



Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 22, 2019 • 9 & 11:15 am



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 . . .

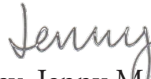
Whether you came with a friend or just wandered in accidentally . . .

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 the Lord's Day

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

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude

Meditation on 'Veni Emmanuel'

*Philip Moore
(b. 1943)*

Es ist ein' Ros entsprungen, Op. 122

*Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)*

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

Seventh "O" Antiphon

John Weaver

O Emmanuel, our Sovereign and Lawgiver, Desire of the nations and Savior of all:

Come and save us, O Lord, our God.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Deacon Karen Jolis, Kate Hollanda
and Morgan Hollanda (9 am)

Representatives from the Board of Trustees (11:15 am)

*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

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.

– Text: Paraphrase of Psalm 98, stanza 4, Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

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

*Summary of God's Law

*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

Morgan Hollanda (9 am)
Trustee Mark W. Glotfelty (11:15 am)

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-14
(OT page 598)

*Psalm 80 (Hymn 206)

Vineyard Haven

Lesson with the Children

Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett

*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

The Word Became Flesh

Andrew Henderson

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.

– John 1:14

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25
(NT page 1)

Sermon

The Way of Joseph: Dream Big

Rev. Jenny M. McDevitt

_____ Responding to God's Word _____

*Hymn 4 (11:15 am)

Creator of the Stars of Night

Conditor Alme Siderum

*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)

Remember, O Thou Man (2003)

*Bob Chilcott
(b. 1955)*

Remember, O thou man,
O thou man, O thou man,
Remember, O thou man,
thy time is spent:
Remember, O thou man,
How thou art dead and gone,
And I did what I can:
Therefore repent!

Remember God's goodness,
O thou man, O thou man,
Remember God's goodness
And promise made!
Remember God's goodness;
How he sent his son, doubtless,
Our sins for to redress;
Be not afraid!

The angels all did sing, O thou man,
O thou man, O thou man,
The angels all did sing
On heav'n's high hill!
The angels all did sing
Praises to our heav'nly King,
And peace to man living
With a good will.

To Bethl'em did they go, O thou man,
O thou man, O thou man,
To Bethl'em did they go
The shepherds three;
To Bethl'em did they go
To see whether it was so,
Whether Christ was born or no
To set man free.

*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.**

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 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.

Hymn 4 (9 am)

Creator of the Stars of Night

Conditor Alme Siderum

Anthem (11:15 am)

The Cherry Tree Carol

arr. David Willcocks

(1919-2015)

Joseph was an old man, and an old man was he,
When he married Mary in the Land of Galilee.

And as they were walking through an orchard so good,
Where were cherries and berries as red as any blood.

O then bespoke Mary, with words both meek and mild,
'Pluck me one cherry, Joseph; for that I am with child.'

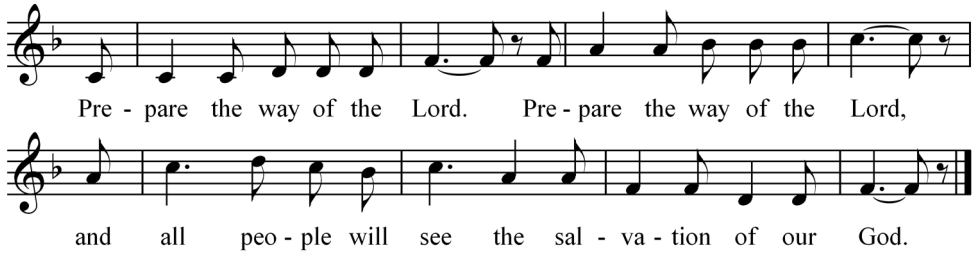
'Go to the tree then, Mary, and it shall bow to thee;
And you shall gather cherries by one, by two, by three.'

Then bowed down the highest tree unto our Lady's hand;
'See,' Mary cried, 'see, Joseph, I have cherries at command.'

Then Mary plucked a cherry, as red as any blood,
Then Mary went she homewards all with her heavy load.

– 15th Century English Carol

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 11


O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?

Valet will ich dir geben

*Benediction

*Congregational Response

Weaver



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

*Postlude

Toccata on 'Veni Emmanuel'

Andrew Carter
(b. 1939)

Worship Details

Cover Art

The angel and Joseph. Image available in the public domain.

Information and Announcements

Adult Education

At 10:10 am today in the Parish Hall, we conclude our discussion of 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 leads these classes, using Dr. Cynthia Campbell's book, *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes: An Advent Study*.

Church Family Nights

Every month, 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-Erao at lgp@mapc.com for more information and to sign up.

Youth Fellowship & Service

Middle School Choir & Youth Fellowship resumes on Wednesday, January 15th. Please join us once a month for MAPC Serves (beginning January 13th), for Pizza & Game Nights (beginning February 7th) and for Shake Shack Sundays (beginning January 19th). Email Director of Youth Ministries, April Martin, at aem@mapc.com with any questions.

MAPC Children's Ministries

Once a month children and families gather for Fridays for Children, where we learn about God, our faith, and sing out in joy in choir. Following Fridays for Children, families often gather around a meal for churchwide gathering. The next Fridays for Children is 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 and to connect the lesson to faith and the day's scripture. Email Rev. Rebecca Heilman at rmh@mapc.com for information.

Fireside Jazz

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

Weekly Calendar

Monday, December 23

6:30 pm

Overnight Shelter

Shelter Space

Tuesday, December 24

4:00 pm

Christmas Eve

Sanctuary

5:00 pm

Family Service Rehearsal

Sanctuary

8:30 pm

Christmas Eve Family Service

Choir Room

10:15 pm

Church Choir Rehearsal

Sanctuary

10:30 pm

Christmas Eve Prelude

Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion

Wednesday, December 25

10:15 am

Christmas Day

Choir Room

11:15 am

Church Choir Rehearsal

Sanctuary

Christmas Day Lessons and Carols

Thursday, December 26

6:30 pm

Overnight Shelter

Shelter Space

Friday, December 27

no events scheduled

Saturday, December 28

no events scheduled

Sunday, December 29

9:30 am

Church Choir Rehearsal

Choir Room

10:30 am

Worship

Sanctuary

10:45 am

Children's Worship

Phillips Lounge

11:45 pm

Fellowship Hour

Lobby

11:45 pm

Coloring for Kids

Lobby

A number of recovery groups meet regularly at the church throughout the week. For a current list of groups and meeting times, please see mapc.com/supportgroups.



O Come All Ye Faithful

Christmas at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

Christmas Eve Family Service 5 pm December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion 10:30 pm December 24
(prelude begins 10:15 pm)

Christmas Day Lessons and Carols 11:15 am December 25

Sunday Worship 10:30 am December 29



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*