

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

December 24, 2017 | 11:00 p.m.

PRELUDE

“Music for Christmas”
Phil Sargeant, oboe; Fred Markey, organ

*HYMN NO. 155

“Once in Royal David’s City”

Irby

Verse 1: Valerie Simonsen, soprano
Organ Interlude: *The congregation is invited to stand and sing.*
Verses 2-4: All

*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

*NICENE CREED

Dr. Robert Norris

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.

*HYMN NO. 145

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Adeste Fideles

OLD TESTAMENT READING

1 Samuel 2:1–10

pages 225–226, pew Bible

SENIOR PASTOR Dr. Todd M. Smedley

PASTORS Rev. Corey Gray | Rev. Ron Meyer | Rev. Thomas Myrick | Dr. Robert Norris

ANTHEM

“Gesù Bambino”

Pietro Yon

*Valerie Simonsen and Natalie Conte, sopranos
Sanctuary Choir*

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows upon a winter night,
Was born the Child, the Christmas Rose, the King of love and light.
The angels sang. The shepherds sang. The grateful earth rejoiced.
And at his blessed birth, the stars their exultation voiced.

O come, let us adore him.

O come, let us adore him.

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night
That gave the world its Christmas Rose, its King of love and light.
Let every voice acclaim his name, the grateful chorus swell!
From paradise to earth he came that we with him might dwell.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. Robert Norris

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, forever. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 141

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

St. Louis

CALL FOR OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERTORY

“O Holy Night!”

Adolphe Adam

Valerie Simonsen, soprano; 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.

- Placide Cappeau

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 1:39–56

page 856, pew Bible

SERMON

“Magnificats Come from the Lowest of Places”

Dr. Todd M. Smedley

*RESPONSIVE READING

Pastor: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

People: He was in the beginning with God.

Pastor: All things were made through him, and without him, nothing was made that was made.

People: In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

Pastor: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

People: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

Pastor: And we beheld his glory,

People: The glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

*HYMN

“Silent Night”

Stille Nacht

All: Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright.
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

Natalie Conte, soprano: Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love’s pure light;
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Long ago and far away, Jesus in a manger lay
In Bethlehem this morning. Glory, honor, laud and praise
Be to God for endless days. Christ was born to save!

All: Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light,
With the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King;
Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior is born!

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“In Dulci Jubilo”

P. W. Macdonald

**Congregation standing as able*

**As you share the light through the Sanctuary, please tip the unlit candle toward the lit one.
Please extinguish candles at the end of the service and place in boxes by the Sanctuary doors. Thank you.**



**NEW YEAR'S EVE MORNING
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

"God Unsurpassable"

Micah 4:1-5

Rev. Thomas Myrick



5500 River Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20816-3399

301-320-3600 | 4thpres.org

Fourth Presbyterian Church is a member congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.