

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church



An Angel Playing a Flageolet
Sir Edward Burne-Jones (1878)

December 15, 2024

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024

10:30 A.M.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Carol Suite"
"Be still and know that I am God."
(Please use this time to prepare for worship in silence.)

arr. Lani Smith
Psalms 46:10

WORDS OF WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

PASSING THE PEACE

"...I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

Matthew 25:35b

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

(The people may greet each other in the spirit of Christ.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

A tiny jewel of light dances on the edge of the horizon:
a solitary star before sunrise glimmers a promise of dawn
at the end of the world's blight.

It is the light of the World, "Emmanuel", God-with-us, the Promised One.

Come to us, Emmanuel!

We have seen your light and gather here awaiting the day of your coming.

OPENING PRAYER

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Leader: We have lit the first two candles, one for hope... All we need to do is give it care and offer it to share.

The third candle is lit.

ALL SING:

"Bob McQuilkin's Advent Song"

TALLIS CANON

**We light the candle of our joy,
The gifts of God we can employ,
To give our thanks for daily bread,
And all good things by which we're fed.**

ALL PRAY:

**Loving God, we open ourselves to you,
Trusting that this is how you made us:
You created us for joy-filled hearts and lives.
Show us the creative power of hope.
Teach us the peace that comes from justice.
Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained,
but must be shared so that we may walk in the light of Christ.
Amen.**

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 133

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"
(Verses 1, 3, & 4)

ADESTE FIDELES

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Trusting in God's salvation, faithfulness and merciful love, let us confess our sin and the sins of the world, as we lift our voices together. Let us pray:

Great God, as we prepare to behold the birth of Jesus, we are mindful of how we have failed to receive the fullness of that gift. The story points us to your glory, yet we struggle to join in the song of praise and thanksgiving. We are distracted and confused, so focused on things of little significance, that we overlook the good news of great joy that you have prepared. Tell us again that the Savior is born. Tell us again that we are forgiven. Tell us again that our lives can be abundant in faith, hope and love because of what you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Confession

*KYRIE

**Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Surely God is our salvation! We will trust in the Lord's goodness and will not be afraid. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.**

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

(Page 35, *Glory to God Hymnal*)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

THE HEBREW TESTAMENT READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20

This is the promise of God to our ancestors and to us.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE 88

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
(Verses 5 & 6)

VENI EMMANUEL

THE EPISTLE READING: Philippians 4:4-7

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR CANTATA

"Carols of Eastern Europe and the British Isles"

arr. Mark Hayes

"Carol of the Bells"

"Infant Holy"

"The Wexford Carol"

"Baloo Lammy"

"The Snow Lay on the Ground"

"Joy to the World" (with congregational participation verse 2)

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

THE RESPONSE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Adapted from The Confession of 1967, 9.19)

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

*HYMN 82

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

"The First Noel, Silent Night"

arr. Smith

*THE DOXOLOGY/Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (606)

*PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

THE SENDING

*HYMN 105

"People Look East"

BESANÇON

*COVENANT OF THE CONGREGATION (Unison)

This Advent, in anticipation of the birth of our Savior, let us mend a quarrel. Build peace. Seek out a forgotten friend. Encourage youth. Keep a promise. Forgo a grudge. Listen. Be kind, be gentle. Laugh a lot. Express our gratitude. Welcome a stranger. Gladden the heart of a child. Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the earth. Speak our love. Speak it again. Speak it still once again!

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

arr. Smith

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Anne Hébert, Pastor

Diane Pharr, Liturgist

Jim and Elaine Trent, Ushers

Caroline and Erik Nielsen, Dianne and

Ross Stephenson, Greeters

The Anderson Family, Advent Readers

Michael Beery, Music Director

Tim Quist, Organist

Polly Mauer, Pianist

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY

<p>Today 9:00 "Calling All Angels" Advent Study 10:30 Worship—3rd Sunday of Advent 11:30 Coffee Hour 4:00 A.A./Al-Anon Serenity Group</p> <p>Monday, December 16 2:00 Grief Group</p> <p>Tuesday, December 17 1:00 PW Mtg at Melissa Havlin's 2:00 Finance Mtg</p> <p>Wednesday, December 18 10:00 Knitting Group 12:30 Centering Prayer Group 4:30 Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>Friday, December 20 9:00 Men's Breakfast at Platte River Inn</p> <p>Sunday, December 22 9:00 "Calling All Angels" Advent Study 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee Hour 4:00 A.A./Al-Anon Serenity Group</p>
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PRAYER LIST

<p>MILITARY: All of our US Military deployed and their families.</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL PEACEMAKERS : Rev. Jerome Bizimana & the people of Rwanda Rev. Butros Zaour & family & Majd Lahham, Damascus, Syria</p> <p>MISSION CO-WORKERS: Mark Adams & Miriam Maldonado Escobar, & their children: Cindy Yessenia, Anna Flor & Nathan—Frontera de Cristo; Douglas AZ Efi Latsoudi & Lesvos Solidarity, Greece</p>	<p>MEMBERS AND FRIENDS</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Jason Janowiak</td> <td>Britta Baarstad</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mary Baker</td> <td>Linda Koch</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Bentley</td> <td>Evelyn Sengelaub</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greg McGavran</td> <td>Laura and Bryan Sheffield</td> </tr> <tr> <td>George Marsh</td> <td>Martha Campbell</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roger Sattler</td> <td>Margaret Evans</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Suzie Anderson</td> <td>Jim Boehm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Steve Chapman</td> <td>Jay Marsh</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carroll Robotham</td> <td>Bill Alldredge (<i>Barb's Son</i>)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bob Nelson</td> <td>Gwen Baarstad</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brent Walsworth</td> <td>Kristian Webster</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tim Bergstrom</td> <td>Dale Williams</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peggy Hawley</td> <td>Richard Pharr</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paul Krachmal</td> <td>Mike Perry</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Barb Alldredge</td> <td>The Family of Margaret PUNCHES</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tom Cutsinger</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Jason Janowiak	Britta Baarstad	Mary Baker	Linda Koch	John Bentley	Evelyn Sengelaub	Greg McGavran	Laura and Bryan Sheffield	George Marsh	Martha Campbell	Roger Sattler	Margaret Evans	Suzie Anderson	Jim Boehm	Steve Chapman	Jay Marsh	Carroll Robotham	Bill Alldredge (<i>Barb's Son</i>)	Bob Nelson	Gwen Baarstad	Brent Walsworth	Kristian Webster	Tim Bergstrom	Dale Williams	Peggy Hawley	Richard Pharr	Paul Krachmal	Mike Perry	Barb Alldredge	The Family of Margaret PUNCHES	Tom Cutsinger	
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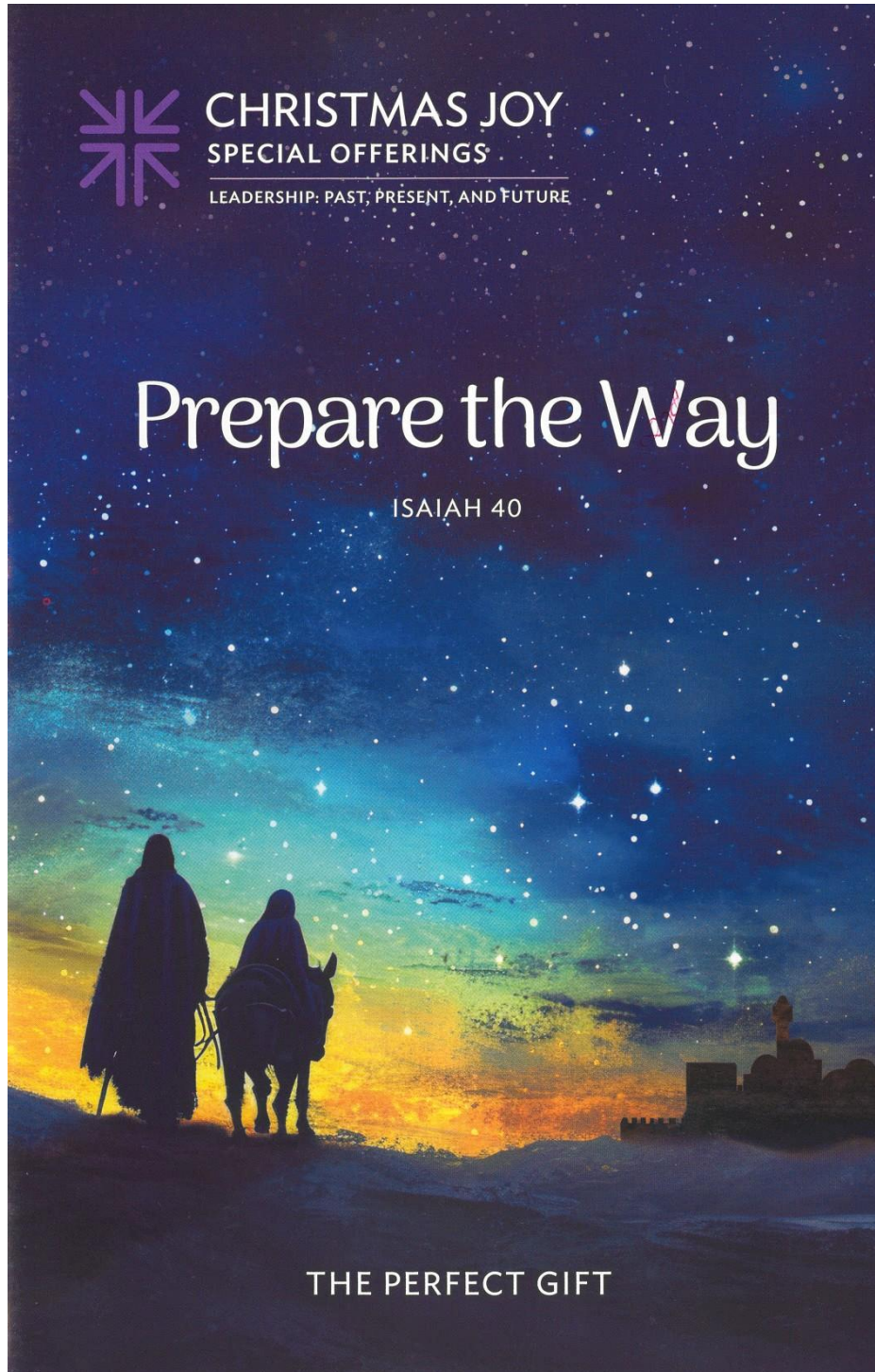


CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Prepare the Way

ISAIAH 40



THE PERFECT GIFT

The Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need, and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.