



# Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

921 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10021 212-288-8920

www.mapc.com

## Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2016 at 9 and 11:15 am

### SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

#### Word and Sacrament

*Please silence your cellular telephones.*

*We encourage you to begin this time of worship in silent prayer.*

#### Prayer of Preparation

God of all peoples, your servant John came baptizing and calling for repentance. Help us to hear his voice of judgment that we may also rejoice in his word of promise, and be found pure and blameless in that glorious Day when Christ comes to rule the earth as Prince of Peace. Amen.

#### PRELUDE

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659

*J. S. Bach  
(1685-1750)*

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

**Eric O. Springsted**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Pastor: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

**People: We are preparing ourselves for the day  
When the wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
The leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
The calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
And a little child shall lead them.**

Pastor: In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

**People: Let us worship God.**

\*Let all who are able stand.

#### \*HYMN 14

Savior of the Nations, Come

*Nun komm der  
Heiden Heiland*

#### CONFESSION OF SIN (*unison*)

**Christopher N. De La Cruz**

**God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and violate your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.**

*(Silence for personal confession)*

#### LORD, HAVE MERCY (from *Deutsche Messe*)

*Franz Schubert*

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.  
Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: ... Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

**People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

## \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

*Psalm 42*



Com - fort, com - fort you my peo - ple, Tell of peace, thus says our God.



Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness Bowed be - neath op - pres - sion's load.



Speak you to Je - ru - sa - lem Of the peace that waits for them;



Tell them that their sins I cov - er, And their war - fare now is o - ver.

Text: Johannes Olearius (1671), trans. Catherine Winkworth (1863)

Music: Genevan Psalter (1551)

## \*SUMMARY OF THE LAW

### \*PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor: Since we have been reconciled to God in Jesus Christ,  
let us be reconciled to one another.

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

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Greet one another with signs of Christ's peace.

*Please greet those around you with: "The peace of Christ be with you,"  
responding, "And also with you."*

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Second "O" Antiphon

*John Weaver  
(b. 1937)*

O Adonai, Ruler of the House of Israel, you appeared in the burning bush to  
Moses and gave him the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm to save us.

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 11:1-10

**Beverly A. Bartlett**

*(nrsv, page 602 OT)*

## \*PSALM 72 (Hymn 205)

*Rockport*

*(During the last stanza of the Psalm, children and young people are invited to come  
forward, gathering around the Baptismal Font for the Lesson for Young Christians.)*

## LESSON FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

**Dr. Springsted**

## DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH WORSHIP

*Children's Worship – Children preschool through 3rd grade may exit to the Phillips  
Lounge.*

*Youth Worship – Young people 4th grade to 8th grade may exit to the Dana Chapel.*

*The Children & Youth return to the Sanctuary at the Doxology to participate in the rest of  
the service.*

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 15:4-13  
(*nrsv, page 153 NT*)

**Tyler W. Orem**

GRADUAL

Third “O” Antiphon

*Weaver*

O Root of Jesse, a sign for all the peoples, before you earthly rulers will keep silent and nations give you honor. Come quickly to deliver us.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-12  
(*nrsv, page 2 NT*)

**William A. Jordan**

SERMON

“*Blind Justice*”

**Dr. Springsted**

\*HYMN 337  
(*11:15 am*)

Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old

*Samanthra*

\*THE NICENE CREED

**Mr. Jordan**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy 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. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Ms. Bartlett**

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (*11:15 am*)

From *Three Carol-Anthems* (1920)

*Herbert Howells*  
(1892-1983)

A Spotless Rose is blowing,  
Sprung from a tender root,  
Of ancient seers’ foreshowing  
Of Jesse promised fruit;  
Its fairest bud unfolds to light  
Amid the cold, cold winter,  
And in the darkest midnight.

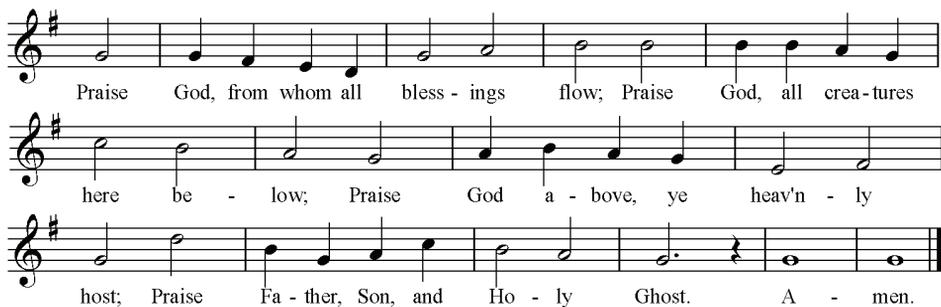
The Rose which I am singing,  
Whereof Isaiah said,  
Is from its sweet root springing  
In Mary, purest Maid;  
For through our God’s great love and might,  
The Blessed Babe she bare us  
In a cold, cold winter’s night.

– *Anonymous (14th Century)*

**Rod Gomez, baritone**

\*DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures  
 here be - low; Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly  
 host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*(The table of our Lord Jesus Christ is open to all who are baptized. Those who do not wish to take Communion are invited to remain seated in prayer. You are asked to join in the responses as indicated.)*

INVITATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

COMMUNION PRAYER

*"...who forever sing to the glory of your name:"*

SANCTUS

Schubert



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
 might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
 God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are  
 full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the  
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - sa - na in the  
 high - est. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

*(Communion Prayer continues) "...therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:"*

ACCLAMATION

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION



*Today's organ prelude and postlude are played by  
Nancianne Parrella, guest organist.*

---

**Welcome!** We're glad you've joined us for worship today. We pray that you experience Christ in our midst, and that his presence will sustain you in the week ahead. We invite you to place your name and contact information on one of the pew pads. If our pastors can assist you in some special way, indicate this in the space provided and they will be in touch with you. If you are considering becoming Christian or looking for a church home, our pastors would be delighted to talk with you about it.

**Have children?** Children and families are always welcome in the Sanctuary to worship. Children three and under may be taken to the Nursery on the 4th Floor or remain with their parents. The Narthex or the Children's Library, adjacent to the Sanctuary, are also available for families and have speakers that provide audio of the service.

#### **MAPC Mission Statement**

The mission of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church is to bring people into the transforming presence of Jesus Christ through worship, teaching the Word, Christian nurture, and ministry in and to the world. As Christ's ministers, our members are striving to build a community of God's love, justice and mercy, trusting God to lead us into faithfulness.

#### **Pastoral Staff**

**The Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett**, *Associate Pastor*

**Christopher N. De La Cruz**, *Director of Christian Formation*

**Dr. Andrew E. Henderson**, *Director of Music & Organist*

**Mary W. Huff**, *Associate Director of Music*

**William A. Jordan**, *Seminarian*

**The Rev. Tyler W. Orem**, *Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellow (2015-2017)*

**David P. Smith**, *Seminarian*

**The Rev. Andrew D. Smothers**, *Interim Associate Pastor*

**The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted**, *Interim Pastor*

**The Rev. Dr. Fred R. Anderson**, *Pastor Emeritus*

**Dr. John B. Weaver**, *Director of Music & Organist Emeritus*

**Laura Graham**, *Director of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church Day School*

**The Rev. Dr. Richard W. Shoup**, *Pastoral Counselor (212-628-1812)*