

**ORDER OF WORSHIP  
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**December 2, 2018**

**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 Responsory*

Richard Alexander  
(b. 1946)

I look from afar,  
and lo, I see the power of God coming  
and a cloud covering the whole earth.  
Go ye out to meet him and say:  
Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?  
High and low, rich and poor,  
one with another:  
Go ye out to meet him and say:  
Hear thou, O shepherd of Israel,  
thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep:  
tell us, art thou he that should come?  
Stir up thy strength, O Lord,  
and come to reign over thy people Israel.

**LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE**

Members of the  
Pastor Nominating Committee

**Leader:** The Gospel of Luke speaks of the future: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth, distress among nations. People will faint from fear and foreboding."

**People:** **Because our world is full of fear and distress, we light the first candle, trusting that Christ is alive and that the Holy Spirit is at work among us.**

**Leader:** Let us worship God!

**\*HYMN 17**

*"Sleepers, Wake!" A Voice Astounds Us*

WACHET AUF

**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**

James MacMillan  
(b. 1959)

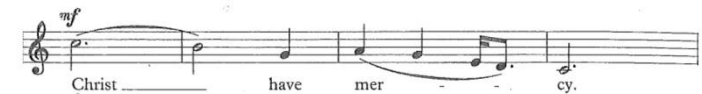
*Choir* Lord, have mercy.

*Congregation*



*Choir* Christ, have mercy.

*Congregation*



*Choir* Lord, have mercy.

*Congregation*



*Choir* Kyrie eleison.

**PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

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.

REGENT SQUARE  
(Hymn 417)

**\*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**

**PRAAYER 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**

Jeremiah 33:14-16 (p. 738)

Minister: Holy wisdom, holy Word.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

Luke 21:25-36 (p. 85)

Minister: Holy wisdom, holy Word.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

**CHILDREN’S MOMENT**

**HYMN** (seated)

TALLIS’ CANON

*During the organ introduction, children through fifth grade may process to the Chapel to meet for the Gathering.*

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way,  
Through this and every coming day,  
That in your Spirit strong and true,  
Our lives may be our gift to you.

**SERMON**

Sign, Sign, Everywhere a Sign

Austin Crenshaw Shelley

*“So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.”*

*Luke 21:31*

**\*HYMN**

*Signs of Endings All Around Us*

TON-Y-BOTEL



1. Signs of end-ings all a - round us dark - ness, death, and  
2. Can it be that from our end - ings, new be - gin - nings  
3. Speak, O God, your Word a - mong us. Bar - ren lives your



win - ter days shroud our lives in fear and sad - ness  
you cre - ate? Life from death, and from our rend - ings,  
pres - ence fill. Swell our hearts with songs of glad - ness,



numb - ing mouths that long to praise. Come, O Christ, and  
realms of whole - ness gen - er - ate? Take our fears, then,  
ter - rors calm, fore - bod - ings still. Let your prom - ised



dwel a - mong us! Hear our cries, come set us free. Give us hope and  
Lord, and turn them in - to hopes for life a - new: Fad - ing light and  
realm of jus - tice blos - som now throughout the earth; your do - min - ion



faith and glad - ness. Show us what there yet can be.  
dy - ing sea - son sing their Glo - ri - as to you.  
bring now near us; we a - wait the sav - ing birth.

Words: Dean W. Nelson (b. 1944) © 1988 Dean W. Nelson

Music: *Ton-y-Botel*, Thomas John Williams (1869-1944)

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*And the Glory of the Lord  
from Messiah*

G. F. Handel  
(1685-1759)

And the glory of the Lord shall be reveled,  
and all flesh shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

**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

MacMillan

ALL VOICES *mp*



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

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - - ry. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bles-sed is he, O bles-sed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. 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

Ralph Vaughan Williams  
(1872-1958)

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:  
blest is the man that trusteth in him.

## PRAYER

### \*HYMN 3

*Comfort, Comfort You My People*

PSALM 42

*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:** Austin Crenshaw Shelley and Brian D. Russo;

**MUSIC:** Gallery Choir; Daniel Spratlan, Conductor; Ken Lovett, Organist

**GREETERS:** Elders: Stephen Bishop and Ryan Cavanaugh; Deacons: Edie Russo and Beth Vaccaro

**USHERS:** Barbara Keeler, Team #4 Leader; Shannon Cavanaugh, James Cupp, Joan Demme and Anne Standley

**FLOWER GUILD:** Barbara Frazier and Mary Anne Van Blarcom

**COMMUNION SERVERS:** Stephen Bishop and Ryan Cavanaugh

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

*LITURGICAL ATTRIBUTIONS: Wren, Brian. Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany: Liturgies and Prayers for Public Worship Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Kindle Edition.*

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