

# First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

## Fourth Sunday of Advent Digital Traditional Service

December 20, 2020



### *The Service for the Lord's Day*

#### WE GATHER

PRELUDE Fantasia on "Greensleeves"

arr. Richard Purvis

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PASSING THE PEACE

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING RESPONSE

#9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Verse 4

VENI EMMANUEL

O come the King of nations bring  
An end to all our suffering  
Bid every pain and sorrow cease  
And reign now as our Prince of Peace.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

OPENING HYMN

#53

What Child is This

GREENSLEEVES

1 What Child is this who, laid to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:

This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

2 Why lies He in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.

3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come one and all, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

## *WE CONFESS*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, like Mary we are often perplexed when receiving your greetings, and wonder what they may be. But instead of listening closely and responding faithfully, as she did, we turn away. We tell ourselves that we are imagining things, that there's not much we could do of any importance anyway; we are afraid of what your call might involve, and what it might cost us. Forgive us, Lord; help us to listen for your call to us and to respond with faith and boldness, "let it be with me according to your word."**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## *WE LISTEN*

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### SCRIPTURE Luke 1:26-38

Leader: The word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

### SERMON

The Rev. J.C. Austin

"Do Not Be Afraid"

## *WE RESPOND*

### HYMN

#57

The Snow Lay on the Ground

VENITE ADOREMUS

1 The snow lay on the ground, the stars shone bright,  
When Christ our Lord was born on Christmas night.  
Venite adoremus Dominum. Venite adoremus Dominum

Refrain:

Venite adoremus Dominum.

Venite adoremus Dominum.

2 'Twas gentle Mary maid, so young and strong,  
Who welcomed here the Christchild with a song.  
She laid Him in a stall at Bethlehem;  
The ass and oxen shared the roof with them. (Refrain)

3 Saint Joseph, too, was by to tend the Child,  
To guard him, and protect His mother mild.  
The angels hovered round and sang this song:  
Venite adoremus Dominum. (Refrain)

4 And thus that manger poor became a throne;  
For He whom Mary bore was God the Son.  
O come, then, let us join the heavenly host;  
To praise the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. (Refrain)

BAPTISM Stella Vincenza Warman daughter of Nicole and Austin Warman

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

### CALL FOR OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory "A Song of Peace", Op. 113 No. 4

Charles Villiers Stanford

Rebecca Erhardt, Soprano

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse,  
and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;

And he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes,  
neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

And with righteousness shall he judge the poor,  
and reprove with equity the meek of the earth:  
and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins,  
and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the kid;  
and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together;  
and a little child shall lead them.

They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain:  
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord,  
as the waters cover the sea.

And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse,  
which shall stand for an ensign unto the people;  
and his rest shall be glorious.

**\*Response - #592**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him, above ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**CLOSING HYMN**

**#22**

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

1 Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Refrain:

Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

2 Shepherds, in the field abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing;  
Yonder shines the infant light:

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations;  
Ye have seen His natal star.

4 All creation, join in praising  
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising  
To the eternal Three in One.

## BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "In Dulci Jubilo"

arr. Wilbur Held