



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN EVANSTON

# Lessons & Carols

## Sunday Worship Service

December 12, 2021 – 9:30 a.m.

*Third Sunday of Advent*

**Our Mission:**

*First Presbyterian Church of Evanston exists  
to know Christ and to grow in him  
as we serve and make disciples  
in Evanston, the Chicago area, and the world.*

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### FOCUS

#### Prelude

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

*(Music: J.S. Bach, 1685-1750, arr. Mark Hayes, b. 1953)*

Tecum Principium, *from* Christmas Oratorio

*(Words: Psalm 110:3; Music: Camille Saint-Saëns, 1835-1921)*

*Tecum principium in die virtutis tuae in splendoribus Sanctorum.*

With you is sovereignty in the splendor of holiness on the day of your birth.

#### Welcome & Announcements

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### EXALT

#### Opening Hymn

Of the Father's Love Begotten (*Blue Hymnal #309*)

*(Words: Georg Weissel, 1642, transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1855;*

*Music: Thomas Williams, 1789, harm. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872; CCLI Song #196968)*

Of the Father's love begotten,  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,

He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heav'n adore him;  
Angel hosts, His praises sing,  
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before him,  
And extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
Ev'ry voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore!

Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,  
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,  
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving  
and unwearied praises be:  
Honor, glory, and dominion,  
And eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore!

## First Scripture Lesson

Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-25, 3:1-15  
*(Old Testament pp. 2-3)*

## Confession of Sins & Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Since the Garden, God has been calling to us, "Where are you?" Since the Garden, humans have been hiding in shame. Let's stop hiding and bring our sins to light.

**All: Our God, you created the world and called it good. You created man and woman in your image and called them very good. But we have been deceived by half-truths and false promises. We have tasted temptation and it is bitter in our mouths. We thought our desire for forbidden fruit would bring us wisdom, but it brought us only the curse of pain and death. Please cover us in your love. Take away our sin. Restore our relationship with you, our God.**

*(We offer our silent prayers of confession.)*

Leader: 1 Corinthians 15 tells us: For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

**All: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen!**

Sisters and brothers, believe the good news of the gospel.

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

## **Anthem of Response**

Mary Consoles Eve

*(Words & Music: Flo Paris, Katy Bowser Hutson, Kenny Hutson, Sandra McCracken, 2015;  
CCLI Song #7054137)*

*Eve my sister  
The one who took the fall  
Eve my sister  
Mother of us all  
Lift up your head  
Don't hide your blushing face  
The promised One  
Is finally on His way*

*Almost not yet already  
Almost not yet already*

*Eve it's Mary  
Now I'm a mother too  
The child I carry  
A promise coming true  
This baby comes to save us from our sin  
A servant King His kingdom without end*

*Almost not yet already  
Almost not yet already*

*He comes to make his blessings flow  
As far and wide as the curse is found  
He comes to make His blessings flow*

*Almost not yet already  
Almost not yet already  
Almost not yet already*

*Eve my sister  
The one who took the fall  
Eve my sister  
Mother of us all  
The promised One  
Is finally on His way*

### **Lighting the Third Candle of Advent – Love**

**All: Redeemer, come! I open wide  
My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide.  
Let me Thy inner presence feel;  
Thy grace and love in me reveal.**

### **Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Scripture Lessons**

Isaiah 11:1-5  
*(Old Testament p. 654)*

Micah 5:2-4  
*(Old Testament p. 890)*

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7  
*(Old Testament p. 651)*

Isaiah 40:1-11  
*(Old Testament pp. 682-683)*

### **Anthem of Response**

Consurge, Filia Sion, *from* Christmas Oratorio  
*(Words: Lamentations 2:19, Isaiah 62:1; Music: Camille Saint-Saëns, 1835-1921)*

*Consurge, filia Sion. Alleluja.  
Arise, daughter of Zion. Hallelujah.  
Lauda in nocte, in principio vigiliarum. Alleluja.  
Praise God in the night: in the beginning of the watches. Hallelujah.  
Egrediatur ut splendor justus Sion,  
Until Zion's righteousness thereof go forth as brightness,  
et Salvator ejus ut lampas accendatur. Alleluja.  
and the Savior thereof as a lamp that burneth. Hallelujah.*

## Hymn of Response

Comfort, Comfort You My People (*Blue Hymnal #3*)  
(Words: Johannes Olearius, 1671, transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.;  
Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551; CCLI Song #4612049)

Comfort, comfort you my people,  
Tell of peace, thus says our God;  
Comfort those who sit in darkness  
Bowed beneath oppression's load.  
Speak you to Jerusalem  
Of the peace that waits for them;  
Tell them that their sins I cover,  
And their warfare now is over.

For the herald's voice is calling  
In the desert far and near,  
Bidding us to make repentance  
Since the kingdom now is here.  
O that warning cry obey!  
Now prepare for God a way;  
Let the valleys rise in meeting  
And the hills bow down in greeting.

Make you straight what long was crooked,  
Make the rougher places plain;  
Let your hearts be true and humble,  
As befits God's holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord  
Now o'er earth is shed abroad;  
And all flesh shall see the token  
That God's word is never broken.

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## ENCOUNTER

### Children's Moment

### Passing the Peace of Christ

### Sermon

#### *Meditation*

*Rev. Amanda Golbek, Minister of Children & Youth*

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## RESPOND

### Sixth Scripture Lesson

Luke 1:5-25

*(New Testament pp. 52-53)*

### Anthem of Response

*Alleluja, from Christmas Oratorio*

*(Words: Isaiah 49:13; Music: Camille Saint-Saëns, 1835-1921)*

*Alleluja. Laudate coeli, et exulta terra,  
Hallelujah. Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth.  
quia consulatus est Dominus populum suum;  
For the Lord hath comforted his people,  
et pauperum suorum miserebitur.  
and will have mercy upon his afflicted.*

### Seventh Scripture Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

*(New Testament p. 53)*

### Song of Response

*Winter Snow*

*(Words & Music: Audrey Assad, 2009; CCLI Song #5492031)*

You could've come like a mighty storm  
With all the strength of a hurricane  
You could've come like a forest fire  
With the power of heaven in Your flame

But You came like a winter snow  
Quiet and soft and slow

Falling from the sky in the night  
To the earth below

You could've swept in like a tidal wave  
Or in an ocean to ravish our hearts  
You could've come through like a roaring flood  
To wipe away the things we've scarred

Oh oh but You came like a winter snow  
You were quiet You were soft and slow  
Falling from the sky in the night  
To the earth below

Ooh no Your voice wasn't in a bush burning  
No Your voice wasn't in a rushing wind  
It was still it was small it was hidden

Oh You came like a winter snow  
Quiet and soft and slow  
Falling from the sky in the night  
To the earth below

Oh yeah  
You came falling from the sky in the night  
To the earth below

## **Eighth Scripture Lesson & Responsive Reading**

Luke 1:39-45, 57-64, 67-79  
*(New Testament pp. 53-54)*

39 In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, 40 where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit 42 and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. 43 And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? 44 For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. 45 And blessed is she who believed that

there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

46 And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

**47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,**

48 for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

**Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;**

49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

**and holy is his name.**

50 His mercy is for those who fear him

**from generation to generation.**

51 He has shown strength with his arm;

**he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.**

52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

**and lifted up the lowly;**

53 he has filled the hungry with good things,

**and sent the rich away empty.**

54 He has helped his servant Israel,

**in remembrance of his mercy,**

55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,

**to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”**

56 And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

57 Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. 58 Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

59 On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. 60 But his mother said, “No; he is to be called John.” 61 They said to her, “None of your relatives has this name.” 62 Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. 63 He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, “His name is John.” And all of them were amazed. 64 Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God.

67 Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:

68 “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

**for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.**  
69 He has raised up a mighty savior for us  
in the house of his servant David,  
**70 as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,**  
71 that we would be saved from our enemies  
**and from the hand of all who hate us.**  
72 Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,  
**and has remembered his holy covenant,**  
73 the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,  
to grant us 74 that we,  
**being rescued from the hands of our enemies,**  
might serve him without fear,  
**75 in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.**  
76 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;  
**for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,**  
77 to give knowledge of salvation to his people  
**by the forgiveness of their sins.**  
78 By the tender mercy of our God,  
**the dawn from on high will break upon us,**  
79 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
**to guide our feet into the way of peace.”**

## **Anthem of Response**

### Wexford Carol

*(Words: Irish Traditional; Music: Irish Traditional, arr. Dale Warland, b. 1932)*

*Good people all, this Christmas time,  
Consider well and bear in mind  
What our good God for us has done,  
In sending His beloved Son.  
With Mary holy we should pray  
To God with love this Christmas Day;  
In Bethlehem upon that morn  
There was a blessed Messiah born.’*

*The night before that happy tide,  
The noble Virgin and her guide  
Were long time seeking up and down*

*To find a lodging in the town.  
But mark how all things came to pass:  
From ev'ry door repell'd, alas!  
As long foretold, their refuge all  
Was but an humble ox's stall.*

*Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep  
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;  
To whom God's angels did appear,  
Which put the shepherds in great fear.  
"Prepare and go," the angels said,  
"To Bethlehem, be not afraid;  
For there you'll find, this happy morn,  
A princely babe, sweet Jesus born."*

*With thankful heart and joyful mind,  
The shepherds went the babe to find,  
And as God's angel had foretold,  
They did our Savior Christ behold.  
Within a manger he was laid,  
And by his side the Virgin maid,  
Attending on the Lord of Life,  
Who came on earth to end all strife.*

## **Sharing of Tithes & Offerings**

### **Prayers of the People & 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.

### **Ninth Scripture Lesson**

Luke 3:1a, 2b-9, 15-18, 21-22  
(New Testament pp. 56-57)

## Closing Hymn

### Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (*Blue Hymnal #5*)

(Words: from *Liturgy of St. James*, 4<sup>th</sup> century, transl. Gerard Moultrie, 1864; Music: French carol "Picardy," arr. Gustav Holst, 1874-1934; CCLI Song #2780502)

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
And with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
For with blessing in his hand,  
Christ our God to earth descendeth,  
Our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
As of old on earth he stood  
Lord of lords, in human vesture,  
In the Body and the Blood,  
He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven  
Spreads its vanguard on the way,  
As the Light of Light descendeth  
From the realms of endless day,  
That the powers of hell may vanish  
As the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph;  
Cherubim with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the Presence,  
As with ceaseless voice they cry,  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, Lord most high.  
Amen.

## Benediction

## Postlude

### Peace Train

(Music & Lyrics: Cat Stevens, 1971)

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## Today's Worship Service Leaders

**Carol Smith**, Piano

**Janelle Lake**, Harp

**Dr. Rebecca Chu**, Organist

**Crofton Coleman**, Worship Band Director, Vocals, Piano

**Daniel Allen**, Guitars; **Erwin Yasukawa**, Bass

**Christie Miller**, Clarinet; **Tina Laughlin**, Percussion

**Hannah Dixon McConnell**, Director of Worship & Music, Chancel Choir Director, Vocals

**Chancel Choir: Alyce Claerbaut, Patricia Fallon, Kaytlin Withers<sup>o</sup>, Beth Rice, Annette Stover, Kay Suguira**, Sopranos; **Jacqueline Kerns<sup>o</sup>, Pam Pettibone, Carol Smith, Carol Surma, Judy Taylor, Anne Van Heukelem, Nora Wolfe<sup>o</sup>** Altos; **Maximiliano Illanes<sup>o</sup>, Clark Robinson, Dave Taylor**, Tenors; **Tom Alrich, Paul Koch<sup>o</sup>, John MacDonald**, Basses

*<sup>o</sup>Section leaders*

**Rev. Amanda Golbek**, Minister of Children & Youth, Welcome, Children's Message, Meditation, Benediction

**'Yemi Ajisebutu, Bob Bastian, Richard Bell, Sonia Bodi, Mike Denesha, Zadie Ivaska, Tuah Jenta, John Powell, Clark Robinson, Carol Smith, Steve Smith, May Tchao**, Scripture Readings

**Caryl Weinberg**, Dir. Of Mission, Confession & Assurance

**Greg Scheer**, author, Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

**David, Alicia, Lily, & David Nayak**, Advent Candle Lighting

**Jixun Hu**, Ministry Intern, Prayers of the People

**Noah McLeod**, Interim A/V Coordinator

**Jim Teague**, Communications Director, Projection

**John Carlson, Jake Collins, Alexi Langlois, Qin Zhou**, A/V Volunteers

**Joe Sickles**, Building Team

**David Carling**, Front Desk

**Tony Brown, Carol Clanton, John Powell, Marcia Smith**, Ushers

**Paul Haase**, Greeter

**Bob Bastian & Mike Denesha**, Prayer Companions

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## Announcements

**Fellowship time in Roy Hall, TODAY** - Join us today after the service in our 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor gym as our Deacons host our Sunday social gathering.

**Advent Adult Education Class continues TODAY in Dining Room** - Taught by FPCE member David Ivaska, our class entitled "Tough Questions at Christmas – Surprised by Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace," meets in the Sanctuary and online via Zoom.

**Pageant rehearsal at 11 a.m. TODAY in Sanctuary** - All pageant participants will meet in the Sanctuary at 11 a.m. for our dress rehearsal of the Christmas pageant. This is our last chance to practice before we lead worship on Sunday, December 19! Email Pastor Amanda for more info: [agolbek@firstpresevanston.org](mailto:agolbek@firstpresevanston.org).

**Smiths celebrate 50th anniversary with open house December 18** - All of the First Pres family is invited to stop by and visit Steve and Carol Smith at their home in Evanston between 1 and 5 p.m. on Saturday, December 18. Contact them for details and the address. Cards and notes are welcome, but no gifts, please.

**'Blue Christmas' set for December 22 on Zoom** - For many, Christmas is not a time of joy and celebration, but rather a time of grieving. The added pain and isolation of the current pandemic have intensified many of these feelings. Join us Wednesday, December 22, at 7 p.m. on Zoom as we gather in a guided time of lifting these struggles and concerns to God, who delights in drawing near and giving us comfort. This will be a time for expressing our thoughts and feelings to God and one another as we support one another through Scripture and prayer. The Zoom link can be found on the FPCE website home page under Events.

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### **Youth/Children's Education – Today at 11 a.m.**

- All children are asked to meet in the Sanctuary for Christmas Pageant rehearsal (*Except for Confirmation Class*)
  - Confirmation Class: 8th and 9th grade – Meet in Room 206.
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## First Presbyterian Church

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*This QR code will take you to a web page with links for giving and recording your attendance at today's service via the Connect Card.*

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**Welcome!** We're glad you are here. We ask everyone to complete and return this page. Please tear it off from the stapled bulletin, to slip to the offering basket every week.

**December 12, 2021**

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Your Name

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Family members' names/ages

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Street Address, City, State, Zip

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Phone:     Cell         Home

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Email address

Send me the weekly E-newsletter

First time visitor

Occasional attendee

Regular attendee/member

Single

Married

Have children at home

Junior/High School student

College student/Graduate student

I'm interested in:

Knowing Jesus better

I need prayer or support

I would like to speak with a pastor

Joining a Small Group

Joining the Welcome Team

Worship Music Team

Sound/AV/Video Team

Prayer Team

Becoming a Member

I need a Stephen Minister

Communion at home suggested for

\_\_\_\_\_ (name)

Please pray for:

*(This is shared with pastors & confidential prayer team)*