



# Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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



921 Madison Avenue • [mapc.com](http://mapc.com) • 212.288.8920

# Welcome to Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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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

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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

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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 Jan. 12, 2018, at 9 am in the Phillips Lounge. RSVPs are helpful to Lissette Perez-Erazo at [lgp@mapc.com](mailto:lgp@mapc.com).

# Order of Worship for the Lord's Day

*O Preparation, catcher of the off guard, leveler of all things high and low: you are the smoother of rough edges and the bearer of good news. Come, revel our webs of apathy with holy, sweeping light. Amen.*  
—Pamela C. Hawkins, “Behold!”

## Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Four Advent Preludes from *Orgelbüchlein*, BWV 599-602

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

Call to Worship

Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman

Prepare the way of the Lord!

**Every valley will be lifted up and every mountain made low.**

Rough places will be smoothed and uneven ground leveled out.

**Nothing will stand in the way of the Lord coming to dwell among us.**

**Prepare the way of the Lord, for peace is coming.**

Hymn

A Candle Is Burning

*Cradle Song*

A can - dle is burn - ing, a can - dle of PEACE, A can - dle to  
sig - nal that con - flict must cease. For Je - sus is com - ing to  
show us the way, A mes - sage of peace hum - bly laid in the hay.

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

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Art, Meme, Charlotte, and James Peponis (9 am)

Larry, Matthew, and Brian Kapfer (11:15 am)

\*Hymn 1

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

*Stuttgart*

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

**Gracious God,  
 Be patient with us, for we are slow of sight.  
 You promise that swords will be beaten into plowshares,  
     but we see little peace.  
 You promise that even the trees will clap their hands,  
     but we see little joy.  
 You promise that the lion will lie down with the lamb,  
     but we see little hope.  
 In a world filled with big, complex problems,  
     we look for big, complex answers.  
 We forget that you are one who comes as a baby, laid in a manger,  
     salvation wrapped up in swaddling cloth, tiny and helpless,  
     yet capable of more than we can imagine. (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 Savior reigns:  
 Let us our songs employ;  
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 Repeat the sounding joy,  
 Repeat the sounding joy,  
 Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

\*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

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

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Proclaiming God's Word

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Prayer for Illumination

O Antiphon 3

*John Weaver  
(b. 1937)*

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.

Old Testament Lesson

Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett  
Malachi 3:1-4  
(OT page 838)

\*Canticle (Hymn 602)

Song of Zechariah

*Merle's Tune*

Lesson with the Children and Youth

Audrey E. Webber

*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

Philippians 1:3-11  
(NT page 183)

Gradual

O Antiphon 4

*Weaver*

O Key of David, Scepter of the House of Israel,  
you open and no one can close, you close and no one can open.  
Come to set free the prisoners who live in darkness and the shadow of death.

Gospel Lesson

Luke 3:1-6  
(NT page 56)

Sermon

Let There Be Peace

Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman



————— Responding to God’s Word —————

\*Hymn 13 (11:15 am)

Prepare the Way, O Zion

*Bereden väg för Herran*

\*Affirmation of Faith

An Advent Affirmation

**We believe that God has come to us:**

**that God brought us into being,  
that God gave us breath and purpose,  
that we have been blessed to be a blessing to others,  
that we have fallen short of this commandment  
but that God has nevertheless loved us despite our brokenness.**

**We believe that God is coming to us:**

**that God is not willing to leave us alone,  
that God is coming to us as a particular human being,  
that God is committed to flesh and bone just like ours,  
that Mary will soon give birth and Joseph will soon clap his hands in joy,  
that Jesus Christ will be born to us, making our salvation complete.**

**We believe that God will come to us:**

**that God will have the final word and that Word will be good,  
that God will give us the presence of the Spirit to continue our work,  
that we are called to be disciples to all the ends of the earth,  
that the day is coming when crying and sorrow and suffering will be no more,  
and all will gather at the Table to sing an endless “Alleluia!”**

—*Rev. Stephen M. Fearing*

Prayers of the People

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

Presenting Our Offerings to God

Offertory Anthem (11:15 am)    Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes (1995)    *Mark Sirett*  
*(b. 1952)*

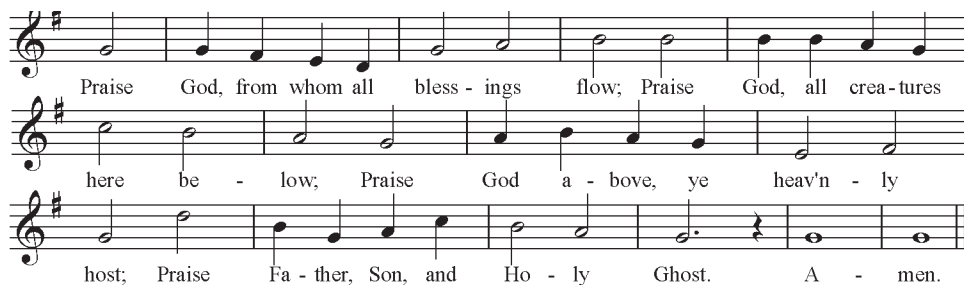
Thou shalt know him when he comes,  
Not by any din of drums,  
Nor his manners, nor his airs,  
Nor by anything he wears.

Thou shalt know him when he comes,  
Not by his crown or by his gown,  
But his coming known shall be,  
by holy harmony in which his coming  
makes in thee. Amen.

—*Anonymous*

\*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.*

## Anthem

People, Look East

*Besaçon Carol*  
*arr. Craig Phillips (b. 1961)*

1. People, look east. The time is near  
Of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the guest is on the way.

2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
One more seed is planted there:  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
That in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the rose is on the way.

3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build,  
Guard the nest that must be filled.  
Even the hour when wings are frozen,  
God for fledging time has chosen.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the bird is on the way.

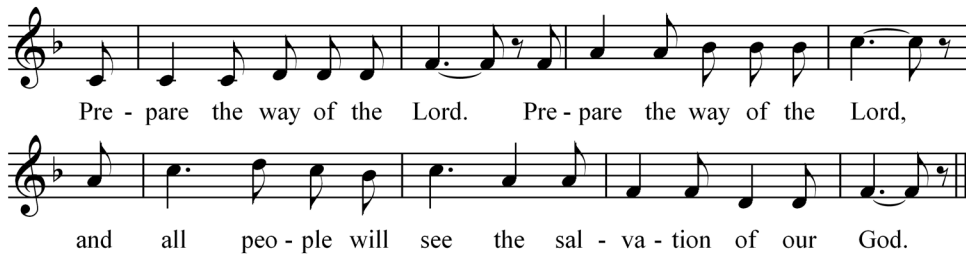
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim  
One more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather,  
Bright as sun and moon together.  
People look east, and sing today:  
Love the star is on the way.



5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth  
Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
With the word the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the Lord is on the way.

—Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)

### 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.

Text: Taizé Community / Music: Jacques Berthier; © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc.  
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### Prayer at the Conclusion of the Meal

\*Hymn 5

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

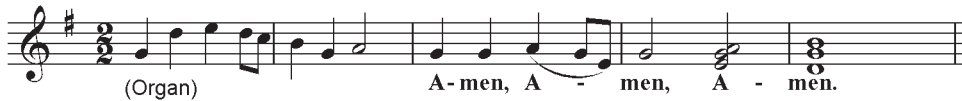
*Picardy*

*(Descant: Paul Halley, b. 1952)*

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Response

*Weaver*



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

\*Postlude

Alleluyas

*Simon Preston*

*(b. 1938)*

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### Worship Details

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#### Cover Art

Today's cover art, "Peaceable Kingdom, 1834" is by Edward Hicks (1780-1849). Hicks painted this scene 62 times as his understanding of a peaceable kingdom changed throughout his life and career. His paintings often depicted predators and prey lying down in harmony together, and a child -- the Christ child -- leading the way. Hicks longed to express unity and peace in light of a schism in his Society of Friends. It's often said that the schism is represented by the blasted tree trunk, which could also represent the stump of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1).

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## Information and Announcements

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### “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 today in the Dana Chapel to explore this manuscript and what it can teach us today about vision, leadership, and community engagement.

### Senior Lunch

MAPC seniors and friends, come downstairs to the Parish Hall after Fellowship Hour today to enjoy lunch and conversation. Suggested donation for lunch is \$10.

### God With Us: MAPC's Annual Christmas Pageant

Join us in the Parish Hall on December 16th, at 10:10 am for our annual telling of the Christmas story. This year the children of our church have learned a new version of the story in rhyme in hopes to shed a new light on the first Christmas Night—the day that Jesus came among us. We hope that you will join us for pastries, coffee, and a time to reflect on “God with Us!”

### Carol Sing

Join us next Sunday, December 16, at 4 pm, for an afternoon concert of audience carols, reading, poetry, and seasonal choral music (including excerpts for Vivaldi's *Gloria*) sung the by the Choir of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church and the New York City Children's Chorus, accompanied by guest instrumentalists and conducted by Mary Huff and Andrew Henderson. Admission is free, though a freewill offering will be taken. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall.

### Shelter Stockings

Everyone deserves a little bit of joy Christmas morning. The shelter leaders are looking for black socks, wool socks, candy, chapstick, tissues, and small travel size toiletries (preferably with no alcohol) to stuff 12 stockings for our shelter guests. We need all items by December 22nd. They may be dropped off to the receptionist or given directly to Rebecca Heilman on a Sunday morning. Questions? Contact Rebecca at [rmh@mapc.com](mailto:rmh@mapc.com).

### Christmas Flowers

Poinsettias will once again grace the sanctuary this Christmas season. Gifts may be made in memory or in honor of loved ones. To make a donation, use the special insert in the bulletin. Place the envelope in the offering plate or mail it to Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church office. The suggested donaton for each name is \$40. In order to include the names in the bulletins on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, we must receive your donation by Monday, December 17.

**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/](http://mapc.com/giving/).

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## Weekly Calendar

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### Monday, December 10

6:30 pm	Women's Bible Study	Phillips Lounge
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Long Term Planning Task Force	Room 608

### Tuesday, December 11

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
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### Wednesday, December 12

12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Phillips Lounge
1:30 pm	Shelter Leaders	Shelter Space
3:45 pm	Kids Club – Pageant Rehearsal	PH, PL, 5th Floor, Gym
3:45 pm	Wee Kids	4th Floor
4:00 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
4:45 pm	Children's & T(w)een Choir	Choir Room
5:00 pm	Children's Choir Caroling	James Lenox House
5:00 pm	T(w)een Club	Youth Lounge
6:00 pm	Cocaine Anonymous	5th Floor
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Budget Committee Meeting	8th Floor

### Thursday, December 13

6:00 pm	20s/30s Bible Study	Apt 10 C
6:30 pm	Thursday Open Table	Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Recovery Group	Library
7:00 pm	Carol Sing Rehearsal	Sanctuary
8:30 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

### Friday, December 14

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
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### Saturday, December 15

9:00 am	Sanctuary Decorating	Sanctuary
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# Let There Be Light

Advent and Christmas Worship at MAPC

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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*