



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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

www.mapc.com

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2017 at 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

God of grace, you chose the Virgin Mary, and filled her with your grace to be the mother of our Lord and Savior. Now fill us with your grace, that with her we may rejoice in your salvation and in all things embrace your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRELUDE Meine Seele erhebt den Herren, BWV 648 *J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)*

Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen *Johannes Brahms
(from Eleven Chorale Preludes, Op. 122) (1833-1897)*

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 CANDLES **Emily Bartlett
Elliot & Christian Henderson**

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*

CONFESSON OF SIN (unison) **Beverly A. Bartlett**

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

*John Weaver
(b. 1937)*

First "O" Antiphon

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 2 Samuel 7:1-17

Andrew D. Smothers

(nrsv, page 268 OT)

CANTICLE

Magnificat ('Song of Mary')

Shepherd's Pipes

1. I mag - ni - fy you Lord, my God, In you I do re - joice,
2. Your mer - cy is for all who fear Your name in each new day.
3. Your ser - vant Is - rael you have helped, Your mer - cy ev - er sure,
In fa - vor you have looked on me, My low - li - ness your choice.
You scat - ter both the proud and vain; Their ways you put a - way.
To Ab - ra - ham and all his seed Your pro - mi - ses en - dure.



Text: Fred R. Anderson, © 2011, all rights reserved, based on Luke 1:47-55

Music: Annabeth McClelland Gay, © Pilgrim Press, 1958

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(After the singing of the canticle, children and youth are invited to come forward, gathering around the Baptismal Font.)

LESSON FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

Dr. Springsted

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 16:25-27

(nrsv, page 155 NT)

Ms. Bartlett

GRADUAL

Seventh “O” Antiphon

Weaver

O Emmanuel, our Sovereign and Lawgiver, Desire of the nations and Savior of all: come and save us, O Lord, our God.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

(nrsv, page 53 NT)

Christina A. Cosby

SERMON

“*Greetings!*”

Dr. Springsted

*HYMN 48

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

Es ist ein' Ros'

*THE NICENE CREED

Ms. Bartlett

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

Mr. Smothers

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Dr. Springsted

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Magnificat
(‘Collegium Regale’) (1945)

Herbert Howells
(1892-1983)

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath shewn strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham, and his seed, forever. *(Luke 1:47-55)*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in common time, key signature of one sharp (F#), and treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, 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

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in common time, key signature of one flat (B-flat), and treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, _____
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might, _____
heaven and earth are

(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.

DURING COMMUNION

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, 15th Century)
trans. William Bartholomew (1793-1867)

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

A musical score for two voices. The top line is in soprano C major, treble clef, and the bottom line is in alto F major, bass clef. Both lines begin with a half note followed by a quarter note. The lyrics are: "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." The music consists of eighth-note patterns.

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

*HYMN 16 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came *Gabriel's Message*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Dr. Springsted

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Weaver

Musical score for organ, page 10, measures 11-12. The score consists of two staves. The top staff shows a melodic line with various note values and rests. The bottom staff shows harmonic information with Roman numerals and bass notes. The lyrics "A-men, A-men, A-men." are written below the staves.

*POSTLUDE Fugue on the ‘Magnificat’, BWV 733 J. S. Bach

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.

Children and families are always welcome in the Sanctuary to worship. 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