

Christmas Eve

COMMUNION SERVICE

December 24, 2015 | 8pm

Prelude

“Music for Christmas”
Phil Sargeant, oboe; Angelina Savoia, harp

Congregational Introit

“O Come Let Us Adore Him”
“O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord”

Adeste Fideles

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Pastor: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

People: *Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.*

Pastor: For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder,

People: *And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

Pastor: Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end,

People: *On the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it*

Pastor: With justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

People: *The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Hymn No. 155

“Once in Royal David’s City”

Irby

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10-17

pages 572, pew Bible

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Rev. Ron Meyer

***Hymn**

“On Christmas Night, All Christians Sing”

Sussex Carol

On Christmas night, all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring;
On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring;
News of great joy news, of great mirth, news all of our merciful King’s birth.

Then why should men on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad:
Then why should men on earth be sad since our Redeemer made us glad:
When from our sin He set us free, all for to gain our liberty.

When sin departs before Your grace, then life and health come in its place
When sin departs before Your grace, then life and health come in its place;
Angels and men with joy may sing all for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light which made the angels sing this night
All out of darkness we have light which made the angels sing this night,
“Glory to God and peace to men, now and forevermore. Amen”

THE OFFERING

Call for the Offering

Receiving Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

“O Holy Night!”

Adolphe Adam

*Valerie Kraft, soprano; Angelina Savoia, harp,
Fred Markey, organ*

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining, it is the night of our dear Saviour’s birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining, ’til He appear’d and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born;
O night divine, O night, O night Divine.

Truly He taught us to love one another; His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother; and in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord! O praise His Name forever, His power and glory evermore proclaim.
His power and glory evermore proclaim.

~ Placide Cappeau

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

New Testament Reading

Luke 2:8-20

page 857, pew Bible

Sermon

“The Sign of the Swaddled Savior”

Dr. Todd Smedley

Hymn No. 133

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father before all worlds, God from God, Light from Light, Very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father by whom all things were made;

Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man. And crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried, the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and sits on the right hand of God the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, His kingdom shall have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets. And we believe in one 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.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against Your holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But O Lord, have mercy on us. Spare those who confess their faults, restore those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, for God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. Therefore, blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

The Invitation

Prayer of Consecration and 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Hymn No. 125

“Joy to the World!”

Antioch

Benediction

Postlude

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

E. L. Ashford

Fourth
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Fourth Presbyterian Church is a member congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC).

Dr. Todd Smedley, *Senior Pastor*; Rev. Corey Gray, Rev. Ron Meyer,
Dr. Robert Norris, and Rev. Rob Yancey, *Pastors*