



# 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.

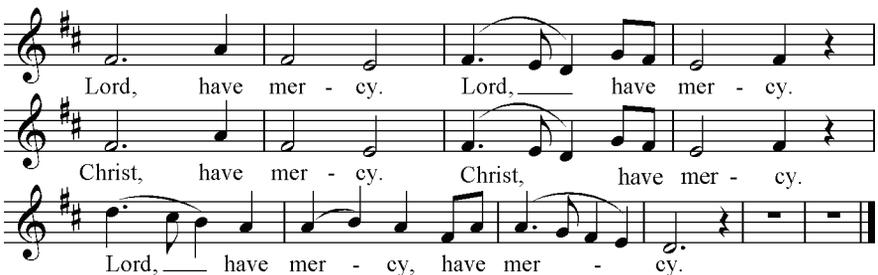
\*HYMN 9      O Come, O Come, Emmanuel      *Veni Emmanuel*

CONFESSION 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*



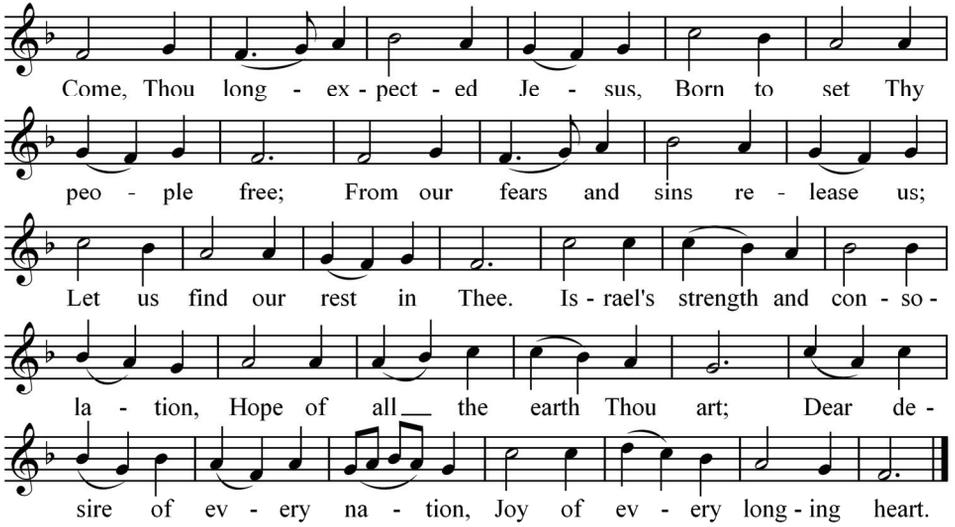
# ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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.



All ge - ne - ra - tions now shall say: "How blest is Ma - ry's name!"  
 The might - y you de - throne and shame; You lift the low - ly up.  
 Come, mag - ni - fy the Lord with me, In this let us re - joice:



How ho - ly is your name, O Lord, You put a - way my shame.  
 The rich are em - pty, sent a - way; The hun - gry rich - ly sup.  
 God's ten - der mer - cy shall not fail; Give thanks, lift up your voice!

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

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 \_\_\_\_\_ 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.*

## 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, 15<sup>th</sup> Century)  
 trans. William Bartholomew (1793-1867)

