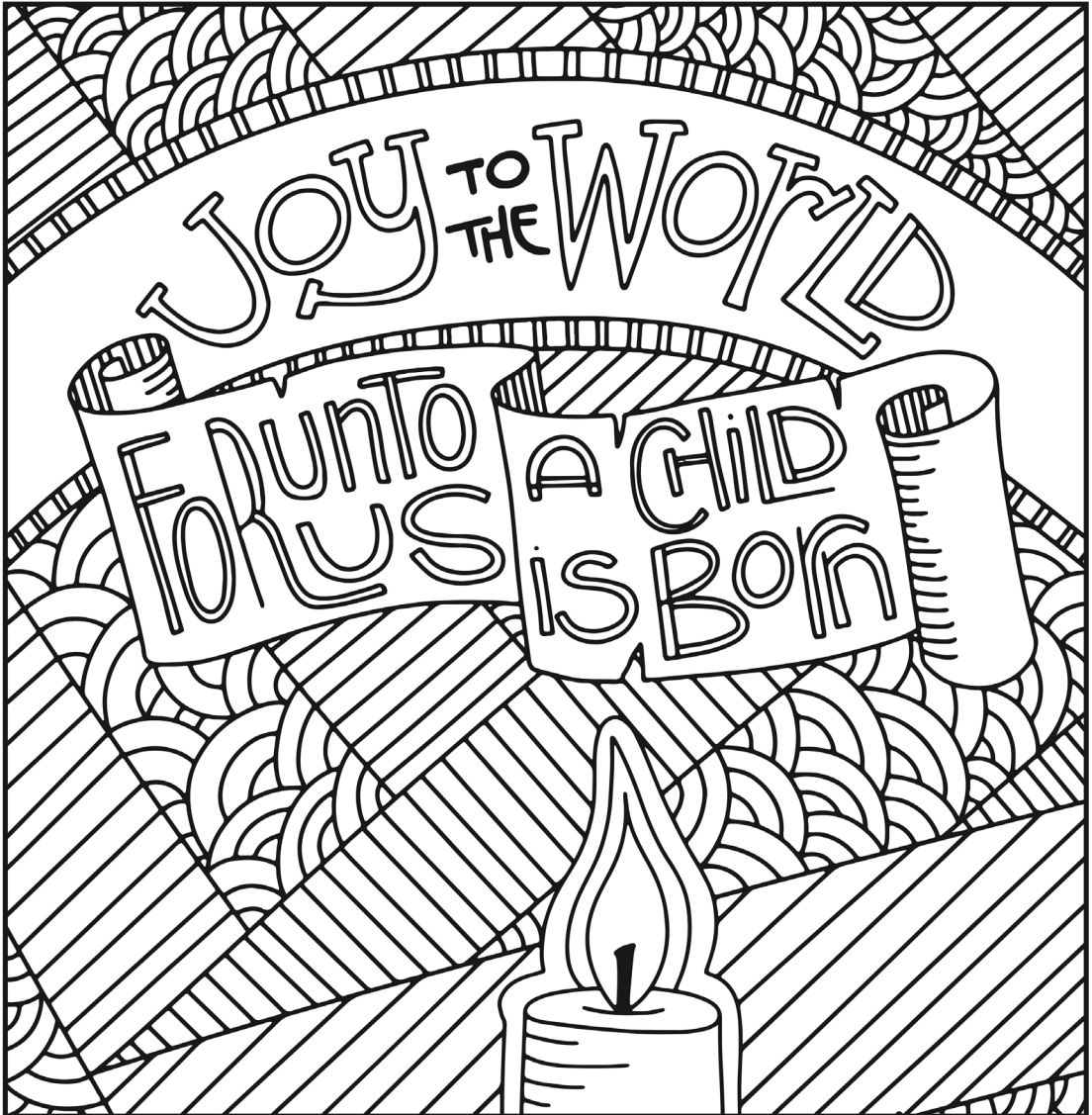




Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

Christmas Eve Family Service
December 24, 2019 • 5 pm



921 Madison Avenue • mapc.com • 212.288.8920

Welcome to Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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 . . .

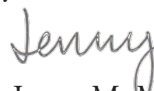
Whether you came with a friend or just wandered in accidentally . . .

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 on Sundays, 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 M. McDevitt
Senior Pastor

Children Are Always Welcome

Your children are always welcome here at MAPC, including worship. To help with that, Children's Worship Bags are located in the Narthex. Red bags are for 2nd graders and above. Blue bags are for 1st graders and below. Please use the bag that best suits your child. Children can't help but make a bit noise from time to time. Your family's presence is a delight, not a distraction. If it is your preference, 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

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 is being planned. Childcare provided with advance request. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com.

Order of Worship for Christmas Eve

Prelude

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come
(*Vom Himmel hoch*)

Johann Pachelbel
(1653-1703)

Good Christian Friends Rejoice
(*In Dulci Jubilo*)

Dieterich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

Pastoral Symphony
(from *Messiah*)

George Frideric Handel
(1685-1759)

Welcome and Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

Glory to God in the highest!

And hope to every discouraged heart.

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to every conflicted soul.

Glory to God in the highest!

And joy to every lonely spirit.

Glory to God in the highest!

And love to everyone.

Let us sing to God, and to the baby born to us this night!

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Natalie, Paul, Patrick, and Oliver Pennington

*Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come, and behold him,

Born the King of angels!

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation!

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, Glory in the highest!

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n.
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing,
O come, let us adore him, O Come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

A Prayer for Christmas Eve

Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman

Baby Jesus, born this night,
full of grace and full of might.
Help us always to follow the star
and be like the shepherds who traveled so far.
Let us be like the magi who worshipped the king
and let us be like the angels who celebrate and sing.
We are your children, may we always remember,
so let us be loving, graceful, and tender.
When we've lost our way, we trust you'll be there
shining your light and offering your care.
We're here to adore you, the one born in the hay;
you're changing the world, starting today. (Silent Prayer)

Kyrie Eleison

St. Louis

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel.

Assurance of God's Grace

The true light is coming into the world.
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

*Response of Praise

In Dulci Jubilo

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

*Passing the Peace

Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*Carol

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”**

The Christmas Story

Mary and Joseph

Matthew 1:18-25

Carol

Veni Emmanuel

**O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

The Journey to Bethlehem

Greta K. Baier
Luke 2:1-5

Carol

St. Louis

**O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.**

**Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.**

Jesus is Born

Luke 2:6-7

Carol

Mueller

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.**

The Angels Visit the Shepherds

Elliot W. Henderson
Luke 2:8-14

Carol

Greensleeves

**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?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom Shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

Carol

Gloria

**Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

The Shepherds Visit the Stable

Luke 2:15-20

Carol

Gloria

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?**

**What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

Carol

The First Nowell

**The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

Royal Visitors From the East

Matthew 2:1-12

Carol

Three Kings of Orient

**We three kings of Orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light!**

Why We Tell the Story

Prayer

Carol

Stille Nacht

**Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright,**

**Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

Presentation of the Offering and the Joy Offering

Offertory Hymn

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

African-American Spiritual

Refrain:

**Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!**

**While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. (Refrain)**

**The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)**

**Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)**

A Litany of Praise for Christ's Birth

Timothy D. Johnson, Kathryn Tonking

In a little town, known for nothing much, God's holy child was born:

Welcome the Light!

By the faint light of the moon, Mary and Joseph found their way:

Welcome the Light!

Warm breath of resting beasts, kindly sparkle in their eyes:

Welcome the Light!

In the shadowy stable stall, Joseph kindled a lamp:

Welcome the Light!

There Mary gave birth to Jesus, called God-With-Us:

Welcome the Light!

Angels opened the doors of heaven, sang, "Glory to God in the heights!"

Welcome the Light!

Shepherds saw the sky ablaze, left their sheep and came to see:

Welcome the Light!

In the darkest winter night, God set a brilliant star:

Welcome the Light!

Magi from the East divined God's shining sign:

Welcome the Light!

And on this Christmas night with joy, we greet the Child:

Welcome the Light!

— Jennifer Phillips

*Carol

Joy to the World

Antioch

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare him room,

And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns;

Let men their songs employ,

While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,

Nor thorns infest the ground.

He comes to make His blessings flow

Far as the curse is found,

Far as the curse is found,

Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,

And makes the nations prove

The glories of his righteousness,

And wonders of his love,

And wonders of his love,

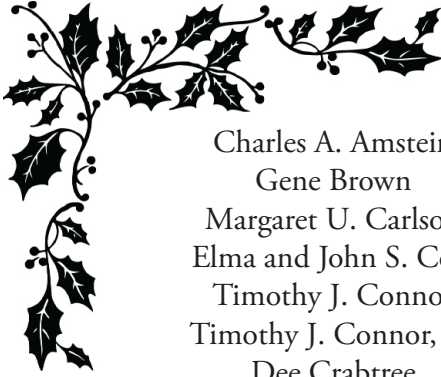
And wonders, wonders of his love.

*Benediction

*Postlude

Good Christian Friends Rejoice
(In Dulci Jubilo)

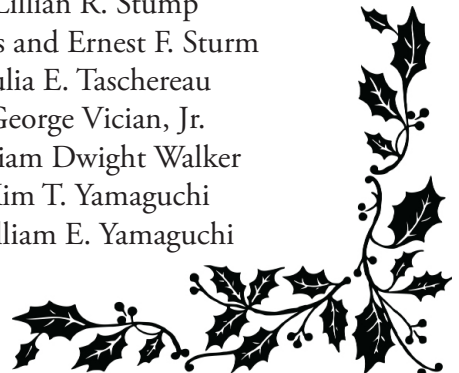
Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)



Charles A. Amstein
Gene Brown
Margaret U. Carlson
Elma and John S. Cole
Timothy J. Connor
Timothy J. Connor, Sr.
Dee Crabtree
Melda and Bertram Danziger
Joseph Nicholas Dietzen III
Florence A. Ehlinger
Faye Ellen Forbis
Dr. Robert Forbis, Jr.
Vera Julia Gordon
Lillian and Gordon Hardy
Catherine and William Hauber
Elizabeth M. Herrold
Kenneth F. Herrold
Anna K. Hoffman
Christine Marie Hudaverdi
Dorothy H. Hupper
Bonnie S. Johnson
Bruce F. Jones
Dorothy B. Jones
Dr. Gerald F. Jones
Minerva E. Jones
Rosemary S. Jones
Dora and Elmer Kleinert
Jay Landesman
Mr. and Mrs. L. Hudson Leathers

The Christmas Decorations are given to the glory of God
by members and friends of the congregation
in loving memory of the following persons:

Allison MacEachron
Josephine McFadden
Ronald E. Nichols
John Novotny
Patricia S. O'Connell
Matthew G. Pennington
Jane Stellwagen Polk
Florence Ryan Powell
Craig Prince
Rose and George Rabstejnek
Rudolph C. Rabstejnek
The Thomas Rabstenek Family
The Rev. Dr. David H. C. Read
Patricia Gilbert Read
Marilyn and Thomas Riccardi
Evelyn Roquemore
Gloria Anne Baillie Schmitt
Dr. and Mrs. Hamilton Southworth
Esther M. and Herbert P. Stellwagen
Lillian R. Stump
Agnes and Ernest F. Sturm
Julia E. Taschereau
George Vician, Jr.
Miriam Dwight Walker
Kim T. Yamaguchi
William E. Yamaguchi



You Are Invited

MAPC Children's Ministries

God put the wiggle in children, and those wiggles are welcome here at MAPC! Once a month children and families gather for Fridays for Children, where we learn about God, our faith, and then, sing out in joy in choir. Usually after Fridays for Children families will gather around a meal for Churchwide gathering. Our next Fridays for Children will be Friday, January 24th. In addition, each Sunday, second graders and younger are invited to join two teachers in the Phillips Lounge for Children's Church to read a book and connect that book to our faith and scripture of the day. A child's presence is a gift to MAPC and a reminder of the love God puts in all hearts, both big and small.

Youth Fellowship & Service

Middle School Choir & Youth Fellowship resumes on Wednesday, January 15th. Please join us once a month for MAPC Serves, for Pizza & Game Nights, and for Shake Shack Sundays. Email Director of Youth Ministries, April Martin, at aem@mapc.com for details.

Fireside Jazz

Come enjoy good food, a jazz trio, fire in the fireplace, and lively fellowship in the Church House Lobby on January 24th from 6-9 pm. Childcare is available with advance reservation. The suggested donation for the evening is \$40. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com.

Church Family Nights

Several times a year, our entire church family gathers on a Friday evening for dinner, fellowship, and a movie. The gym is also open for kids to play. Our next Church Family Night is January 10th. Contact Lissette Perez-Erazo at lgp@mapc.com for more information and to sign up.

Service and Outreach


MAPC houses an Overnight Shelter most nights of the week for those seeking permanent housing. We also run a Thursday Night Open Table ministry, which feeds around 125 people each week. Contact Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com for information.

Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church Day School

Did you know our Day School (ages 2-5) is ranked among the highest in the city? If you or someone you know is searching for the right place for a child to get an excellent start to their education, email Becky Simon at admissions@mapc.com for more information or to arrange a tour.

New York City Children's Chorus

This graded choral program for children aged 4-18 in the metropolitan NYC area offers rigorous and rewarding instruction by Mary Huff. The NYCCC is highly sought after and has performed nationally and internationally. Contact Mary Huff at mwh@mapc.com for more information.

A calendar with a yellow pencil resting on it. The calendar shows dates 7, 8, 10, 16, 21, 24, 28, and 3. Various photos are placed on the calendar dates, including a person praying, a person in a robe, a person in a suit, a person in a kitchen, and a group of people in a church.

sacred ordinary days

a lectionary-based sermon series
on finding the holy in the everyday
beginning January 12

worship at 9 and 11:15 am
Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church
921 Madison Ave at 73rd Street
mapc.com

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*

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*

April E. Martin, *Director of Youth Ministry*

Roger S. Pierce, Jr., *Director of Administration and Finance*

Teresa D. Tynes, *Director of Communications*

The Rev. Dr. Fred R. Anderson, *Pastor Emeritus*

Dr. John B. Weaver, *Director of Music and Organist Emeritus*