



# Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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First Sunday of Advent  
December 1, 2019 • 10:30 am



921 Madison Avenue • [mapc.com](http://mapc.com) • 212.288.8920

# Welcome to Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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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 . . .

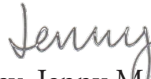
Whether you came with a friend or just wandered in accidentally . . .

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

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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

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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](mailto:lgp@mapc.com).

# Order of Worship for the Lord's Day

*Prepare our hearts to receive you again, O God,  
even (or perhaps especially) in the places we least expect to find you.*

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## Gathering in God's Name

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Prelude

Wachet auf! ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

*Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)*

Call to Worship

Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett

Where crooked roads need straightening,

**prepare the way of the Lord.**

Where people walk in darkness,

**prepare the way of the Lord.**

Where busy lives need quieting,

**prepare the way of the Lord.**

Where conflict longs for reconciling,

**prepare the way of the Lord.**

Where broken hearts cry out for healing,

**prepare the way of the Lord.**

Where prophets' voices need to be heard,

**prepare the way of the Lord.**

To all of the earth and to all of your people,

**O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Introit

First "O" Antiphon

*John Weaver*

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the most high,  
pervading and permeating all creation,  
you order things with strength and gentleness:  
come now and teach us the way to salvation.

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Elder Laura Iverson Burg, William Peter Burg,  
Adeline Burg, Whit Burg

\*Hymn 9

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

*Veni Emmanuel*

*\* Please stand in body or in spirit. For hymns, stand when the choir stands.*

**Gracious God,**

**As we wait for you this Advent season,**

**we walk through this life you have given us.**

**We walk in the wilderness searching for meaning;**

**catch our attention with mercy and with fire.**

**We walk in the city thirsting for justice;**

**fill us with integrity and hope.**

**We walk toward Bethlehem seeking a Savior;**

**come to us with holiness and joy.**

**As we wait for you this Advent season,**

**prepare our hearts**

**so we will notice when you are among us.**

*In the silence, confess the faults and frailties which keep you from trusting God's promises.*

Lord, Have Mercy (from *Deutsche Messe*)

*Franz Schubert*

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.  
 Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

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

*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!**

—Text: Paraphrase of Psalm 98, stanza 1, Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Music: arr. from G. F. Handel by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

\*Summary of God's Law

... "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment?" Jesus said to him:

**"You shall love the Lord your God**

**with all your heart and with all your soul**

**and with all your mind and with all your strength.**

**This is the first and greatest commandment.**

**And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**

**On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."**

\*Passing of the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Our Life Together

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 2:1-4  
(OT page 594)

\*Psalm 122 (Hymn 235)

*Gonfalon Royal*

Lesson with the Children

*Children's Worship: Preschoolers through 2nd graders are dismissed to the Phillips Lounge.*

*Children will return during the Doxology to participate in the rest of the service.*

Gradual

Second "O" Antiphon

*Weaver*

O Adonai, Ruler of the House of Israel,  
you appeared in the burning bush to Moses and gave him the law on Sinai:  
come with outstretched arm to save us.

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 24:36-44  
(NT page 26)

Sermon

The Way of the Past: Keep Awake

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

Responding to God's Word

\*Hymn 17

“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us

*Wachet auf*

Reception of New Member

Elder Kate Baier

Sarah C. Rutherford, *joining by Reaffirmation of Faith*

\*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;**

**who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;**

**he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;**

**he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;**

**from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;**

**the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;**

**the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Aaronic Benediction

*Weaver*

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to  
shine up - on you and be gra-cious un - to you; the Lord lift up his  
coun - te - nance up - on you, and give you peace. A - men.

Prayers of the People

*... O come, O come Emmanuel.*

**Come and save your people.**

# Presenting Our Offerings to God

Anthem

From *Christmas Oratorio*

Bach

Bereite dich, Zion, mit zärtlichen  
Trieben, Den Schönsten, den  
Liebsten bald bei dir zu sehn!  
*Prepare thyself, Zion, with tender  
Affection, the fairest, the dearest soon  
Midst thee to see!*

Wie soll ich dich empfangen  
Und wie beegn' ich dir?  
O aller Welt Verlangen,  
O meiner Seelen Zier!  
O Jesu, Jesu, setze  
Mir selbst die Fackel bei,  
Damit, was dich ergötze,  
Mir kund und wissend sei!  
*How shall I then receive thee  
And how thy presence find?  
Desire of ev'ry nation,  
O glory of my soul!  
O Jesus, Jesus,  
Set out for me thy torch,  
That all that brings thee pleasure  
By me be clearly known.*

Helen Karloski, mezzo-soprano

\*Doxology

*Old Hundredth*

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures  
here be - low; Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly  
host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

## Celebration of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... who forever sing to the glory of your holy name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
 might, \_\_\_\_\_ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
 God of power and might, \_\_\_\_\_ hea - ven and earth are  
 full \_\_\_\_\_ full, \_\_\_\_\_ of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the  
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes \_\_\_\_\_  
 in the name of the Lord. \_\_\_\_\_ Ho - sa - na in the  
 high - est. Ho - sa - na in the high - est.

### Acclamation

... we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

### 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.**

### Words of Institution

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. **Let us keep the feast.**



## Sharing the Bread and Cup

*The bread you are served is gluten free.*

*The bronzed chalices contain wine; you are invited to take a sip or dip your bread into the cup.*

*The glass chalices contain juice; you are invited to dip your bread into the cup.*

*Those seated in the balcony, please come to the main level to receive the elements.*

## Prayers for Healing and Wholeness

Anthem

O Radiant Dawn  
(from *The Strathclyde Motets*, 2008)

*James MacMillan*  
(b. 1959)

O Radiant Dawn, Splendor of eternal Light, Sun of Justice:  
come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.  
Isaiah had prophesied, 'The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.' Amen.

—from the 'O' Antiphons (6th Century)

## Congregational Song



Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord,  
and all peo - ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God.

Text: Taizé Community / Music: Jacques Berthier; © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc.  
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## Prayer at the Conclusion of the Meal

\*Hymn 15

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

*Llangloffan*

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Response

*Weaver*



(Organ) A - men, A - men, A - men.

\*Postlude

March on a Theme of Handel, Op. 15, No. 2

*Alexandre Guilmant*  
(1837-1911)

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## Worship Details

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### Cover Art

"Keep Awake" by Lauren Wright Pittman, of *A Sanctified Art*. Acrylic and ink on canvas. Inspired by Mark 13:24-37.

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## Information and Announcements

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### Advent Festival

Today following worship, all are welcome for lunch in the Parish Hall after the 10:30 am service with various activities to follow – Advent wreath-making, ornament making, cookie decorating, and a service project. The labyrinth will be available in the gym for reflective prayer, and Advent calendars and devotions will be distributed to use at home as we wait for light to enter the world. You can also purchase the newly released NYCCC CD, *Christmas in New York*. We'll close the festival with an Advent devotion. A free-will offering will be received for lunch, and there will be a minimal suggested donation for wreath-making to help cover the cost of materials.

### Company of Deacons Gathering

The Board of Deacons invites all MAPC members who have previously been ordained as a deacon to the annual "Company of Deacons" gathering on December 4, beginning at 7 pm in the Parish Hall. There will be time for refreshments and fellowship, and Rev. Bartlett will lead a discussion on the themes of Advent and the role they play in our lives. Advent is a season of expectation, waiting and hope, a time of looking to the coming of Christ into the world—as we celebrate his birth and as we expect and hope for the ultimate return of Christ to bring the fulfillment of God's realm, making all things new. RSVP to Lissette Perez-Erazo, [lgp@mapc.com](mailto:lgp@mapc.com).

### Adult Education in December

On December 8, 15, and 22 at 10:10 am in the Parish Hall, we will reflect on the openings of the four gospels—Matthew and Luke that have birth narratives, and Mark and John who take a different approach in telling of Jesus' coming into the world. Rev. Bartlett will lead these classes, using Dr. Cynthia Campbell's book, *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes: An Advent Study*. It is not necessary to read the book to participate in the classes, but if you would like to order the book, it is available from Amazon (or order through your local bookstore).

### Congregational Dinner and Christmas Pageant

On Wednesday, December 11th at 6 pm in the Parish Hall, join us for the Annual Christmas Pageant (including some scenes with children recorded today during the Advent Festival) and a Congregational Dinner. In between each lesson, we will sing carols.

### Christmas Flowers

To make a donation, please use the special envelope inserted in today's bulletin.

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## Weekly Calendar

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Monday, December 2

9:00 am	Christmas Angel Gift Sorting	Phillips Lounge
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Evening Bible Study	8th Floor

Tuesday, December 3

5:00 pm	Hood Library Fellowship	Hood Library
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Wednesday, December 4

12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Phillips Lounge
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
7:00 pm	Company of Deacons	Parish Hall

Thursday, December 5

1:00 pm	Spiritual Growth & Faith Sharing Group	James Lenox House
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Thursday Open Table	Parish Hall
7:00 pm	Carol Sing Rehearsal	Choir Room
8:30 pm	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

Friday, December 6

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
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Saturday, December 7

No events scheduled


Sunday, December 8

9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
9:15 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge
10:10 am	Adult Education	Parish Hall
10:10 am	Fellowship Hour	Lobby
10:10 am	Youth Fellowship (6th-12th grade)	5th Fl; Youth Lounge
10:10 am	Open Playtime Toddlers -11 yrs	Gym/Roof Garden
10:20 am	Church Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Children's Worship	Phillips Lounge
12:30 pm	Fellowship Hour	Lobby
1:00 pm	Confirmation Class: Scripture	8th Floor
1:00 pm	Senior Fellowship Lunch	Parish Hall
1:00 pm	ESL Classes	5th Floor

# Prepare the Way

*Worship with us this Advent*

Sundays at 9 & 11:15 am



Dec. 1	The Way of the Past: Keep Awake
Dec. 8	The Way of the Prophet: Cry Out
Dec. 15	The Way of the Desert: Rejoice and Blossom
Dec. 22	The Way of Joseph: Dream Big
Dec. 24	The Way of Jesus: Draw Near

## 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*