



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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

www.mapc.com

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017 at 9 and 11:15 am

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Word and Sacrament

Please silence your cellular telephones and other electronic devices.

We encourage you to begin this time of worship in silent prayer.

Prayer of Preparation

Eternal God, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son; by your Spirit you still bring light to illumine our paths. Renew us in faith and hope that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love, as Lord of lords and King of kings, to whom be glory always. Amen.

PRELUDE

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

*J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Eric O. Springsted

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Jesus says: I am coming soon.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Hinrichs Family (9 am)

Tonking Family (11:15 am)

Pastor: In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

People: Let us worship God.

*Let all who are able stand.

*HYMN 9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

CONFESSION OF SIN (*unison*)

Andrew D. Smothers

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

(Silence for personal confession)

LORD, HAVE MERCY (*from Deutsche Messe*)

Franz Schubert

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Hyfrydol

Come, Thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy
peo - ple free; From our fears and sins re - lease us;
Let us find our rest in Thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so -
la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art; Dear de -
sire of ev - ery na - tion, Joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.

Text: Charles Wesley (1744)

Music: Rowland Hugh Prichard (1831)

*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."*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

First "O" Antiphon

*John Weaver
(b. 1937)*

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation, you order all things with strength and gentleness: come now and teach us the way to salvation.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 64:1-9

Christina A. Cosby

(nrsv, page 652 OT)

*PSALM 80 (Hymn 206)

Vineyard Haven

(Following the final stanza of the psalm, children and young people are invited to come forward, gathering around the Baptismal Font for the Lesson for Young Christians.)

LESSON FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS & DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S & YOUTH WORSHIP

Dr. Springsted

Children's Worship – Children preschool through 3rd grade may exit to the Phillips Lounge.

Youth Worship – Young people 4th grade to 8th grade may exit to the Dana Chapel.

The Children & Youth return to the Sanctuary at the Doxology to participate in the rest of the service.

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:3-9
(nrsv, page 155 NT)

Mr. Smothers

GRADUAL

Second "O" Antiphon

Weaver

O Adonai, Ruler of the House of Israel, you appeared in the burning bush to Moses and gave him the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm to save us.

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 13:24-37
(nrsv, page 47 NT)

Beverly A. Bartlett

SERMON

"Help!"

Dr. Springsted

*HYMN 17
(11:15 am)

"Sleepers, Wake!" A Voice Astounds Us

Wachet auf

*THE NICENE CREED

Mr. Smothers

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 on 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Ms. Bartlett

...Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *(11:15 am)*

Drop Down Ye Heavens (1979)

Richard Lloyd
(b. 1933)

*Drop down ye heavens from above, and let the skies pour forth righteousness:
Let the earth be fruitful, and bring forth a Savior.*

Be not very angry, O Lord, neither remember our iniquity forever. Thy holy cities are a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation: Our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee.

Drop down ye heavens from above ...

We have sinned and are as an unclean thing. And we do fade as a leaf: Our iniquities like the wind have taken us away; Thou hast hid thy face from us: and hast consumed us because of our iniquities.

Drop down ye heavens from above ...

Ye are my witnesses saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen; that ye may know me and believe me: I even I am the Lord, and beside me there is no Savior: and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.

Drop down ye heavens from above ...

Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people, my salvation shall not tarry: I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions: Fear not, for I will save thee: For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

Drop down ye heavens from above ...

– The Ancient Advent Prose

**Katherine Wessinger, soprano; Desirée Baxter, alto
Marc Molomot, tenor; Rod Gomez, bass**

***DOXOLOGY**

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures
here be - low; Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(The table of our Lord Jesus Christ is open to all who are baptized. Those who do not wish to take Communion are invited to remain seated in prayer. You are asked to join in the responses as indicated.)

INVITATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

COMMUNION PRAYER

"...who forever sing to the glory of your name:"

SANCTUS

Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - sa - na in the
high - est. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

(Communion Prayer continues) "... the mystery of faith:"

ACCLAMATION

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

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.

BREAKING BREAD & SHARING THE CUP

Pastor: Gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Let us keep the feast.

DISTRIBUTION

When the pastors take their serving places, please come forward, using the center aisle, beginning with the front row. The white bread is made from wheat; darker bread in the center is gluten-free rice bread. The bronze chalices contain wine; the glass chalices contain grape juice. Hold out your hands, one open palm placed on the other, and bread will be placed in your hand. For rice bread, please take it yourself, exercising care not to touch other pieces. You may eat the bread and move to the cup of wine to drink or dip your bread before eating, or move to the cup of juice and dip your bread, exercising care not to touch the liquid or cup with your fingers. Those unable to come forward will be served in their pews. If not communing, please remain in your pew in prayer.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND WHOLENESS

Once you have communed, you may return to your pew, or you may join one of the pastors in the side transepts for anointing, laying on of hands and prayers for yourself or for another. Thereafter you may return to your pew.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

(9 am)

Creator of the Stars of Night

*Chant
(9th Century)*

(11:15 am)

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come (1953)

*Paul Manz
(1919-2009)*

Peace be to you and grace from him
Who freed us from our sins,
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, 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 shall be their All!

– Paul Manz, based on Revelation 22

CONGREGATIONAL SONG *(11:15 am)*

Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord,
and all peo - ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God.

Text: Taizé Community / Music: Jacques Berthier, 1984
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CLOSING PRAYER

*HYMN 20 Watchman, Tell Us of the Night *Aberystwyth*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION **Dr. Springsted**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Weaver*



*POSTLUDE Paean (1966) *Kenneth Leighton*
(1929-1988)

Welcome! We're glad you've joined us for worship today. We pray that you experience Christ in our midst, and that his presence will sustain you in the week ahead. We invite you to place your name and contact information on one of the pew pads. If our pastors can assist you in some special way, indicate this in the space provided and they will be in touch with you. If you are considering becoming Christian or looking for a church home, our pastors would be delighted to talk with you about it.

Have children? Children and families are always welcome in the Sanctuary to worship. Children three and under may be taken to the Nursery on the 4th Floor or remain with their parents. The Narthex or the Children's Library, adjacent to the Sanctuary, are also available for families and have speakers that provide audio of the service.

MAPC Mission Statement

The mission of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church is to bring people into the transforming presence of Jesus Christ through worship, teaching the Word, Christian nurture, and ministry in and to the world. As Christ's ministers, our members are striving to build a community of God's love, justice and mercy, trusting God to lead us into faithfulness.

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*