



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

First Sunday of Advent
December 2, 2018 • 9 & 11:15am



921 Madison Avenue • mapc.com • 212.288.8920

Welcome to Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time member . . .

Whether you are new to or uncertain about this whole idea of church . . .

Whether you grew up Presbyterian or Baptist or Jewish or agnostic . . .

Whether you came with a friend or just wandered in accidentally . . .

Whether you are in search of comfort or wanting to be challenged . . .

Whatever reason brought you to worship today, you are welcome here and you have made us better by being present with us. In the midst of a big and busy city, we are a church that takes seriously Jesus' instructions to love God, love one another, and love our neighbors. Our worship style is traditional and true to our Reformed heritage. At the same time, we seek to bring our faith into conversation with the world around us and the events of our lives.

After worship, we gather in our Church House for fellowship, coffee, and cookies. Please join us. We think you'll find us to be a friendly and approachable group of people trying our best to live like Jesus teaches. But if you're looking for a perfect church, we're not it. We don't always get it right. Rather, we're a group of imperfect people who understand how much we all need grace in our lives. And we believe that God's love, which never gives up and never lets go, is for everyone. Including you.

There is a place for you here. We're delighted you've joined us today.



Rev. Jenny McDevitt
Senior Pastor

Children Are Always Welcome

Your children are always welcome here at MAPC, and they are welcome to stay with you in worship. Little ones can't help but make a bit of noise from time to time. If it is your preference, however, children three and under may be taken to the Nursery on the 4th floor. The Narthex and the Children's Library are also available. Speakers provide audio of the service.

Membership and More Information

For those interested in exploring the possibility of membership or learning more about who we are and what we do, we periodically host a "Tell Me More About MAPC" conversation. The next gathering will be held Dec. 8, 2018, at 9 am in the Phillips Lounge. RSVPs are helpful to Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com.

Order of Worship for the Lord's Day

Stir up our hearts, O God, and prepare us to receive your Son. When he comes and knocks, may he find us not sleeping in sin, but awake in righterousness, ceaselessly rejoicing in his love.

—*The Gelasian Sacramentary* (c. 500), *thought to be the oldest prayer book of the Western church*

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Wachet auf!, BWV 645

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

We come with eager expectation to these Advent days.

Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, is coming to us.

He will come in unexpected places —

**in living rooms and sanctuaries,
on side streets and on the 6 train.**

He will come at unexpected times —

**when we are are serving and praying,
when we are giving up and when we are fighting mad.**

He will come with unexpected honesty —

**for not all is right, with us or with the world,
but he is coming to make all things new.**

Hymn

A Candle Is Burning

Cradle Song

**A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
A candle of HOPE in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,
Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.**

Text: ©1986 Sandra Dean, *used and reprinted with permission*
Music: William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Greg Ballard, Christina Gross, and Lena Ballard Gross (9 am)

Richard, Riley, and Rose Brookshire (11:15 am)

*Hymn 9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

** Please stand in body or in spirit. For hymns, stand when the choir stands.*

Lord God,

We call you by all the right names:

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace, Emmanuel.

But we call our neighbors by all the wrong names:

Outsider, Dangerous, Lazy, Different.

We call ourselves by all the wrong names, too:

Inadequate, Unworthy, Lost Cause, Unloveable.

You who are the very Word of God,

gift us with your vocabulary,

and you who are the Light of the World,

shine your light on us

that we might see more clearly. (Silent prayer)

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 God's Grace

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

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*Response of Praise

Antioch

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King.

Let every heart prepare him room,

And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing!

*Summary of God's Law

*Passing the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Our Life Together

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First "O" Antiphon

*John Weaver
(b. 1937)*

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the most high,
pervading and permeating all creation,
you order things with strength and gentleness:
come now and teach us the way to salvation.

Old Testament Lesson

Christina A. Cosby
Jeremiah 33:14-16 (OT page 694)

*Psalm 25 (Hymn 178)

Genevan 25

Lesson with the Children and Youth

Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman

Children's Worship: Preschool through 3rd grades are dismissed to the Phillips Lounge.

Youth Worship: 4th through 8th grades are dismissed to the Dana Chapel.

They will return during the Doxology to participate in the rest of the service.

Epistle Lesson

Chesna E. Hinkley
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 (NT page 193)

Gradual

Second "O" Antiphon

Weaver

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.

Gospel Lesson

Luke 21:25-36 (NT page 80)

Sermon

Let There Be Hope

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

Responding to God's Word

*Hymn (11:15 am)

The Days Are Surely Coming

Crüger



1. The days are sure - ly com - ing, says God to all the earth,
2. The days are sure - ly com - ing, says Christ, the prom - ised one,
3. The days are sure - ly com - ing when we will know at last



when you will see my prom - ise: sal - va - tion come to birth.
when you will read my warn - ing in moon and stars and sun.
the full - ness of God's pres - ence, God's prom - ise, come to pass.



My righ - teous - ness and jus - tice will spread through - out the land
Though earth and heav - en trem - ble, stand up and do not fear,
Then righ - teous - ness and jus - tice will spread through - out the land,



and you will be de - liv - ered by my al - might - y hand.
for I am your re - deem - er, and I am draw - ing near.
and we will be de - liv - ered by God's al - might - y hand.

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Music: Johann Crüger (1598-1662), adapted by W. H. Monk (1823-1889)

*Affirmation of Faith

An Advent Affirmation

We are called to proclaim the truth, and so we say:

It is not true that this world and its people
are doomed to die and to be lost.

**This is true: I have come that they may have life,
and life in all its abundance.**

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination,
hunger and poverty, death and destruction.

**This is true: the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life,
the poor are hearing the good news.**

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word,
and that war and destruction have come to stay forever.

This is true: death shall be no more,

neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore.

It is not true that we are simply victims
of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world.

**This is true: the Lord whom we seek will suddenly come to the temple;
and the Lord is like a refiner's fire.**

It is not true that our dreams of liberation, of human dignity,
are not meant for this earth and for this history.

**This is true: it is already time for us to wake from sleep.
For the night is far gone, and the day is at hand. Amen.**

—Allan Boesak

Prayers of the People

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

Presenting Our Offerings to God

Offertory Anthem (11:15 am)

Spotless Rose (2012)

Ola Gjeilo
(b. 1978)

A Spotless Rose is growing,
Sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers' foreshadowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light
Amind the cold, cold winter,
And in the dark midnight.

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

—16th Century German, trans. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

Chloe Holgate, soprano

*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.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Sanctus

Schubert

. . . who forever sing to the glory of your holy name:

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.

Acclamation

. . . we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

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.

Words of Institution

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Let us keep the feast.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

The bread you are served is gluten free.

The bronzed chalices contain wine; you are invited to take a sip or dip your bread into the cup.

The glass chalices contain juice; you are invited to dip your bread into the cup.

Prayers for Healing and Wholeness

Anthem

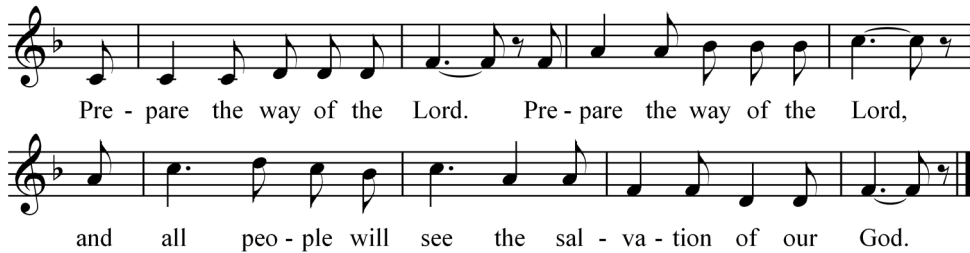
Call to Remembrance

Richard Farrant
(c. 1525-1580)

Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercy and thy loving kindness which hath been ever of old. O remember not the sins and offences of my youth: but according to thy mercy think thou on me, O Lord, for thy goodness.

—*Psalm 25:5-6*

Congregational Song (11:15 am)



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.

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Prayer at the Conclusion of the Meal

*Hymn 8

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Truro

*Benediction

*Congregational Response

Weaver



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

*Postlude

Prelude & Fugue in E minor, BWV 533

Bach

Worship Details

Cover Art

This image, “Jose y Maria,” has been shared widely on the internet in recent years. It is informally known as “Mary and Joseph Interpreted for Modern Times.” Look carefully at the image, down to the smallest details, and see how many references to our traditional biblical story you can find. Chances are you’ll find more the longer you look. Image by Everett Patterson of Portland, Oregon.

Information and Announcements

NYCCC: Christmas on Madison Avenue

Today at 3 pm in the Sanctuary, the New York City Children’s Chorus will sing excerpts from Britten’s *A Ceremony of Carols* and Randall Thompson’s *A Place of the Blest*, plus works by based on carols from France, England, Scotland and Germany. Mary Huff, Artistic Director; Andrew Henderson, Piano; Austin Philemon, Organ; and Kathryn Andrews, Harp. Admission is \$25 (\$20 – Students/Seniors); Children 12 and under are free.

MAPC Serves: A Service Group for High Schoolers

Join us as we serve the vulnerable across our city, meeting the needs of three vulnerable communities: the elderly, the homeless, and children. Upcoming dates include: December 3 at 4 pm at the James Lenox House and December 6 at 6 pm at MAPC’s Open Table Meal. Contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com for more information.

Presbyterian Giving Catalogues

Need a gift for the person who has it all? Searching for a gift that helps create a better world? Consider the Presbyterian Giving Catalogues found in the pew racks. Buy piglets or chickens for a community farm; help educate a child, empower women, or donate a garden well. Show someone in your life how much you love them by providing an act of love for our neighbors in their honor.

Calling All Deacons

All ordained deacons, currently serving or not, are invited to the annual Company of Deacons gathering Wednesday, December 5, at 7 pm in the Parish Hall. Come for fellowship, food, and to renew your spirit this busy holiday season.

“And Thy Neighbor”: An Early History of MAPC

Have you read this short manuscript about the earliest days of our church? In 1953, James and Gertrude Hunter wrote an account of the ministry of Rev. Henry Sloane Coffin, Jr., the congregation’s first pastor. Join Rev. Jenny McDevitt at 10:10 am on Sunday, December 9, in the Parish Hall, to explore this manuscript and the lessons it teaches us today about vision, leadership, and community engagement. Download the manuscript for free at www.mapc.com/about-mapc/history/

Thank you to everyone who has turned in a pledge for 2019. We are off to a strong start, but much like ministry itself, we need everyone's participation. Pledge cards are available in the pew racks, in the Narthex, or by calling the church office. You may also pledge or give online at mapc.com/giving/.

Weekly Calendar

Monday, December 3

9:30 am	Christmas Angel Gift Sorting	Phillips Lounge
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
4:30 pm	MAPC SERVES	James Lenox House
7:00 pm	Long Term Planning Task Force	Room 608

Tuesday, December 4

5:00 pm	Hood Library Fellowship	Library
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Personnel Committee	Pastor's Study

Wednesday, December 5

12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Phillips Lounge
1:30 pm	Shelter Leaders	Shelter Space
3:45 pm	Kids Club	PH, PL, 5th Floor, Gym
3:45 pm	Wee Kids	4th Floor
4:00 pm	Children's and T(w)ween Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
5:00 pm	MAPC Children's Choir Caroling	James Lenox House
6:00 pm	Cocaine Anonymous	5th Floor
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Annual Deacons Gathering	Parish Hall

Thursday, December 6

1:00 pm	Spiritual Growth and Faith Sharing	James Lenox House
6:30 pm	Thursday Open Table (MAPC SERVES)	Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Recovery Group	Library
7:00 pm	Carol Sing Rehearsal	Choir Room
8:30 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

Friday, December 7

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
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Saturday, December 8

9:00 am	Tell Me More About MAPC	Phillips Lounge
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Let There Be Light

Advent and Christmas Worship at MAPC

December 2: Let There Be *Hope*

December 9: Let There Be *Peace*

December 16: Let There Be *Joy*

December 18: Let There Be
A Service of the Longest Night in the Dana Chapel

December 23: Let There Be *Love*

Christmas Eve: Let There Be *Light*
5 pm Family Service
10:30 pm Candlelight Communion Service

Christmas Day: *Light* Among Us
10 am Lessons and Carols

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.

Ministry Team Staff

The Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt, *Senior Pastor and Head of Staff*

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

Christina A. Cosby, *Director of Christian Formation*

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

The Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman, *Pastoral Resident*

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

Mary W. Huff, *Associate Director of Music and Director of the NYC Children's Chorus*

Roger S. Pierce, Jr., *Director of Administration and Finance*

Chesna E. Hinkley, *Seminary Intern*

Audrey E. Webber, *Seminary Intern*

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

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