



CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2018 · 11:00 p.m.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE: "Carols of the Manger" Dale Wood

Dan Gilbert, violin; Dee Walker, flute; Samuel Metzger, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP D. Todd Erickson

PROCESSIONAL HYMN:

No. 162 "Of the Father's Love Begotten" DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

stanza 1: The Westminster Singers

stanzas 2-5: Congregation

✦ LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Jauna and Calvin Ellis

✦ FIRST GOSPEL LESSON John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He was in the beginning with God.
All things were made through him,
and without him was not any thing made that was made.
In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

**The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light,
that all might believe through him.
He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

**The true light, which gives light to everyone,
was coming into the world.**

He was in the world, and the world was made through him,
yet the world did not know him.
He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

**But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name,
he gave the right to become children of God,**

children who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh
nor of the will of man, but of God.

**And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.**

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

**Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory, evermore and evermore!**

✦ INVOCATION (*please raise hands*)

CHORAL MEDITATION: "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" arr. Mack Wilberg

Infant holy, Infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging angels singing, nowells ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the Babe is Lord of all. Christ the Babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow;
Christ the Babe was born for you. Christ the Babe was born for you.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD. David Bowen

✦HYMN OF PREPARATION: No. 230
"Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor" . . . QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE

SECOND GOSPEL LESSON. John 3:16
(page 888 in pew Bible)

The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the Word of our God will stand forever. (Isaiah 40:8)

SERMON: Son. George Robertson

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

All those who have publicly professed their faith and joined a Christian church as a communing member are warmly welcomed to receive communion today. Non-communing worshipers are encouraged to contemplate the love of Jesus Christ during this time and pass by the elements.

At Second Presbyterian, we encourage our children not to take communion until they have joined the church as communicant members. We do, however, encourage non-communing children to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing.

Those wishing to be served communion together as a group or family, please stand together in front of the two serving elders before taking the elements. All communion wafers are gluten free.

✦PROFESSION OF OUR FAITH. The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried;
He descended into hell;
The third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead;**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

✦GLORIA PATRI GREATOREX

**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, Amen!**

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious heavenly Father, in the beginning You spoke
and creation was born, the object of Your loving care.
In the fullness of time You spoke
and the Word became flesh: Jesus, the gift of Your love.
We wonder at the miracle of creation;
we stand in awe before the mystery of the incarnation.
Forgive us earthbound creatures, who are feeble in faith,
empty of hope, lacking in love.
This year let the miracle and mystery of Christmas happen for us again.
We wait upon you with ready hearts, O God,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON I Timothy 1:15

*The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners,
of whom I am the foremost.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND 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.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

*For those unable to come forward for communion, please raise your hand and an elder will
serve you in your seat. Throughout this time of communion, we invite you to join in singing
the hymn printed in bold below.*

“O Jesus Sweet, O Jesus Mild” O JESULEIN SÜSS

**O Jesus sweet, O Jesus mild,
Your Father’s will You have fulfilled.
From heav’n above to earth You came,
And born as man You took our name.
O Jesus sweet, O Jesus mild.**

**I Jesus sweet, O Jesus mild,
Your birth the world with hope was filled.
Your death has ransomed our lost race,
For on the cross You took our place.
O Jesus sweet, O Jesus mild.**

**O Jesus sweet, O Jesus mild,
We seek to do what You have willed.
All that we have comes from above;
Lord, keep us walking in Your love.
O Jesus sweet, O Jesus mild.**

“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.

Why 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.

CHORAL MEDITATION: “Gesu Bambino” Pietro Yon

When blossoms flower e’er ‘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 it’s christmas rose, its king of love and light
Let ev’ry voice acclaim his name, the grateful chorus swell
From paradise to earth he came that we with him might dwell.

Calvin Ellis, soloist

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LIGHTING OF THE CHURCH

HYMN OF CHRIST’S BIRTH: “Silent Night! Holy Night!” STILLE NACHT

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.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar, heav’nly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

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.

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!

♠HYMN OF JOY: “Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come” ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n and nature sing,
And heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

✦BENEDICTION

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE..... GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

ORGAN POSTLUDE: “Hallelujah” from *Messiah* G. F. Handel; arr. Metzger

✦Indicates congregation standing CCLI License #252778

Worship with Us on Sundays

Thank you for worshipping with us tonight. We invite you to join us
each Sunday at 8:15 or 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
Visit 2pc.org for more information about our church. Merry Christmas!

Son | George RobertsonDecember 24, 2018

I. Proves His Love

II. Provides Salvation