



# Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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Second Sunday of Advent  
December 8, 2019 • 9 & 11:15 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

*Wait with us God, as we wait for and work toward the coming of your kingdom.*

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## Gathering in God's Name

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Prelude

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659

*Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)*

Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

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

Third "O" Antiphon

*John Weaver  
(b. 1937)*

O Root of Jesse, a sign for all the peoples,  
before you earthly rulers will keep silent and nations give you honor.

Come quickly to deliver us.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

The Hinrichs Family (9 am)

The 2019-2020 Confirmation Class (11:15 am)

\*Hymn 14

Savior of the Nations, Come

*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*

*\* 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 Savior reigns:  
Let us our songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

—Text: Paraphrase of Psalm 98, stanza 2, 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

\_\_\_\_\_ Proclaiming God's Word \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer for Illumination

April E. Martin (9 am)

Timothy D. Johnson (11:15 am)

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-10

(OT page 602)

\*Psalm 72 (Hymn 205)

*Rockport*

Lesson with the Children

Rev. Rebecca M. Heilman

*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

Fourth "O" Antiphon

*Weaver*

O Key of David, Scepter of the House of Israel,

you open and no one can close, you close and no one can open.

Come to set free the prisoners who live in darkness and the shadow of death.

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 3:1-12

(NT page 2)

Sermon

The Way of the Prophet: Cry Out

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

Responding to God's Word

\*Hymn 13 (11:15 am)

Prepare the Way, O Zion

*Bereden väg för Herran*

\*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.**

Prayers of the People

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

**Come and save your people.**

Presenting Our Offerings to God

Anthem (11:15 am)

From *Three Carol-Anthems* (1920)

*Herbert Howells*

*(1892-1983)*

A Spotless Rose is blowing,  
Sprung from a tender root,  
Of ancient seers' foreshowing  
Of Jesse promised fruit;  
Its fairest bud unfolds to light  
Amid the cold, cold winter,  
And in the darkest midnight.

The Rose which I am singing,  
Whereof Isaiah said,  
Is from its sweet root springing  
In Mary, purest Maid;  
For through our God's great love and might,  
The Blessed Babe she bare us  
In a cold, cold winter's night.

*— Anonymous (14th Century)*

Rod Gomez, baritone

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.**

## Sanctus

Schubert

... 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.*

## Anthem

People, Look East (2002)

*Besañçon Carol,  
arr. Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)*

People, look east. The time is near  
Of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the guest is on the way.

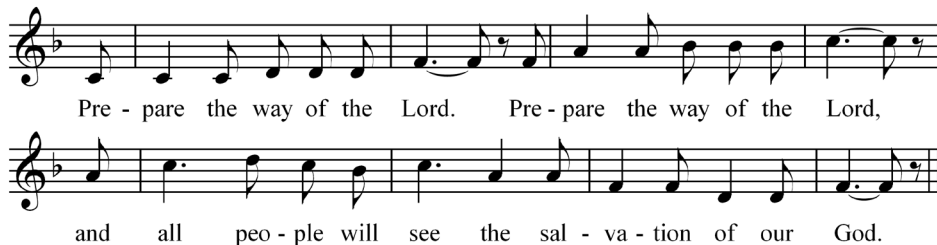
Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,  
One more seed is planted there:  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
That in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the rose is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim  
One more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather,  
Bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth  
Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
With the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love the Lord is on the way.



## Congregational Song (11:15 am)



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 10

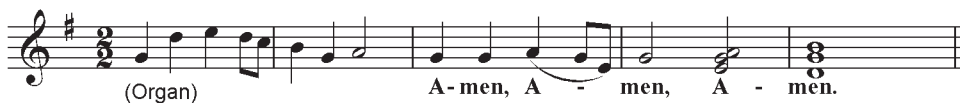
On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

*Winchester New*

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Response

*Weaver*



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

\*Postlude

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661

*Bach*

## Worship Details

Cover Art

"John the Baptist" by Dustin Parent.

## Information and Announcements

### Adult Education in December

Beginning this morning at 10:10 am in the Parish Hall, we will reflect on the openings of the four gospels—Matthew and Luke who 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). The series continues December 15 and 22.

## Senior Fellowship Lunch

MAPC Seniors and friends will have lunch together today in the Parish Hall at 1 pm following fellowship hour. The suggested donation for lunch is \$10.

## Congregational Dinner and Christmas Pageant

The children and youth of MAPC will shine an extra light this holiday season with their 2019 Christmas Pageant! Gather on Wednesday, December 11th at 6 pm in the Parish Hall for a Congregational Dinner, the viewing of the Annual Christmas Pageant, and carols mixed in between.

## Carol Sing

Next Sunday, December 15 at 4 pm, the Choir of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church and the New York City Children's Chorus will sing Vaughan Williams's *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* along with other pieces of seasonal choral music. We will be delighted by seasonal readings and poetry read by Meg Connor Johnson and Dominic Gurney, and the audience will be invited to join in the singing of hearty Christmas Carols in the seasonal resplendence of our decorated Sanctuary. A festive reception will follow in the Parish Hall. Admission is free, but a free-will offering in support of the Saint Andrew Music Society will be taken after the concert.

## Christmas Flowers

Poinsettias will once again grace the sanctuary this Christmas season. Gifts may be made in memory or in honor of loved ones. To make a donation, use the special insert in the bulletin. Place the envelope in the offering plate or mail it to Lissette Perez-Erazo in the church office. The suggested donation for each name is \$40. In order to include the names in the bulletins on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, we must receive your donation by Wednesday, December 18.

## Blue Christmas

For some of us, this season feels like anything but "the most wonderful time of the year." This quiet, contemplative service will include song, scripture, prayer, communion, and candle lighting. All are welcome in the Dana Chapel on Wednesday, December 18 at 6 pm. Refreshments will follow in the Phillips Lounge.

## Christmas in New York

The New York City Children's Chorus's new recording, *Christmas in New York*, has been released. Copies of the CD can be purchased for \$13 during fellowship hour in the Church House Lobby on the Sundays in December leading up to Christmas, and directly from the NYCCC website at [www.nycchildrenschorus.org/media.html](http://www.nycchildrenschorus.org/media.html). The recording can also be purchased on iTunes, Amazon, Spotify, or wherever you download your favorite music!

## Weekly Calendar

Monday, December 9

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
6:30 pm	Zimbabwe Partnership Committee	Pastor's Study

Tuesday, December 10

6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space
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Wednesday, December 11

8:30 am	Building and Grounds Committee	7th Fl. Conference Rm.
12:30 pm	Reading Through the Bible	Phillips Lounge
4:15 pm	MAPC Children & Youth Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
5:00 pm	Caroling at James Lenox House	James Lenox House
6:00 pm	Congregational Dinner & Christmas Pageant	Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Overnight Shelter	Shelter Space

Thursday, December 12

6:00 pm	20s/30s Bible Study	8th Floor
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 13

no events scheduled

Saturday, December 14

6:00 pm	Sanctuary Decorating	Sanctuary
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Sunday, December 15

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	ESL Classes	5th Floor
4:00 pm	SAMS: 15th Annual Carol Sing	Sanctuary

# 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*