contact Leslie Matthews at flowlilly@gmail.com or 865.765.0549.

DISCIPLESHIP

NEW YEAR BIBLE STUDY: Beginning in mid-January, Pastor Tim will post a new lesson on our website and YouTube channel each week. We invite you to study the lesson at your leisure. Then on the 2nd Wednesday of each month (Feb 10, Mar 10, Apr 14, May 12) we will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom to discuss the lessons from the previous month. This will be a time to bring your questions, comments, and insights and share them with the group. The first topic for the year will be *The Great Ends of the Church*. See the upcoming January 2nd Edition or the Friday e-news for more information.

FAITH, SCIENCE AND THE FUTURE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS meets at 9:30 a.m. by conference call.

SERVICE & OUTREACH

DONATIONS OF STUFFED ANIMALS are being collected by the Second Readers through the end of the year. Donations can be dropped off in the vestibule outside the atrium Monday-Thursday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

DONATIONS OF HATS, MITTENS AND GLOVES for the Westview Elementary clothes closet may be placed on the tree in the vestibule Monday-Thursday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

FISH FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. Second has participated in the Fish Food Pantry for decades. To continue to effectively carry out this long-time mission of the church, we are very much in need of more participants. We will evaluate whether to re-start our participation in January, please consider joining the effort. Contact Dick Dodson, rtdodson52@gmail.com or 865-414-7413 to volunteer.

STEWARDSHIP

THE CHURCH BUILDING IS CURRENTLY CLOSED by order of the Session. The church staff is currently working from home. The vestibule is open during the day so that drop offs and deliveries can take place, however, the building is still closed. There should be no reason for anyone to come into the church building. Thank you for your consideration and help to keep everyone safe!

OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING usually takes place on the the first Sunday of February. The Session will discuss how and when the meeting will take place this year at its Stated Meeting for January. Once a decision has been made as to the time, date, and manner of the Annual Meeting, it will be communicated via email, newsletter, worship announcement, social media, and the Friday e-news.