



# Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

921 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10021 212-288-8920

www.mapc.com

## The Nativity of Jesus Christ

December 25, 2017 at 11:15 am

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### SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

*Please silence your cellular telephones and electronic devices.*

#### PRELUDE

La Nativité (1932)

Jean Langlais  
(1907-1991)

La Crèche (*The Manger*) – Les Anges (*The Angels*)  
Les Bergers (*The Shepherds*) – La Sainte Famille (*The Holy Family*)

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Eric O. Springsted

Pastor: Today Christ is born;

**People: Today salvation has appeared;**

Pastor: Today angels are singing and archangels rejoicing;

**People: Today we exult and say: Glory to God in the highest!  
Alleluia!**

*\*Let all who are able, stand*

#### \*HYMN 41

O Come, All Ye Faithful

*Adeste Fideles*

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

Christina A. Cosby

**Holy God, you brought light, peace and goodness to earth when Christ your Word was born. We confess that we have not always followed the light of your Word. You sent a star to guide people to the Holy Child, but we have not searched for new signs of your love in the world. We have refused your Son's peace, hoping for little, and expecting less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our faith, that we may once more hear and rejoice in the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord.**

*(Silence for personal confession)*

#### KYRIE ELEISON

*St. Louis*

**O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in,  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

**People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

#### \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

*In Dulci Jubilo*

**Good Christian friends, rejoice  
With heart, and soul, and voice;  
Now you 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!**

\*SUMMARY OF THE LAW

\*PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor: Since we have been reconciled to God in Jesus Christ,  
let us be reconciled to one another.  
The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Greet one another with signs of Christ's peace.

*Please greet those around you with: "The peace of Christ be with you,"  
responding, "And also with you."*

\*HYMN 31

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*Mendelssohn*

THE FIRST LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

**Beverly A. Bartlett**

CAROL

A Tender Shoot (1859)

*Otto Goldschmidt  
(1829-1907)*

A tender shoot hath started  
Up from a root of grace,  
As ancient seers imparted,  
From Jesse's holy race,  
It blooms without a blight,  
Blooms in the cold bleak winter  
Turning our darkness into light.

This shoot Isaiah taught us  
From Jesse's root should spring,  
The Virgin Mary brought us  
The branch of which we sing,  
Our God of endless might  
Gave her this child to save us,  
Thus turning darkness into light.

*– Anonymous (German, 15<sup>th</sup> Century)  
trans. William Bartholomew (1793-1867)*

THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

**Andrew D. Smothers**

CAROL

The Holly and the Ivy (1913)

*English Carol  
arr. Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)*

The holly and the ivy  
When they are both full grown;  
Of all the trees that are in the wood  
The holly bears the crown.  
*O the rising of the sun  
And the running of the deer,  
The playing of the merry organ,  
Sweet singing in the choir.*

The holly bears a berry  
As red as any blood;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
To do poor sinners good.  
*O the rising of the sun ...*

The holly bears a blossom  
As white as any flower;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
To be our sweet Savior.  
*O the rising of the sun ...*

The holly bears a prickle  
As sharp as any thorn;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
On Christmas Day in the morn.  
*O the rising of the sun ...*

The holly bears a bark  
As bitter as any gall;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
For to redeem us all.  
*O the rising of the sun ...*

**Eliza Bagg & Sarah Hawkey, soprano  
Marc Molomot & Tommy Wazelle, tenor**

\*HYMN 53

What Child Is This

*Greensleeves*

THE THIRD LESSON

Luke 2:8-20

**Ms. Cosby**

## CAROL

The Infant King (1970)

*Basque Noël**arr. David Willcocks (b. 1919)*

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now reclining, Sing lullaby!  
 Hush, do not wake the Infant King.  
 Angels are watching, stars are shining  
 Over the place where he is lying: Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-sleeping, Sing lullaby!  
 Hush, do not wake the Infant King.  
 Soon will come sorrow with the morning,  
 Soon will come bitter grief and weeping: Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-dozing, Sing lullaby!  
 Hush, do not wake the Infant King.  
 Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing,  
 Then in the grave at last reposing: Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby! Is the babe a-waking? Sing lullaby!  
 Hush, do not stir the Infant King.  
 Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning,  
 Conquering Death, its bondage breaking: Sing lullaby!

– *Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)*

## THE FOURTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

**Dr. Springsted**

## \*HYMN 36

In the Bleak Midwinter

*Cranham*

## THE FIFTH LESSON

Matthew 2:13-16

**Ms. Bartlett**

## CAROL

The Coventry Carol

*English Carol**arr. Martin Shaw (1876-1958)*

*Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child,  
 By by, lully, lullay.*

O sisters too, how may we do for to preserve this day  
 This poor youngling, for whom we do sing, by by, lully lullay?

Herod, the king, in his raging charged he hath this day  
 His men of might, in his own sight, all young children to slay.

That woe is me, poor child for thee! And ever morn and day,  
 For thy parting neither say nor sing By by, lully lullay!

– *The Pageant of Shearmen and Tailors (15<sup>th</sup> Century)*

## THE SIXTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

**Mr. Smothers**

## \*HYMN 51

See Amid the Winter's Snow

*Humility*

***Stanza 1 & Refrains: All  
 Stanza 2: Upper Voices; Stanza 3: Lower Voices***

## LITANY FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

**Dr. Springsted**

Pastor: All the ends of the earth  
 have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia!

**People: Shout to the Lord, all the earth. Alleluia!**

Pastor: O Christ, splendor of God's eternal glory,  
 the mighty Word, sustaining the universe:  
 Renew our lives by your presence.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ, born into the world in the fullness of time  
for the liberation of all creation:  
Release all into your promised freedom.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ, begotten of the Father before all time,  
born in a stable at Bethlehem:  
May your church be a sign of hope and joy.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ, truly God and truly human,  
born to a people in fulfillment of their expectations:  
Fulfill our desires in you.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ, born of the Virgin Mary,  
child of wonder and splendor,  
mighty God of all ages, Prince of Peace:  
May the whole world live in peace and justice.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*(silence)*

## 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.**

## COLLECTION OF THE OFFERING & CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

### OFFERTORY CAROL

There Is A Flower (1985)

*John Rutter  
(b. 1945)*

There is a flow'r sprung of a tree,  
The root thereof is called Jesse,  
A flow'r of price;  
There is none such in paradise.

This flow'r is fair and fresh of hue,  
It fadeth never, but ever is new;  
The blessed branch this flow'r on grew  
Was Mary mild that bare Jesu;  
A flow'r of grace;  
Against all sorrow it is solace.

The seed hereof was Goddes sand,  
That God himself sowed with his hand,  
In Nazareth that holy land,  
Amidst her arbour a maiden found;  
This blessed flow'r  
Sprang never but in Mary's bower.

When Gabriel this maid did meet,  
With 'Ave Maria' he did her greet;  
Between them two this flow'r was set  
And safe was kept, no man should wit,  
Till on a day in  
Beth'lem it could spread and spray.

When that fair flow'r began to spread  
And his sweet blossom began to bed,  
Then rich and poor of ev'ry land  
Marvelled how this flow'r might spread,  
Till kinges three  
That blessed flower came to see.

Alleluia. Angels there came from heaven's tower  
To look upon this freshele flow'r,  
How fair he was in his color  
And how sweet in his savor;  
And to behold  
How such a flow'r might spring in gold.

*– John Audelay (15th Century)*

**Eliza Bagg, soprano; Tommy Wazelle, tenor**



*The Christmas Decorations are given to the glory of God  
by members and friends of the congregation  
in loving memory of the following persons:*

The Ahlgren Family	John McChord
Armik Barseghian	Josephine McFadden
Gene Brown	Marie L. and Alexander F. Mezo
H. Peter Burg	Ronald E. Nichols
Sheila Clark	John Novotny
Elma and John S. Cole	Edna D. Palmer
Melda and Bertram Danziger	Florence Powell
Robert Joseph DeBono	Rose and George Rabstajnek
Jerrey F. Glotfelty	Rudolph C. Rabstajnek
Catherine and William Hauber	The Thomas Rabstajnek Family
The Haugh Family	The Rev. Dr. David H. C. Read
Elizabeth M. Herrold	Patricia Gilbert Read
Kenneth F. Herrold	Marilyn and Thomas Riccardi
Frank Hohmann, Sr.	Wade and Kate Roby
Tera Hohmann	Gloria Anne Baillie Schmitt
Anna K. Hoffman	Marie Sickmuller
Anne and Harold Hudaverdi	Dr. and Mrs. Hamilton Southworth
Dorothy H. Hupper	Ethelyn Smith
Jack Hupper	Herbert Smith, Sr.
Gabrielle Ives	Phillips Talbot
Bruce F. Jones	Parents and Grandparents of the Tonking Family
Dorothy B. Jones	George Vician, Jr.
Gerald F. Jones, M.D.	Miriam Dwight Walker
Minerva E. Jones	Dorothy Xavier
Rosemary S. Jones	Kim T. Yamaguchi
Dora and Elmer Kleinert	William E. Yamaguchi
Mr. and Mrs. L. Hudson Leathers	
Catherine Malcolm	

#### **Pastoral Staff**

The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted, *Interim Pastor*  
The Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett, *Associate Pastor*  
The Rev. Andrew D. Smothers, *Interim Associate Pastor*  
The Rev. Paula V. Cooper, *Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellow (2017-2019)*  
Dr. Andrew E. Henderson, *Director of Music & Organist*  
Mary W. Huff, *Associate Director of Music*  
Christina A. Cosby, *Director of Christian Formation*  
  
Laura Graham, *Director of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church Day School*  
The Rev. Dr. Richard W. Shoup, *Pastoral Counselor (212-628-1812)*  
The Rev. Dr. Fred R. Anderson, *Pastor Emeritus*  
Dr. John B. Weaver, *Director of Music & Organist Emeritus*