

Advent
Evensong
WITH BUDDY GREENE

December 21, 2014

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

MUSICAL MEDITATION: "In the Bleak Midwinter"Gustav Holst/arr. Buddy Greene

EVENSONG PRAYER FOR LIGHTMichael C. Davis

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Almighty God, we give You thanks for surrounding us,
as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light;
and as we implore of Your great mercy,
that as You enfold us with the radiance of this light,
so You would shine into our hearts the brightness of Your Holy Spirit,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

INTROIT OF CHRIST'S ADVENT: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" VENI EMMANUEL

†HYMN OF ADVENT: No. 196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" HYFRYDOL

†CORPORATE PRAYER OF ADORATION

**Lord God Almighty,
King of glory and love eternal,
You are worthy at all times to receive adoration, praise, and blessing;
we praise You now for sending Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ,
for whom our hearts wait, and to whom,
with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,
be honor and dominion, now and forever. Amen.**

"The Canticle of the Turning" Traditional Irish Tune

Based on the Magnificat (Luke 1:48-58)

Congregation to sing refrain following stanzas 3 and 4

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain:

**My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
And the world is about to turn!**

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
There are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.

"Fall Down Children" Buddy Greene

Congregation to sing Chorus

I looked up one day and I saw three wise men comin' down the road from Bethlehem.
And I asked them, "Brothers, where have you been?"
They said, "We've been worshipping the Son of God, the Savior of all men."

Well, I looked up again and I saw the boy, Jesus, sittin' in the temple in the midst of the teachers,
And they were amazed at His understanding
'Cause He was the Son in His Father's house, His rule never-ending.

Chorus:

**We gotta fall down, children, worship the Lord: He's our only Savior.
Fall down, children, worship the Lord. Don't you need a Savior?
We gotta fall down, children, worship the Lord, hear that wonderful story;
Fall down, children, worship the Lord, He's comin' in glory.**

Well, I looked and I saw Him in the River Jordan receiving God's blessing at the hand of John.
Then I saw Him tempted in the wilderness,
But He didn't give in to the enemy; He was full of God's goodness.

Well, I looked and I saw Him on Calvary, givin' His life for you and me.
But He rose from the grave on the third day and He's up in heaven and reignin' on high.
He's coming back down in the by and by.
If you want to get ready, better hear what I say 'cause there is only one way.

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2:8-11 (ESV) Zach Pennington

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they
were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of
great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who
is Christ the Lord.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

“Mary, Did You Know?”..... Buddy Greene

Mary, did you know that your Baby Boy will one day walk on water?
Mary, did you know that your Baby Boy will save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your Baby Boy has come to make you new?
This Child that you delivered will soon deliver you.

Mary, did you know that your Baby Boy will give sight to a blind man?
Mary, did you know that your Baby Boy will calm the storm with His hand?
Did you know that your Baby Boy has walked where angels trod?
When you kiss your little Baby you kissed the face of God?

The blind will see. The deaf will hear. The dead will live again.
The lame will leap. The dumb will speak the praises of The Lamb.

Mary, did you know that your Baby Boy is Lord of all creation?
Mary, did you know that your Baby Boy will one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your Baby Boy is heaven’s perfect Lamb?
The sleeping Child you’re holding is the Great I Am.

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE GIFTS OF GOD

Worshippers at the end of a row should pass the collection bag to those in the row behind them.

“The Little Drummer Boy”.....Katherine Davis/Henry Simeone

Congregation may join Buddy in singing.

Come they told me, pa rum pum pum pum.
A newborn King to see, pa rum pum pum pum.
Our finest gifts we bring, pa rum pum pum pum.
To lay before the King, pa rum pum pum pum,
Rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum.

So to honor Him, pa rum pum pum pum, when we come.

Little Baby, pa rum pum pum pum.
I am a poor boy too, pa rum pum pum pum.
I have no gift to bring, pa rum pum pum pum
That’s fit to give the King, pa rum pum pum pum,
Rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum.

Shall I play for you, pa rum pum pum pum, on my drum?

Mary nodded, pa rum pum pum pum.
The ox and lamb kept time, pa rum pum pum pum.
I played my drum for Him, pa rum pum pum pum.
I played my best for Him, pa rum pum pum pum,
Rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum.

Then He smiled at me, pa rum pum pum pum, me and my drum.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROPHETIC LESSON Ezekiel 33:30-33 (NIV)

As for you, son of man, your people are talking together about you by the walls and at the doors of the houses, saying to each other, "Come and hear the message that has come from the Lord." My people come to you, as they usually do, and sit before you to hear your words, but they do not put them into practice. Their mouths speak of love, but their hearts are greedy for unjust gain. Indeed, to them you are nothing more than one who sings love songs with a beautiful voice and plays an instrument well, for they hear your words but do not put them into practice. When all this comes true — and it surely will — then they will know that a prophet has been among them.

HOMILY: A Christmas Plea. David Bowen

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Heavenly Father,
we long to experience anew the wonder of Christmas.
You showed the world Your splendor in the coming of Your Son.
However, instead of peace reigning in our hearts, we are anxious.
Instead of joyful, we are irritable.
In place of wonder, we are complacent.
In place of anticipation, we are fearful.
In our unbelief, we have become impoverished.
Save us Lord from these parasitic sins that plague us all.
Deliver us from everything that dims the brightness of Your grace
and from everything that prevents us from delighting in You.
For we pray in the comforting name of Emmanuel, Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SONGS FOR THE TABLE

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" PICARDY

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!"

"What Child Is This?" GREENSLEEVES

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

What lies He in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
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.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby:
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" CAROL

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heav'n's all gracious King;"
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary world:
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
Look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hast'ning on, by prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" Johnny Marks/arr. Greene
Text by Henry Wordsworth Longfellow

**I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth, good will to men.**

**I thought how, as the day had come, the belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along the unbroken song of peace on earth, good will to men.**

**And in despair I bowed my head: "There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men."**

**Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God is not dead, nor doth he sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on earth, good will to men."**

**Till, ringing singing, on its way, the world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime, of peace on earth, good will to men!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✦BENEDICTION

✦SENDING HYMN: No. 224 "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" GO TELL IT

✦Indicates congregation standing

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Our Guest Musicians

Buddy Greene brings a wide variety of southern Americana influences to his music to create a unique musical hybrid of country, bluegrass, folk, gospel, and traditional blues. In addition to his solid reputation as a singer-songwriter and guitarist, Buddy has established himself as one of Nashville's finest harmonica stylists. In 1991, he collaborated with Mark Lowry to write "Mary, Did You Know?", which quickly became a modern-day Christmas standard. Buddy and his wife, Vicki, live in Brentwood, TN and are founding members of Christ Community Church in Franklin, TN.

Jeff Taylor, besides touring extensively with Buddy, is a 14-year member of the four-time Grammy nominated Western Swing band, The Time Jumpers. He has recorded and/or performed with many of today's top musical artists, including Amy Grant, George Strait, The Chieftains, Elvis Costello, Ricky Skaggs, Harry Connick Jr, and Paul Simon. He is also the bandleader/arranger and multi-instrumentalist for the Tokens Show, a live radio show which features humorists, musical and literary guests, and an all star house band.

Christmas Eve Worship

We invite you to worship with us on Christmas Eve. Our 4:00 p.m. service is designed for families with young children — we've prepared a video just for them and will have a children's message. At 5:30, 8:00, and 11:00 p.m., the services will include carols, communion, and our cherished tradition of passing the candlelight. Nursery will be available during the 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. services.

Getting Connected

To find out more about who we are and how you can become part of our church community, contact Todd Erickson at (901) 531-8895 or todd.erickson@2pc.org.

