



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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

www.mapc.com

First Sunday after Christmas

December 31, 2017 at 11:15 am

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Word and Sacrament

Please silence your cellular telephones and other electronic devices.

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

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRELUDE

The Holy Boy

*John Ireland
(1879-1962)*

Dr. Paolo Bordignon, guest organist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Andrew D. Smothers

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: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
Full of grace and truth.

People: We have beheld his glory. Alleluia!

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)*

Christina A. Cosby

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 ELEISON

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

Mr. Smothers

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 61:10-62:3

(nrsv, page 650 OT)

*PSALM 148 (Hymn 256)

Salzburg

*(After the final stanza of the psalm, children and youth are invited to come forward,
gathering around the Baptismal Font.)*

LESSON FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

Mr. Smothers

EPISTLE LESSON

Galatians 4:4-7
(nrsv, page 178 NT)

Ms. Cosby

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40
(nrsv, page 55 NT)

Mr. Smothers

SERMON

"Rejoicing in the Lord"

Mr. Smothers

*HYMN 53

What Child Is This

Greensleeves

*THE NICENE CREED

Ms. Cosby

**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. Cosby

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

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Mr. Smothers

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Nunc Dimittis
(Collegium Regale, 1945)

Herbert Howells
(1892-1983)

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; to be a light to lighten the gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people, Israel. *(Luke 2:29-32)*

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.

Tommy Wazelle, 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) "... 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.

DURING COMMUNION

The Infant King (1970)

Basque Noël

arr. David Willcocks (b. 1919)

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now reclining, Sing lullaby!
 Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
 Angels are watching, stars are shining
 Over the place where he is lying: Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-sleeping, Sing lullaby!
 Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
 Soon will come sorrow with the morning,
 Soon will come bitter grief and weeping: Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-dozing, Sing lullaby!
 Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
 Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing,
 Then in the grave at last reposing: Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby! Is the babe a-waking? Sing lullaby!
 Hush, do not stir the Infant King.
 Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning,
 Conquering Death, its bondage breaking: Sing lullaby!

– Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

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*
 © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé/GIA Publications Inc.
 All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-721566.

CLOSING PRAYER

*HYMN 38 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear Carol

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Mr. Smothers

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE John Weaver

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

*POSTLUDE Noël Étranger Louis-Claude Daquin
 (from *Livre de Noël*s, c.1757) (1694-1772)

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

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

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

The Rev. Paula V. Cooper, *Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellow (2017-2019)*

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

Mary W. Huff, *Associate Director of Music*

Christina A. Cosby, *Director of Christian Formation*

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

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

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

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