



ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 29, 2015

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 am

First Sunday of Advent

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Prelude

8:00 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" *arr. John Rutter*

9:30/11:00 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" *arr. McDonald/Nelson*
Joseph Kuipers, *cello* • J. Marty Cope, *piano*

The Call to Worship

The Rev. Ron Williams 8:00

The Rev. Chad Scruggs 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; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

People: **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 40.1-5

***Hymn of Advent No. 196** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Profession of Faith**

The Rev. Tommy Overton 8:00

The Rev. Brent Baker 9:30

Dr. Julian Russell 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. Haggai 2.6-7

“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.” Malachi 3.1

***Hymn No. 198** “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!” *TRURO*
Stanzas: 1, 4, 5, 6

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

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; He has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil.

Zephaniah 3.14-15

Hymn No. 193

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

PICARDY

9:30/11:00

Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Mr. Overton 8:00

Mr. Baker 9:30

Dr. Russell 11:00

Musical Offering

8:00

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

arr. Wilbur Held

J. Marty Cope, organ

9:30/11:00

“My Song in the Night”

arr. Mack Wilberg

Chancel Choir • Jeff Berta, conductor • Mr. Kuipers, cello

O Jesus, my Savior, my song in the night,
Come to us with Thy tender love, my soul’s delight,
Unto Thee O Lord in affliction I call,
My comfort by day and my song in the night.
O why should I wander an alien from Thee,
Or cry in the desert Thy face to see,
My comfort and joy, my soul’s delight,
O Jesus, my Savior, my song in the night.

*The Greeting of Peace

Minister: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased! The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Luke 2.14

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.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

⁹ *And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.*

¹⁰ *And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.*

¹¹ *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*

¹² *And this will be a sign for you: you will find a Baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."*

¹³ *And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,*

¹⁴ *"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"*

¹⁵ *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."*

¹⁶ *And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby lying in a manger.*

¹⁷ *And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this Child.*

¹⁸ *And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.*

¹⁹ *But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.*

²⁰ *And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.*

The Sermon

"What Child Is This?"

Mr. Williams 8:00

Mr. Scruggs 9:30/11:00

Worshippers at 9:30 and 11:00, please
continue at the closing hymn on page six.

***The Great Thanksgiving 8:00 only**

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.

***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.*

***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

“Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland” BWV 659

J.S. Bach

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

Mr. Cope, organ

**The congregation stands.*

*The flowers in our worship service this morning are given to the glory
of God and in celebration of Mildred Kemper on her 101st 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.**

Personal Prayer and Counsel

*“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*

**We want so much to come alongside you in brotherly love and hospitality
by your allowing us to be in prayer for your salvation or any need you
may have. Please join us in the Parlor (north of Fellowship Hall) following
the worship service where our Elders and prayer leaders are available and
eager to meet with you and pray with you in complete confidence.**

Find your Sunday Morning Community

NURSERY

(BIRTH-18 MONTHS)

Visitors, please check in at red desk **A**

PRESCHOOL (2 YR.-K)

Visitors, please check in at red desk **B**

ELEMENTARY-BIBLE EXPLORERS

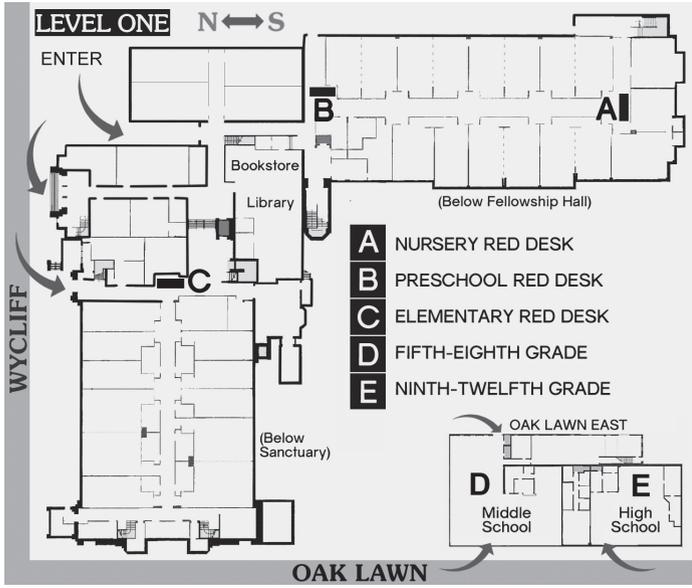
Visitors, please check in at red desk **C**

FIFTH-EIGHTH GRADE

11:00 am Sunday School in Oak Lawn East **D**

NINTH-TWELFTH GRADE

11:00 am Sunday School in Oak Lawn East **E**



A nursing mothers' room with livestream of the worship service is on the lower level beneath the Narthex.

Adult Communities

ALL AGES WELCOME IN ALL CLASSES!

Adults & Adult Families

GO GROUP

Singles & couples
8:00 am, Room 305

BELIEVERS' FELLOWSHIP

Empty nesters & singles
9:30 am, Oak Lawn West

GOOD SHEPHERD'S FELLOWSHIP

Couples, singles & families
9:30 am, Room 301

VERITAS

Couples & singles
9:30 am, Room 262

COVENANT

Empty nesters & singles
11:00 am, Room 261

KALEO

Singles & young families
11:00 am, Room 263

NEW CREATIONS

Couples & singles
11:00 am, Room 262

SHEPHERDS OF SOULS

Couples & singles
11:00 am, Room 300

VINEYARD

Couples & singles, 30s, 40s, 50s
11:00 am, Oak Lawn West

Young Adults & Families

YOUNG ADULTS

College, singles, couples & starter families
11:00 am, Room 301

Senior Adults

KOINONIA

8:15 am, Room 303

GOOD NEWS

9:30 am, Room 263

Special Interest

NEW DAY

9:30 am, Room 261

WOMEN OF GRACE

9:30 am (2nd & 3rd Sundays only)
Room 303

To learn more, visit:
www.pcpc.org/communities

elaine.montague@pcpc.org
214-224-2736

SERMON NOTES

Luke 2.8-20

“What Child Is This?”

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.

Why lies He in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through; the cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Order of Worship for the Home – The Week of November 29, 2015

Praise

Call to Worship *(everyone together)*

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

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” *(read or sing these words together)*

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Hearing and Learning God’s Word

Scripture Reading: Luke 2.8-20 *(one person read the Scripture aloud)*

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

1. How do the shepherds initially respond to the news about the birth of Jesus?
2. How does their response change throughout the story? What do you think causes the change?
3. What do the shepherds teach us about worship?
4. Look at the words from the carol, “What Child Is This?” How does the carol answer its own question? Who does the carol say that Jesus really is?
5. In what ways will you worship Jesus during the Advent season?

Scripture Memory for November: *(memorize these verses of Scripture this month)*

James 2.14-17

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer *(say 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.