
FOCUS

Prayer Before Worship

“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”
(which means “God with us”).

Matthew 1:23

Prelude

He is Born, the Divine Christ Child
(“Il Est Né”)

(Traditional French melody, arr. by Lloyd Larson)

EXALT

Call to Worship

Jesus says: I am coming soon.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;

God sends good news to the oppressed.

Let us worship God.

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle: Joy

Opening Praise: Carol Sing

Once in Royal David’s City*

(Words: Cecil F. Alexander; Music: Henry J. Gauntlett)

Angels We Have Heard on High* (Children only - 1st verse)

(Words: Traditional French carol; Music: Traditional French melody)

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

(Words: Edmund H. Sears; Music: Richard S. Willis)

The First Nowell* (Children only - 1st verse)

(Words: Traditional English carol; Music: Arr. David Willcocks)

Prayer of Confession

God our Maker, we confess that we are not ready to meet you.

You send your Spirit to release us, yet we remain captivated by sin.

You stand among us in Christ Jesus, yet we claim we do not know you.

Forgive us, God of grace. Make us holy; make us whole.

Keep us safe and sound until the day of your coming;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(People offer their own private silent prayers to the Lord)

Assurance of Pardon

As we hear the ancient prophecies of the coming of the Messiah, we long for the day when death will be swallowed up and every tear will be wiped away. As we wait expectantly for Christ’s promised return, we live in the assurance of God’s gracious forgiveness.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel,

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

ENCOUNTER

Welcome

Children’s Moment

Passing the Peace of Christ

Offering of Gifts

Musical Offering: Chancel Choir & Handbell Choir

Sing We Now of Christmas

(Words: 15th-century French Carol, transl. J.M.C. Crum;

Music: 15th-century French carol “Noel Nouvelet,” arr. Kevin McChesney, 1997)

Sing we now of Christmas,
Noel, sing we here!
Hear our grateful praises
to the babe so dear.

Angels called to shepherds,
“Leave your flocks at rest,
journey forth to Bethlehem,
find the child so blest.” [Refrain]

Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we
now Noel!

In Bethlehem they found him;
Joseph and Mary mild,
seated by the manger,
watching the holy child. [Refrain]

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25, 2:13-15

(New Testament, p. 1, 2)

Sermon

Joseph: Radical Obedience

RESPOND

Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer

Closing Song

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

(Words and Music: Charles Wesley and Rowland Hugh Prichard; arr. Fernando Ortega)

Benediction

Postlude

Noel

Grand Jeu et Duo
(Louis-Claude D’Aquin)

Worship Service Leaders

Rev. Dr. Raymond Hylton, Senior Pastor, Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession & Assurance, Prayers of the People

Rev. Henry Coates, Designated Associate Pastor, Welcome, Sermon

Rev. Kristin Mueller, Dir. Of Children’s Ministries, Children’s Moment

Mozilda Asanji, Scripture Reader

Students Kaitlyn Bingayen and Sommer Cravens with Mentor Julie Stamos,

Advent Candle Lighters and Readers

Jack Harriff, Organist

Hannah Dixon McConnell, Choir Director

Pam Pettibone, Handbell Choir Director

Matt McLeod, Bill Bolsen, Jack Harriff, Doug Hood, Carol Surma, Hannah McConnell, Marge Stromberg, Lisa Fisher, Noah McLeod, Peg Forbes, Steve Smith, Anne Van Heukelem, Kay Sugiura, Chancel Bells

Elda McGinty, Dir. of Music & Worship, Piano/Worship Leader

Daniel Allen, Worship Leader; **Elizabeth Ferguson**, Piano/Worship Leader; **Fred**

Bryant, Guitar; **Scott Henrie**, Bass; **Tina Laughlin**, Percussion

Neal Ostrovsky, Audio/Visual Coordinator

Lynn Ostick, A/V Volunteer

* Please stand as you are able

** Assistive listening devices are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Please return receivers at the end of the service.

Welcome We’re glad you are here!

We ask everyone to complete and return this
tear-off slip to the offering basket every week.

December 17, 2017 - 9:00 a.m.

Your Name

Family members’ names/ages

Street Address, City, State, Zip

Phone: Cell Home

Email address

Send me the weekly E-newsletter

- Single
 Married
 Have children at home
 Junior/High School student
 College student

- First time visitor
 Occasional attendee
 Regular attendee/member

I’m interested in:

- Knowing Jesus better
 I need prayer or support
 Joining a Small Group
 Joining the Welcome Team
 Worship Music Team/Choir
 Sound/AV/Video Team
 Becoming a Member
 I need a Stephen Minister
 Counseling at The Counseling Center
 Communion at home suggested for
_____ (name)

Please Pray for: (This is shared with
pastors & confidential prayer team.)

Please silence all cell phones
and electronic devices

Welcome Visitors!

Please visit the Welcome Table in the back of the sanctuary after the service and join us for refreshments in Roy Hall on the 2nd floor. Please sign this tear-off panel with your contact information filled in on the other side and deposit in the offering plate.

Children are welcome in worship!

Parents may use the lounge in the back of the sanctuary to participate in the service via a TV monitor. Worship journals and children's bulletins are available from the ushers, who are also available to direct you to our other facilities.

Prayer Requests

Our prayer companions are available at the front of the sanctuary after each service to pray with you. You may also include your prayer requests on the weekly tear-off tab (on the other side of this bulletin) and deposit it in the offering. Our staff prays weekly for the needs of the congregation.

Sunday Worship at First Presbyterian Evanston

9 a.m. Blended Service

Children are welcome in worship!**

Options for Families:

Infants/Toddlers – Crib Room

Ages 2-4 – Blue Room

Ages 4-8 – Children's Worship in the Choir Room following Children's Moment. Children return to sanctuary during final hymn.

** Worship journals & children's bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary. Changing tables & quiet space is available in the women's lounge (back corner of the Sanctuary).

Fellowship Time (Roy Hall, 2nd Floor) (10:10 am)

A time to connect with new and old friends over coffee, tea and cookies.

Sunday Education 10:30 - 11:15 am

Children's and Youth Christian Foundations Classes

Infants & Toddlers - Crib Room

Ages 2 & 3 - Yellow Room

Pre-K - Blue Room

Kindergarten - Orange Room

Grades 1 & 2 - Rm. 21 (lower level)

Grades 3 & 4 - Rm. 33 (lower level)

Grades 5 & 6 - 3rd Floor (East)

Sunday School Grades 7 & 8 -

NUBS Lounge, 3rd Floor

High School Sunday School Grades

9-12 - PYGS Lounge, Basement

Confirmation - Main Floor Choir Room

Adult Discipleship Learning

Advent Adult Sunday School (Dining Room) – "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus: Christian Faith in times of Crisis."

Advent is a time of hopeful expectation for the coming of the Savior. Yet how do we keep hope alive in times of extreme crisis? Join Drs. William Myatt and Robert Hogg with Pastor Henry Coates as together we explore historical and contemporary crises and the response of Christians in times when hope was hard to keep.

TODAY: Christianity and the Crisis of Poverty - Philippians 4:6

11:30 a.m. Contemporary Service

Children are welcome in worship!**

Options for Families:

Children 4 and under – Crib Room

** Worship journals & children's bulletins are available in the back of the Sanctuary.

Changing tables & quiet space is available in the women's lounge (back corner of the Sanctuary).

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First Presbyterian Church of Evanston
1427 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, Illinois 60201
847-864-1472 firstpresevanston.org



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firstpresevanston

WELCOME TO

Sunday Worship

December 17, 2017, 9:00 am - Blended Service



Third Sunday of Advent - Joseph: Radical Obedience

Our Mission:

KNOWING CHRIST

FOLLOWING CHRIST

SERVING CHRIST



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN EVANSTON

Prayer Companions:
Ron and Eleanor Ehresman