

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

December 3, 2017

10:00 a.m.

*The beginning of the opening voluntary is a call to silent, personal meditation.
Please silence all electronic devices as we prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.*

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Wachet auf!

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

INTROIT

Advent Prose

ed. Stephen Cleobury
(b. 1948)

Pour down, O heavens, from above,
and let the skies rain down righteousness.

Turn your fierce anger from us, O Lord,
and remember not our sins forever.

Your holy cities have become a desert, Zion a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation;
our holy and beautiful house, where our fathers praised you.

Pour down, O heavens, from above,
and let the skies rain down righteousness.

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Jonathan Thio, Kailin Ng,
Josiah and Jeremiah Thio, and Ng Hut Poh

Leader: A prophet cries out to God:
“O that you would tear open the heavens,
and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence,
to make your name known.
You have hidden your face from us,
yet we are the clay, and you are our potter.
We are all the work of your hand.” (Isaiah 64:1-8)

We light the first candle as a prayer for our suffering world,
that God, whose ways are often hidden from us,
may be revealed to all people.

People: **Living God, enter into the world you have created.
When your ways remain a mystery,
guide us to trust your promises and to wait in hope.
Let us worship God!**

***HYMN 9**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Glory be to you, O Lord our God, whose face is hidden from us by our sin, but whose will and love have been made known to us in Jesus Christ. We come before you not as wise, but as seeking; not as children of light, but as children of darkness. Forgive the lives we have wasted, the days lost to insignificance, the hours left to chance. In the season before us, grant us the wisdom to glory only in you: in your judgment that condemns our foolishness, in your love that overcomes our indifference, in your promises that overwhelm our fears; we ask these things through him whose return we await with eager longing.

KYRIE ELEISON

Richard Proulx
(1937-2010)

The musical notation for Kyrie Eleison is presented in three systems. Each system features a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first system is for the Cantor and Assembly, with lyrics: "Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy." The second system is also for Cantor and Assembly, with lyrics: "Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy." The third system is for Cantor and Assembly, with lyrics: "Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy." The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and slurs.

PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL

***GLORIA PATRI**

REGENT SQUARE
(Hymn 417)

Laud and honor to the Father,
Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit,
Ever three and ever one;
One in might and one in glory,
While unending ages run.

***THE PEACE**

Minister: As a forgiven people, let us share Christ’s peace with one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Behold us who wait in lonely exile for your coming and, by the mediation of your spirit, be to us light dispelling our darkness, hope bearing up our heaviness, joy sung against our meagerness, rose softening our bitterness, bread and wine filling our emptiness, and word breaking the silence of these interminable nights. We ask these things in the name of your love that came to us hidden in a manger and on a cross. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-12 (p. 694)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Mark 13:24-37 (p. 50)

CHURCH SCHOOL ANTHEM

Spiritual, arr. André J. Thomas
(b. 1939)

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh!
Children, don’t get weary, the time is drawing nigh!
Morning soon is breaking, the time is drawing nigh!

*After the anthem, children through fifth grade
may process to the Strouse Building to meet for the Gathering.*

SERMON

The God Who Hides

Ms. Jarvis

*“But you were angry and we sinned;
because you hid yourself from us we transgressed”*

Isaiah 64:5b

***HYMN 17**

“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us

WACHET AUF

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Glen L. Rudolph
(b. 1951)

Veiled in darkness Judah lay, waiting for the promised day.
While across the shadowy night, streamed a flood of glorious light.
Heav’nly voices chanting then, “Peace on earth, good will to men.”

Still the earth in darkness lies. Up from death’s dark vale arise.
Voices of a world in grief, prayers of men who seek relief:
Now our darkness pierce again, “Peace on earth, good will to men.”

Light of light, we humbly pray, shine upon thy world today;
break the gloom of our dark night, fill our souls with love and light,
send thy blessed word again, “Peace on earth, good will to men.”

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And with your spirit.
Minister: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up unto the Lord.
Minister: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People: It is meet and right so to do.

Sanctus

Richard Proulx
(1937-2010)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayers concluding with 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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION ANTHEM

E'en So Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Paul Manz
(1919-2009)

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sin.
Who loved us all, and shed his blood that we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord almighty God.
Who was and is, and is to come. Sing holy, holy Lord.

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein;
rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming soon.

E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more.
They need no light, nor lamp, nor sun, for Christ will be their all!

PRAYER

***HYMN 6**

Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending

HELMSLEY

*Your offerings to the Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry Food Cupboard
will be received during the singing of this hymn.*

***BENEDICTION**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Wachet auf!

Max Reger
(1873-1916)

*Congregation standing

LEADING WORSHIP: Cynthia A. Jarvis, Brian D. Russo, Austin Crenshaw Shelley, Cassie Paulk;
MUSIC: Gallery Choir; Daniel Spratlan, Conductor; Ken Lovett, Organist

GREETERS: Elders: Kristin Lawton and Jeffrey Podraza; Deacons: Courtney and Trish Franklin

USHERS: William Chambers, Team #1 Leader; Richard Brown, Carolyn Manwaring, Kevin Raphael, and Harry Spaeth

FLOWER GUILD: Katie Connelly and Sandy Connelly

COMMUNION SERVERS: Kristin Lawton, Melissa Montgomery and James Walker

*Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of
Carl Webber
by the Webber family.*

LITURGICAL ATTRIBUTIONS: Wren, Brian. Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany: Liturgies and Prayers for Public Worship (Kindle Locations 1200-1210). Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Kindle Edition.

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