



The Second Sunday of Advent

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DECEMBER 8, 2024

MORNING WORSHIP

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Bethlehem Candle, the second candle, is lighted pointing to the Messiah being born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem as foretold by the prophet, Micah.

The Advent season is that time when we seek to, in a manner of speaking, mute our memory of what has already happened, that we might brighten our joy that it happened. We leave the already of His advent to taste the bitter of the not yet. We, in short, go back, that we might look forward to His coming.

R. C. SPROUL, PRESBYTERIAN PASTOR, TEACHER, AUTHOR (1939-2017)



APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

The Christian Greeting and Call to Preparation

Rev. Cameron Whitehurst

The Prelude

Greensleeves

arr. Dennis Janzer

*Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.
William C. Dix*

The Announcements

Rev. Kurt Cooper

The Chiming of the Hour

- † Indicates the congregation standing
- Indicates seating for those detained

The Choral Introit

With Joyful Mirth

CANDLER, arr. Alice Parker

Christians all with joyful mirth, both young and old, both great and small,
Now think upon our Savior's birth Who brought salvation to us all.
Let all our songs and praises be unto His heavenly majesty;
And evermore amongst our mirth, remember Christ, our Savior's birth.

† The Call to Worship – from Psalm 102 (*congregation reads bold type*)

The LORD looked down from His holy height;
from Heaven the LORD looked at the earth,
to hear the groans of the prisoners,
ALL: **to set free those who were doomed to die,**
that they may declare in Zion the name of the LORD,
and in Jerusalem His praise,
when peoples gather together to worship the LORD.

•† The Hymn No. 127

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

† The Prayer of Invocation

† The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father Which art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in 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, for ever. Amen.**

† The Gloria Patri – No. 648 in *The Hymnal*

GREATOREX

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Call to Confession – Exodus 20

And God spoke all these words, saying, I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

You shall have no other gods before Me;
You shall not make for yourself an idol;
You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain;
Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy;
Honor your father and your mother;
You shall not murder;
You shall not commit adultery;
You shall not steal;
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor;
You shall not covet.

The Silent Prayers of Confession

The Assurance of Pardon – John 3:17

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.

The Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Cooper

The Offering

*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart,
not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7*

The Anthem

Ding Dong Merrily on High!
The Covenant and Seraphim Choirs

Ruth Artmann

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

The Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Whitehurst

† The Reading of God's Word – Philippians 1:3-11

pew Bible, page 1247

*If you are visiting today and do not own a personal copy of the Scriptures,
please take one from the table in the narthex as our gift.*

All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field.

**The grass withers and the flowers fade,
but the Word of our God shall stand forever. Amen.**

Isaiah 40:6b, 8

The Personal Meditation and Preparation of the Heart

*Children age four through kindergarten may leave to attend Children's Church.
They may be picked up in Room E-100 after the service.*

The Sermon

WAITING FOR THE WORLD TO CHANGE

Rev. Whitehurst

COMMUNING WITH THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND HIS PEOPLE

† The Hymn No. 274

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

HELMSLEY

The Choir will sing verse 1, Congregation joins on verse 2

The Invitation to and Fencing of the Table

Who should come to the Lord's table? Those who are displeased with themselves because of their sins, but who nevertheless trust that their sins are pardoned and that their remaining weakness is covered by the suffering and death of Christ, and who also desire more and more to strengthen their faith and to lead a better life, and who are members in good standing of an evangelical church. (from the Heidelberg Catechism)

† The Nicene Creed – inside cover of *The Hymnal*

† The Prayer of Humble Access

The Words of Institution

The Serving of the Meal

A Christmas Trilogy

arr. Glenn Rudolph

*Please partake of the elements as you receive them,
just as we must each receive Christ for our own salvation by faith.*

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

FOLLOWING GOD’S SPIRIT

† The Doxology – No. 650 in *The Hymnal*

OLD HUNDREDTH

† The Benediction of God’s Grace

† The Threefold Amen – No. 657 in *The Hymnal*

The Postlude

Gabriel’s Message

arr. Michael Bedford

*And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary,
for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive
in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.”*

Luke 1:30-31



Leading In Worship This Morning

Rev. Kurt Cooper, *Senior Minister*

Rev. Cameron Whitehurst, *Assistant Minister*

Dr. Mark Nabholz, *Director of Music*

Mrs. Shannon Mathai, *Assistant Director of Music and Organist*

Dr. Robert Scott, *flute*

Ms. Jiaoyang Xu, *cello*

Mr. Andrew Wales, *piano*

SERMON TITLE

Philippians 1:3-11

I. Partner in the gospel

II. Pine for one another

III. Pray for love, knowledge, and discernment



CHRISTMAS AT TRINITY

December 8 at 6:00 p.m.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS CHRISTMAS SERVICE AND PAGEANT

Our children's choirs will lead a service celebrating Jesus Christ's birth, including a narrated reenactment of the nativity. Choral anthems and congregational carols will be accompanied by a string quartet. Homily by Michael Howell.

December 15 at 6:00 p.m.

29th ANNUAL SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

This year's traditional service of choral anthems, congregational carols, and the nativity story told from the Scriptures will include John Rutter's effervescent setting of the ancient Gloria text, accompanied by a large brass ensemble, organ and percussion along with other favorite anthems and congregational hymns and carols.

Invite friends and neighbors to this beautiful musical offering!

December 22 at 6:00 p.m.

HARVEST ARTS SACRED CONCERT

Fusing beloved Christmas tunes and classical music themes, this sacred concert will feature arrangements by Madeline Cawley played by the Harvest Arts Chamber Ensemble. The concert will be followed by a fellowship reception in the Westminster Room.

December 24 at 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION

A service of quiet wonder, with Holy Communion and special music, will prepare our hearts to receive the newborn King.

***Nursery will be available during the 4:00 p.m. service only
for children ages three and under.***

Homily by Kurt Cooper.

December 29 at 6:00 p.m.

OLD YEAR/NEW YEAR SERVICE

During the final service of 2024, we will see the old year out with thanksgiving for the Lord's providence and look ahead to the new year with hope and confidence in the Lord's faithfulness. Homily by Kurt Cooper.



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

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