



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.*

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

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.

ENCOUNTER

Children's Moment

Passing the Peace of Christ

Sermon

Meditation

Rev. Amanda Golbek, Minister of Children & Youth

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*, 4th 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)

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^o, Beth Rice, Annette Stover, Kay Suguira, Sopranos; **Jacqueline Kerns^o, Pam Pettibone, Carol Smith, Carol Surma, Judy Taylor, Anne Van Heukelem, Nora Wolfe^o** Altos; **Maximiliano Illanes^o, Clark Robinson, Dave Taylor**, Tenors; **Tom Alrich, Paul Koch^o, John MacDonald**, Basses

^oSection 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

Announcements

Fellowship time in Roy Hall, TODAY - Join us today after the service in our 2nd 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.

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.

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.
-

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

Your Name

Family members' names/ages

Street Address, City, State, Zip

Phone: Cell Home

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)