



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 (nrsv, page 602 OT)

Beverly A. Bartlett

*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 LESSONRomans 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 GOSPELMatthew 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 blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, 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 — 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

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.

BREAKING BREAD & SHARING THE CUP

Pastor: Gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Let us keep the feast.

DISTRIBUTION

When the pastors take their serving places, please come forward, using the center aisle, beginning with the front row. The white bread is made from wheat; darker bread in the center is gluten-free rice bread. The bronze chalices contain wine; the glass chalices contain grape juice. Hold out your hands, one open palm placed on the other, and bread will be placed in your hand. For rice bread, please take it yourself, exercising care not to touch other pieces. You may eat the bread and move to the cup of wine to drink or dip your bread before eating, or move to the cup of juice and dip your bread, exercising care not to touch the liquid or cup with your fingers. Those unable to come forward will be served in their pews. If not communing, please remain in your pew in prayer.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND WHOLENESS

Once you have communed, you may return to your pew, or you may join one of the pastors in the side transepts for anointing, laying on of hands and prayers for yourself or for another. Thereafter you may return to your pew.

COMMUNION ANTHEM (11:15 am)

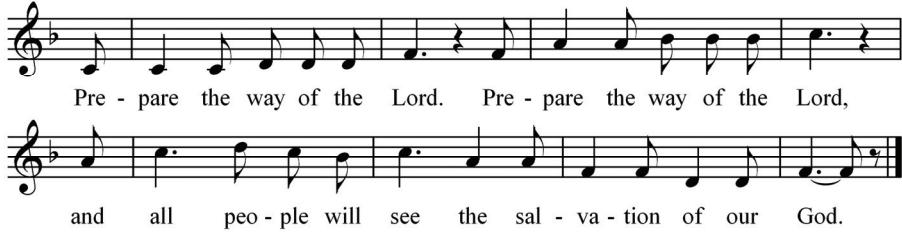
Advent Message (1978)

*Martin How
(b. 1931)*

Come Lord Jesus, Amen, come Lord Jesus.
The voice of him that cries out in the wilderness,
Prepare the way of the Lord,
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Yea, come quickly, come Lord come.

(Adapted from Isaiah 40:3; Revelation 22:20)

CONGREGATIONAL SONG



Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord,
and all peo - ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God.

Text: Taizé Community / Music: Jacques Berthier, 1984
© 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.
Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-721566.

CLOSING PRAYER

*HYMN 10 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry *Winchester New*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION **Dr. Springsted**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Weaver*



(Organ) A-men, A - men, A - men.

*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)*