



Celebration of Worship on the Lord's Day
Second Sunday of Advent
Cantata
December 10, 2017



Prelude *"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"* J. S. Bach

Westminster Peal

Choral Call to Worship *"Prepare the Way of the Lord"*
by Jacques Berthier and the
Taize Community

*Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord, and all people will see the
salvation of our God.*

Gathering as the Children of God Elder Brad Hahn
Lighting of the Advent Candle

On this second Sunday of Advent, as we think about the coming of Jesus Christ, we light the candle of peace. Jesus Christ is our peace. He is the Prince of Peace, and the fruit of His presence is peace. Christ comes to bring justice, wholeness, and harmony to every relationship throughout all creation. He wants to continually grant us peace in every situation. Jesus, we pray, guide our feet into the path of peace.

† **Opening Hymn No. 12** *"People Look East"*

Prayer of Confession *(unison)* Elder Hahn

O God, we confess that our sense of expectation has been dulled. We have become reluctant to anticipate any wonders from your hand. We have become so content with the past that we make it the master of our lives. We have been lulled to sleep by our own limited view of your presence among us. O God, before sleep becomes our death, pardon and redeem us that we may avoid the judgment we are bringing on ourselves. Give us eyes to see and ears to hear you as we rise from our stupor; stretch our souls that we may worship you in spirit and in truth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Elder Hahn

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News.

People: *In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.*

† Response (refrain)

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

(hymn no. 23)

**Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo;
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**



Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Ricardo Green

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Rev. Green

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Christmas Cantata

by Steve Dobrogosz

Jeremiah
32:36-41

"Ring Them, Sing Them"

*Ring them, ring them, Chiming a song of hope from every spire
Gold in the window, In the season of the child
Sing them, sing them, Good will and rectitude in every voice
Warm in the winter, 'Tis the season to rejoice
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Glory, this glorious holy night
Gloria in excelsis Deo, O day O day of light
Come O come - and see the miracle
Come O come - the miracle birth
Come O come - and flourish the trumpets
Heralding peace on earth, Peace in the heart is peace on earth*

Matthew
2:1-12

"Around The Star"

*O Love, that makes the world go round, Immanuel, bless our path around the star
Like the wise men who see it from afar, And e'er to Bethlehem are bound*

Ephesians
4:1-24

"Wondrous Tree Of Many Branches"

*Silver, green and white, in a coat of light
Purple, red, gold, yellow and blue, Gloria, gloria
O wondrous tree of many branches bright
O wondrous tree of many branches, Crowned by a star
How very, very fair and radiant you are (O, decked in evergreen)
O, how very, very fair and radiant you are
Now we stand upright, like a candle light, Purple, red, gold, yellow and blue
Gloria, gloria
We're a wondrous tree of many branches, too
Our wondrous tree of many branches, Is crowned by a star
How very, very fair and radiant you are (O, decked in evergreen)
O, how very, very fair and radiant you are
O wondrous tree of many branches, Evergreen each new year
(Ever with good cheer)*

Luke 1:26-38

"This Day" – Featuring Amy Kiley and Kayla White

*Michael stood by the stable gate, Saying "Now it's over, your long wait
A message and its messenger inside, Wherever you bring love He will reside
I bring the smallest bed of splintered wood, And matted hay
I bring a place for you to rest your head eternally, This day, this day"
Gabriel stood on the manger floor, Saying "From this moment fear no more
A message and its messenger are here, Whenever you bring love He will appear
I bring a single, little mustard seed upon the clay
I bring a hundred, thousand, million voices
Joined in praise, This day, this day"*

Isaiah 9:1-7

"Immanuel"

*On that first Christmas morn - hope, hope was born
And on this Christmas morn- hope is born
Immanuel, all the choirs of heaven proclaim
Immanuel, now and ever Truth doth reign
Joy to the weary world
O'er the meadow, through the wood
Down the chimney, covered with soot
Joy to all mankind with tidings good
O, on that first Christmas morn- hope, hope was born
And on this Christmas morn- hope is born
Immanuel, all the choirs of heaven proclaim
Immanuel, now and ever Truth doth reign
Joy to the weary world
All the angels in the snow
All His children, eyes all aglow
All Creation beneath God's mistletoe*

"Ring Them, Sing Them Reprise"

† **Affirmation of Faith**

From the Nicene Creed

Rev. Green

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.



† **Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Green

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Please exchange greetings of peace and welcome with your neighbor.

Church Family Life

Elizabeth Small

*Please take this time to pass the attendance notebooks located at the end of the pew row.
If you are a visitor, we invite you to visit our information center located in the Narthex.*

Prayers of the People

Elizabeth Small



Moved by the Spirit

Moving Forward

TJ Shirley

Offering

Offertory

"From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"

by Friederich Zachau

† Response

The Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

† Prayer of Thanksgiving with The Lord's Prayer

TJ Shirley

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.

† Closing Hymn No. 11

"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

† Benediction

TJ Shirley

† Congregational Response (refrain)

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

(hymn #29)

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

† Postlude

"Improvisation"

by Nick Johns-Cooper

† Those who are able, please stand



Giving to MVPC is easy online
<http://mvpchurch.org/index.php/donate/>