



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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

www.mapc.com

First Sunday after Christmas
December 27, 2015 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

Almighty God, you have filled us with the light of your Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of faith shine in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

Improvisation

David Hurd

Dr. David J. Hurd, Jr., Guest Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Donald B. Wahlig

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all!

People: All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

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

People: Let us worship God.

*Let all who are able stand.

*HYMN 22

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Regent Square

CONFESSION OF SIN (*unison*)

Andrew D. Smothers

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in the darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, nor trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord.

(Silence for personal confession)

KYRIE

St. Louis

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;

Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;

O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

In Dulci Jubilo

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart, and soul, and voice;

Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!

Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.

Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

*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

Elder Nancy N. Ost

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

1 Samuel 2:18-21, 26

(nrsv, page 235 OT)

*PSALM 148 (Hymn 256)

Salzburg

(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

Mr. Wahlig

DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

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

Youth Worship – No Youth Worship today.

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

EPISTLE LESSON

Colossians 3:12-17

(nrsv, page 190 NT)

Ms. Ost

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:40-52

(nrsv, page 55 NT)

Mr. Wahlig

SERMON

"Things I Learned at Church"

Mr. Wahlig

*HYMN 53

What Child Is This

Greensleeves

*THE NICENE CREED

Mr. Smothers

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

Mr. Wahlig

...Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (11:15 am)

In the Bleak Mid-winter (1911)

Harold Darke
(1888-1976)

In the bleak mid-winter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain.
Heaven and earth shall flee away, when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed,
The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day,
A breast full of milk, and a manger full of hay.
Enough for him, whom angels fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel which adore.

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would give a lamb.
If I were a wise man, I would do my part.
Yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

– Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

Eliza Bagg, soprano; Marc Molomot, tenor

*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, 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.

COMMUNION ANTHEM (11:15 am)

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Polish Carol

arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Infant holy, Infant lowly,
For his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, Little knowing
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging Angels singing,
Nowells ringing, Tidings bringing,
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!

- trans. Edith M. Reed (1885-1933)

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Raise a song of glad-ness, peo-ples of the earth. Christ has come,
bring-ing peace, joy to ev-'ry heart. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia,
joy to ev-'ry heart! Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, joy to ev-'ry heart!

Jacques Berthier, *Songs and Prayers of Taizé*
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CLOSING PRAYER

*HYMN 49

Once In Royal David's City

Irby

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Mr. Wahlig

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

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

*POSTLUDE

Improvisation

David Hurd

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. We urge you to consider becoming a member of this congregation and hope you will make MAPC your church home in this city.

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*

Christina A. Cosby, *Seminarian*

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

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

Mary W. Huff, *Associate Director of Music*

David A. Kling, *Seminarian*

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

The Rev. Andrew D. Smothers, *Parish Associate for Global Ministry (2014-2016)*

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

The Rev. Donald B. Wahlig, *Associate 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)*